



"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 – NOVEMBER 16TH, 2025

TO ENDURE IN FAITH

Holding Fast in the Meantime

As the long green season after Pentecost nears its close, our readings turn our eyes towards endings, and towards endurance. The prophet Malachi speaks of a coming day "burning like an oven," when God's justice will set all things right. Jesus, in Luke's Gospel, foretells the destruction of the temple and warns of wars, earthquakes, and persecution. Yet He also offers a promise: "By your endurance you will gain your souls."

In the midst of such cosmic imagery, St. Paul's words to the Thessalonians seem almost ordinary: "Brothers and sisters, do not be weary in doing what is right." But that may be precisely the point. The Christian life is not only about waiting for the great day of the LORD. It is about how we live while we wait.

St. Paul was writing to a community that had grown anxious and distracted, even idle, as they speculated about the timing of Christ's return. His advice is strikingly down-to-earth: stay faithful, keep working, continue doing the good that is yours to do. Endurance in faith, Paul reminds us, often looks less like grand gestures and more like simple, steady faithfulness: honest work, prayer, service, and love, especially when the world feels uncertain.



Our Collect this week prays that we may "hear, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest" the Holy Scriptures, so that we may "embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life." The phrase inwardly digest is both beautiful and practical. It calls us to receive the Word not merely with our ears or minds, but to take it into our very being, as food that nourishes and sustains.

To "digest" the Word means allowing it to shape our habits, our patience, and our perspective. It means that when we read, "Do not be weary in doing what is right," we hear not a scolding but an invitation: keep going. Keep showing up in prayer, in service, in kindness. Keep trusting that your small acts of goodness matter to God and are woven into the coming of His kingdom.

Psalm 98 rings with joy that “the LORD comes to judge the earth.” That may sound unsettling, but for the psalmist, it is cause for singing. God’s judgment means that righteousness will prevail, that what is crooked will be made straight, and what is broken will be made whole. That is the hope that sustains us.

Because we trust in this promised renewal, we can live faithfully in the meantime. We do not give in to despair when the world seems dark. We do not retreat into idleness when the wait feels long. Instead, we live as people shaped by hope, working quietly, loving deeply, and not growing weary in doing good.

As we come near the end of the liturgical year and look toward Advent, the church’s season of waiting and expectation, these readings call us to a particular kind of readiness. Not the frantic vigilance of those counting the days, but the patient faithfulness of those whose lives are rooted in the Word.

To “embrace and hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life” means to let that hope guide our work, our relationships, and our endurance. It is translated into living each day in the light of God’s coming kingdom: steady, prayerful, and full of quiet joy.

So, as we stand on the threshold of Advent, let us take to heart both St. Paul’s encouragement and our Collect. Let us hear, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest the Scriptures, that they might strengthen us to keep doing good, to endure in faith, and to hold fast to the hope that will never disappoint.

Fr. Carlos Expósito, Rector

READINGS FOR THE TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Malachi 4:1–2a + Psalm 98 + 2 Thessalonians 3:6–13 + Luke 21:5–19

CALENDAR

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 November 16th, 2025 Twenty-Third Sunday after Pentecost
10:00 AM 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 10:00 AM - 10:45 AM

Christian Formation for Adults (the 2nd and 4th Sundays)
Youth and adults around Noon after the Mass in the Library
Recording of Mass available before noon at www.allsaintschurch.org

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