



"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 23RD, 2025

CHRIST'S KINGDOM OF LOVE

"This is the King of the Jews"

We reach the end of the Church Year, with the celebration of Christ the King's Sunday, and this is a proper time to ponder on the meaning of the phrase we usually repeat to refer to our Savior, "King of kings, and LORD of lords."



In this country, as in many other nations in our present world who consider themselves republics and democracies, not only are the notions of "king" and "lord" alien, but they are often rejected by most, since they represent for them what they fought against to attain the freedom they now enjoy.

Even in countries where monarchies still exist, there should ideally be a limited power for monarchs, often balanced by parliaments or other more democratic social structures.

However, for us Christians, calling Jesus Christ our King and our Lord fills us with a sense of deep trust and confidence, with the assuredness that in the yielding of our control to Him lies our true power, that in our total trust in His guidance lies our true and abundant life.

The Collect for this Sunday prays "that the peoples of the earth, divided and enslaved by sin, may be freed and brought together under His most gracious rule." This reminds us all that Christ's gracious rule is what puts an end to the tyranny that we have consciously or consciously consented to: that of sin and death in our lives.

In this sense, consenting that the LORD of all-inclusive and unconditional love, true justice, and wisdom, takes complete control of our lives has nothing to do with losing our human dignity and will, because the only way this may happen is when we responsibly and consciously decide to align our wills with His. Such is God's love for His human creatures that He has given them total free will to make conscious decisions, even when these may ultimately sever them from the true source of life.

Christ is the righteous Branch prefigured in chapter 23 of the Book of Jeremiah, when he states, speaking in God's name, "I will raise up for David a righteous Branch, and he shall reign as king and deal wisely, and shall execute justice and righteousness in the land."

At the scene of the crucifixion, as portrayed by Luke the Evangelist in chapter 23, there is an inscription above Jesus' head, which was meant as mockery by Pilate the Governor, and the rulers of the Jews found offensive, "This is the King of the Jews."

Calling Jesus "King" was a messianic recognition by His true followers, but the official religious leaders of the Jews interpreted it as "blasphemy". Pilate's intention was both a mockery and a way of telling these religious leaders that he knew this offended them, but that he also knew they had condemned this man unjustly, and though for fear he had yielded to their demands, his refusal to change the title at their request was also a way of letting them know who was in charge.

The sign was written in Latin (the rulers' language), Greek (the language understood by most of the nations), and Hebrew (the official language of the religious rulers). It was there for all to see and read. And it told the absolute truth, in spite of Pilate's intentions. Only it was a limited truth, for it should have read "This is the King of All Nations."

In Luke's narrative, we also find the short dialogues between the two criminals crucified at each side of Jesus, and between Jesus and one of them. After the rebuke of one of them to the other when he angrily mocks Jesus, and his request to Jesus "to remember him when He comes into His kingdom.", Jesus replies, "Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise."

Today. Not tomorrow, or the day after, or at the consummation of all time. Christ's Kingdom of love and reconciliation comes when we willingly consent to its coming into our lives. It has never been absent. The problem is that we have failed to embrace it. As St. Paul states in his Letter to the Colossians, "In Him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through Him God was pleased to reconcile to Himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of His cross."

Fr. Carlos Expósito, Rector

READINGS FOR THE LAST SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST; CHRIST THE KING

Jeremiah 23:1-6 + Psalm 46 + Colossians 1:11-20 + Luke 23:33-43

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 23rd, 2025 Last Sunday after Pentecost — Christ the King

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

An Anglo-Catholic Parish in the Episcopal Diocese of San Diego

www.allsaintschurch.org

www.edsd.org