



ALL SAINTS' CHURCH

THIS SUNDAY December 3 & BEYOND

“Take Heed, Watch and Pray”



“I don’t know. But the Father knows.” That is Jesus’ answer to his disciples’ to the question of when everything is going to end as they knew it.

It started this way: they had been in the temple in Jerusalem, and one of his disciples had marveled at the glorious construction of it, and of the out buildings. Jesus’ immediate comment was a lot of cold water on such appreciation when he said that everything beautiful they looked at was going to be destroyed.

Imagine coming into our parish church, perhaps one of our acolytes giving a little tour, pointing out our windows, the blue dome on top of the Spanish renaissance tower, the Mary chapel, some of the history. And during the tour you express yourself (like I did when our All Saints’ Acolyte Director took me on a small tour) – “Oh, yes.” “Nice.” “Beautiful.” “Amazing.” And then if your tour guide said to you, “Do you see all these lovely things? There will not be left here one plastered beam beside another, that will not be thrown down!”

If you were a newcomer, you might want to have some other churches to visit. You might think major construction was planned, or a complete property moved. Perhaps knowing something of the circumstances it would help your decision about choosing this place for a spiritual home, or going elsewhere. So, you might want to ask, with some urgency, the next question, “Why?” Or, “When?” The disciples wanted to know, too. But they waited until they had gotten out of the city. ^{Mark} 13:3 “And as He sat on the Mount of Olives opposite the temple, Peter and James and John and Andrew asked him privately, “Tell us, when will this be, and what will be the sign when these things are all to be accomplished?”

But before Jesus gets to the point of saying that famous answer, ^{vs 32} “But of that day or that hour no one knows, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father”, he has a longer answer to provide. It’s the answer of what happens IN BETWEEN that moment when “they will see the Son of man coming in clouds with great power and glory,” and right NOW, as you have now heard Jesus Himself say

that He is coming again. It's the answer of what do you do now that you have given your allegiance, your heart, your soul, your strength, your mind to Christ! Do you run? Do you stay and hide?

Part of the Good News is that Jesus' answer let us know that someone is in control, God the Father, and that it is a planned demolition and creation (the new Jerusalem) – like our lives being transformed in Christ once we believe, yes?

And his extended answer he summarized in this way, "Take heed, watch and pray." He's not just talking to Peter, James and John, and Andrew. For he says to them as his final words in this answer, "And what I say to you I say to all: Watch." And so we are included in Jesus' command.

Here's what we know: it's going to happen. We are to be prepared by being watchful. We are to pray. And for what? For the harvest of souls to join you as the elect who will be gathered.

So don't get caught up in worrying about what will be coming, except to be prepared. Do now what you have been called to do now.

Father Rob Eaton, Interim Rector

CALENDAR

SUNDAY:

8:00a Low Mass (Church)

10:30a Solemn Mass (Church)

—*The entrance to the church is on 6th Avenue*—

Note: Coffee Hour & Fellowship follow the Mass in the Parish Hall.

MONDAY: 7:00p (AA) Doctors' Group (Fireside Room)

TUESDAY: Noon Mass (St. Mary's Chapel)

FRIDAY AA Meetings

8:00p Ladies' Group (Fireside Room)

8:15p Men's Group (Parish Hall)

SATURDAY 11:00a Rosary (St. Mary's Chapel)

11:30a Mass (St. Mary's Chapel)

Noon Potluck Lunch (Parish Hall)

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

www.allsaintschurch.org