



"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 11TH, 2026

IN LOVING ALL, WE FULFILL OUR COVENANT

Children of the Covenant

Christianity is a covenantal faith. It is the direct heir of Judaism, which is also a covenantal faith. Throughout the Old Testament (which means Old Covenant) we read how God took the initiative in several instances throughout His deeds of salvation for His people to establish covenants with them, mainly through chosen leaders like Noah, Moses, and Abraham.

In all cases, it was not human beings summoning the divine to establish a mutual agreement as a way of earning divine favor or forgiveness. It was always God extending His gracious initiative to seek the salvation of His people, by establishing the rules by which they should abide if they freely and responsibly chose to be saved.

Unfortunately, although there were always righteous people who did abide by the rules and were thus favored by God, there were also many others who were not willing to live out the covenants, and preferred to follow their own wrongful ways of life.

When the proper time came, however, God decided that a totally new kind of covenant would be established between Him and those who were willing to be aligned with His loving will. This time the covenant would not be based on a series of commandments or rules. He would send His beloved Son to be incarnate among His people, and He Himself would show them, not in a set of rules, but in His own words and deeds, how to live the only true and abundant life based on an all-encompassing love for all—a self-giving love even to the point of self-sacrifice.

This is why the writings depicting the Good News of Salvation shown through Jesus Christ's words and deeds, as well as the letters and other documents written by His earliest true followers have been named The New Testament (or The New Covenant).

Jesus Himself instructed His first followers to spread out this Good News of Salvation to the whole world, and He instructed them to make use of an initiation rite that was already well known in His time: baptism. Immersion in water as a sign of cleansing from sins, and a renewed life was already a common practice in Jesus' time. He Himself was baptized by John in the river Jordan.



John called his baptism “a baptism of repentance”, which pointed to the fact that those who took part in it were willing to change their old ways and begin a new life in God’s righteousness. He also proclaimed that after him one would come that would baptize them “with the Holy Spirit”. He was clearly pointing to Jesus, whom he later baptized.

The baptism that Jesus prompted his followers to take would include repentance, of course, but it would also infuse them with the power of the Holy Spirit to transform their lives, to align them with God’s loving will, and to sustain them on the right path. This is the Christian baptism that we continue to perform to this day, and through it we are reborn as true children of God, and members of His Holy Assembly: the Church.

Through the waters of baptism we become children of the New Covenant, the one God has made with us by His grace through His incarnate beloved Son, Jesus Christ, who was willing to give His own physical life that we might have abundant and true life.

As part of His Covenant, we are bound to Him by love. There are no lists of commandments to follow, although we do not discard the commandments given by God to His people, but, as Jesus Himself stated, we follow the rule of love. If we love our Creator with our whole being, and love our fellow human beings and the rest of creation as part of ourselves (which is strictly true, by the way), then we are fulfilling the Covenant we enter into when we are baptized. Then, the words Jesus heard from His Father are also addressed to each of us: “You are my beloved child in whom I am well pleased.”

Fr. Carlos Expósito, Rector

READINGS FOR THE FIRST SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY: THE BAPTISM OF OUR LORD

Isaiah 42:1-9 + Psalm 29:1-9 + Acts 10:34-43 + Matthew 3:13-17

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 **January 11th, 2026** **The First Sunday after the Epiphany: The Baptism of Our Lord**

10:00 AM Mass in All Saints' Church

Join Zoom Meeting from our web site at www.all saints church.org

Recording of Mass available before noon at www.all saints church.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.all saints church.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.all saints church.org

www.edsd.org