



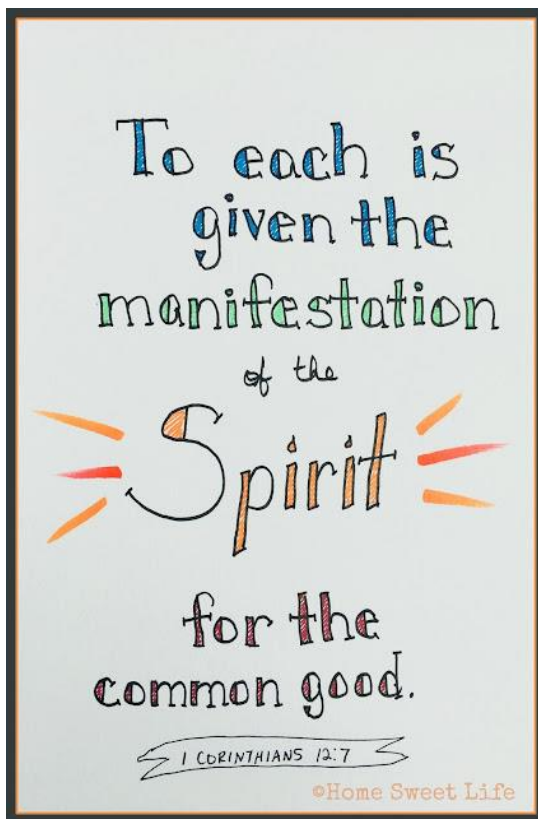
ALL SAINTS' CHURCH

"Our mission is to bring the good news of Jesus Christ's love to our entire community through traditional Anglo-Catholic worship, fellowship, outreach, and Christian formation."

Our Vision: *"We strive to be a haven of healing, reconciliation, joy and peace in service to our wider community and beyond, so that our example in prayer and practice may reflect Christ's love for us all."*

THIS SUNDAY — January 19, 2025

“Embracing Unity in Diversity”



Embracing Unity in Diversity

As we reflect on the readings for this Second Sunday after the Epiphany, the words of the Apostle Paul in his First Letter to the Corinthians resonate deeply with us. In these verses, Paul beautifully articulates the diversity of spiritual gifts bestowed upon believers by the Holy Spirit, emphasizing that each gift is essential for the flourishing of the body of Christ.

Paul begins by acknowledging the Corinthians' former life, reminding them that they were once led astray by idols. Yet, in Christ, they have found a new identity and purpose. This transformation is not merely individual but communal, as they are now part of the body of Christ, each member uniquely gifted by the Spirit.

He continues by illustrating the diversity of these gifts, ranging from wisdom and knowledge to faith and healing. No gift is insignificant, for each is given by the same Spirit for the common good. This diversity is not a cause for division but a reason for unity, as together, we form a cohesive body where every part plays a crucial role.

In our Episcopal tradition, we cherish the understanding of unity in diversity. Just as the various parts of the human body work together harmoniously under the direction of the

mind, so too are we, the body of Christ, called to work together in unity under the guidance of the Holy Spirit. Our differences in gifts, talents, and backgrounds enrich our community, and enable us to more fully reflect the multifaceted grace of God.

Moreover, Paul emphasizes that these gifts are not earned or merited but freely given by God. They are manifestations of God's grace and are meant to be used selflessly for the service of others. Therefore, let us discern our gifts with humility and gratitude, seeking always to employ them in ways that build up the body of Christ and bear witness to God's love in the world.

As we reflect on Paul's words, let us consider how we, individually and communally, are contributing to the unity and mission of our church. Are we embracing our gifts fully and using them for the common good? Are we honoring and respecting the gifts of others, recognizing that each is a valuable part of God's plan?

May this reflection inspire us to celebrate our diversity, to cultivate unity in Christ's Spirit, and to dedicate ourselves anew to serving God and one another with the gifts we have been graciously given.

Let us always thank God for the diverse gifts He has bestowed upon us through the Holy Spirit. May the Holy Spirit help us to embrace these gifts joyfully, to use them wisely, and to work together in unity for the building up of God's kingdom.

Fr. Carlos E. Expósito, Rector

Readings for the Baptism of Jesus (*The Second after the Epiphany*)

Isaiah 62:1-5 Psalm 36:5-10 1 Corinthians 12:1-11 John 2:1-11

CALENDAR

Note: We worship in our historic church. The service will also be on Zoom. The service time is 10am. Tuesday Noon Mass and Friday Morning Prayer at 10:00am are held in All Saints' St. Mary Chapel

SUNDAY January 19, 2025 The Second Sunday after the Epiphany
celebrating Water into Wine, and Diversity of Gifts

10:00am Mass in All Saints' Church

Join Zoom Meeting from our web site at www.allsaintschurch.org

Recording of Mass available before noon at www.allsaintschurch.org

Christian Formation and First Communion Instruction for Children
Ages 5-12 in the Parish Hall from 10:00am-10:45am

TUESDAY - Noon Mass in St. Mary Chapel,

THURSDAY - 1:00pm in the Rector's Office -- Devotional Service followed by a Bible Study session based on the readings for the Sunday of that week.

SUNDAY January 26, 2025 The Third Sunday after the Epiphany

10:00am Mass in All Saints' Church

Join Zoom Meeting from our web site at www.allsaintschurch.org

Recording of Mass available before noon at www.allsaintschurch.org

Christian Formation and First Communion Instruction for Children

Ages 5-12 in the Parish Hall from 10:00am-10:45am

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING following the Mass

CONCERT at 3 pm

OUR CORE VALUES:

- Welcoming strangers like old friends
- Embracing the Anglo-Catholic tradition
- Being dependable members of a caring community
- Respecting each other's differences
- Being faithful stewards of God's gift
- Remembering that God loves everyone unconditionally

An Anglo-Catholic Parish in the Episcopal Diocese of San Diego
www.allsaintschurch.org