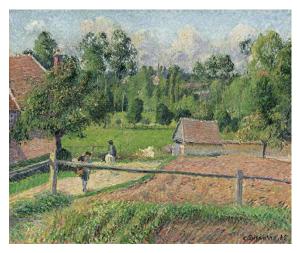


"Our mission is to bring the good news of Jesus Christ's love to our entire community through traditional Anglo-Catholic worship, fellowship, outreach, and Christian formation."

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 – AUGUST 8TH, 2025 "TO BE A TRUE COMMUNITY"

### Seek the Things That Are Above



Our tendency as humans has long been, and continues to be, one of seeking security, value or meaning in possessions, achievements or social status. Such a tendency is lamented in the reading from Ecclesiastes this Sunday, which stresses the vanity of toil and wealth. It is also condemned by Jesus in the parable of the foolish landowner (Luke 12:13-21), which is the Gospel reading for this Sunday.

In his Letter to the Colossians, chapter 3, the Apostle Paul urges the converts in this city to "seek the things that are above, where Christ is". This constitutes a call to orient our lives around, not earthly gain, but Christ Himself. This is a life centered on transformation.

St. Paul's vision is not about escaping the world, but about living differently within the world. Our baptism into Christ calls us to a new identity that puts to death what St. Paul calls earthly: anger, greed, slander, and selfishness.

The body of Christ on earth (the Church Universal) which we are all a part of, cannot continue in safety without God's help. We need God's mercy to cleanse us (to renew us inwardly) and to defend us (to protect us outwardly). Our transformation is not self-generated but led by God's Holy Spirit.

Colossians 3:11 ends with a bold statement: "Christ is all and in all." In the Church, all worldly distinctions (race, status, background) are secondary to our shared life in Christ. This unity constitutes both a gift and a witness to the whole world.

Psalm 49~a part of which is read this Sunday-warns us that wealth cannot save a soul. Jesus' parable, in turn, reinforces this truth: life does not consist in the abundance of possessions. Instead, we are called to be "rich towards God" by living a life of generosity, trust and community.

The readings for this Sunday invite us to reflect on the "earthly things" that still cling to us. What habits or attachments distract us from seeking Christ? How might we allow the Holy Spirit to renew our hearts and our communities?

Let us lean on God's goodness and guidance to be a true community, marked not by fear or division, but by mercy, renewal, and the deep joy of life in Christ.

Fr. Carlos Expósito, Rector

# READINGS FOR THE EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

### **C**ALENDAR

Note: We worship in our historic church. The service will also be on Zoom. The service time is 10:00 AM. Tuesday Noon Mass is held in All Saints' St. Mary Chapel.

## SUNDAY August 8th, 2025 Eighth Sunday after Pentecost 10:00 AM Mass in All Saints' Church

Join Zoom Meeting from our web site at <a href="www.allsaintschurch.org">www.allsaintschurch.org</a> Recording of Mass available before noon at <a href="www.allsaintschurch.org">www.allsaintschurch.org</a>

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

Christian Formation for Adults (the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays)
Youth and adults around Noon after the Mass in the Library
Recording of Mass available before noon at <a href="https://www.allsaintschurch.org">www.allsaintschurch.org</a>

#### **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