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 – November 15th, 2026

The Wisdom He Grants Us

Applying Our Hearts to Wisdom



When we think of wisdom we usually refer to knowledge that comes from the accumulation of information in our minds, and the experience that comes from putting that knowledge into practice. The sources of this information may vary: from books to teachers, to parents, relatives, friends, and in more contemporary times, to social media and AI. The result of this may be a more informed person, with better skills to get along in life, but that is really far from the true wisdom that Holy Scriptures refer to.

In the Hebrew conception wisdom was even personalized, as we realize when we read the Book of Wisdom, Ecclesiasticus, Job, Baruch, and the Book of Proverbs. For the Hebrews, Wisdom had been born from God Himself, even before the worlds were created. In a sense we notice a striking similarity between the Hebrew Wisdom and the Logos of the Greek. We could say Wisdom prefigured the Christ.

True wisdom does not come from the mere accumulation of human knowledge. Jesus Himself refers to this when He claims that the heavenly knowledge has been revealed to the infants, and concealed from the wise. This does not imply our Creator despises human knowledge, which is obviously useful for our earthly life, but the fact is that this type of knowledge, often based on purely human reasoning, can at times be a hindrance for the wisdom coming from above.

That is why Holy Scripture has been given to humanity, as way to provide instruction in the higher truths that rely more on faith than in human reasoning, although they do not necessarily conflict with the latter. The prayerful study of Holy Scripture can give us a glimpse of the truths that come from above, but then again, this will not happen unless we are greatly aided by the Holy Spirit, and eagerly wish to receive this wisdom to guide or lives.

Intuitively we perceive glimpses of God's true wisdom, since our true being is from God, and God is willing to give it to us in as much a measure as we are willing to take it.

In the Parable of the Talents, which is this Sunday"s gospel reading, we read that the businessman going on a trip gave his slaves talents, to each according to their ability. The talents can represent everything our Creator gives us in terms of our skills and personal gifts, but it could also refer to the portion of true wisdom that we are able to receive joyfully and then multiply by applying it to our personal and communal lives.

The attitude of the slave who decided to bury the talent is like that of a person who believes that His Creator is unfair in giving him knowledge and then expect them to apply it in good and holy endeavors. People like those are the ones who would rather bury the talents than use them in anything that they do not consider will benefit them.

These are the people that pretend they do not need God's guidance, and even scorn it by saying, "The Lord will not do good, nor will He do harm." But, like the psalmist declares in Psalm 90, "our iniquities you have set before you, and our secret sins in the light of your countenance."

Refusing to be guided by God's wisdom, which is always aligned with His loving will for all, is like hiding this talent from our sight, trying to ignore it, and even blaming God for our stubbornness, declaring that "He reaps where He does not sow, and gathers where He does not scatter seed." In other words, it is like telling God, "I do not want to put the wisdom you give me into practice, because it only suits your purposes, not mine."

These are the ones over whom, according to St. Paul in his First Letter to the Thessalonians, destruction will come. Conversely, real and abundant life is the fate of those who dwell in the light. This eternal life was obtained for us through Christ's sacrifice on the cross, and so we must, as St. Paul admonishes the converts at Thessalonica, "put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. By doing so, as the writer of Psalm 90 states, "we will apply our hearts to wisdom."

The Rev. Carlos E. Expósito

Readings for the
Twenty-Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

Zepheniah 1:7,12–21 + 1 Thessalonians 5:1–11 + Matthew 25:14–30 + Psalm 123

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 15th, 2026 Twenty-Fifth Sunday after Pentecost**
10:00 AM Mass in All Saints' Church
Join Zoom Meeting from our website at www.allsaintschurch.org
Recording of Mass available before noon at www.allsaintschurch.org

Christian Formation and First Communion Instruction for Children
Ages 5 to 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