



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 — December 12 & Beyond

The Joy of Repentance



The Third Sunday of Advent uses rose as its liturgical color. It is called Gaudete Sunday, because in the Traditional Latin Mass and the Novus Ordo the Introit is taken from Philippians 4: 4-5: *Gaudete in Domino semper* (Rejoice always in the Lord).

Although we do not normally use the Introit in our Episcopal Church liturgy, it is used in the liturgy of the English Missal for Anglo-Catholic Churches in England, and we do use Philippians 4: 4-5 as part of the readings for this day in Year C.

In any event, the tone of the Third Sunday of Advent is always one of rejoicing, as the liturgical color clearly shows.

The readings in Year C have the word **rejoice**—or a derived form of the word—in the Old Testament reading (Zephaniah 3: 14-20), Canticle 9 (Isaiah 12: 2-6), and the Epistle (Philippians 4: 4-7).

However, as we come to the Gospel reading of the day (Luke 3: 7-18) we find John the Baptist's really harsh—and even offensive—words for the crowds that came to him to be baptized in the Jordan River. He called them “brood of vipers” and asked them who had warned them to flee from the wrath to come.

His call to repentance was not a soft one. He urged the crowds that came to him to consider their lives and make haste to change what was not in accordance with God's will. And his response to those who asked him what to do was very down-to-earth and concrete.

He simply told people to do what was fair and just: to the masses in general he encouraged them to share what they possessed with the needy; to tax collectors not to exact from the people more than what was due; to soldiers not to extort money by threats or false accusations and to be satisfied with their wages. He did not ask for unrealistic or even heroic deeds that required extreme sacrifice.

And he was clear about his mission. When some questioned him about the possibility of him being the expected Messiah, he clearly pointed out that one would come after him, whose sandals he did not consider himself worthy to untie.

And here he made clear the difference between his baptism of repentance as preparation for the coming of the Christ, and what Christ Himself would do at His coming: He would baptize us with the Holy Spirit, and He would purify us by gathering the good fruits of the Spirit in us in the loving communion of all the saints, and by allowing us to do away with all the uselessness that prevents us from being an integral part of this holy communion. This is what true repentance is all about.

St. Luke the Evangelist concludes this fragment by affirming that John the Baptist, with these and many other exhortations, proclaimed the good news to the people.

If we still have not grasped it, the news about what the Messiah will do at His coming, and the urgency to prepare for this blessed coming to our lives, cannot be compared in relevance to any other piece of news anyone might hear or read.

Yes, true repentance is, indeed, the greatest reason to rejoice in our Lord.

Fr. Carlos E. Expósito, Rector

Readings for this Sunday – The Third Sunday of Advent

Zaphaniah 3:14-20 Canticle 9 Philippians 4:4-7 Luke 3:7-18

CALENDAR

Note: We are worshipping in our historic church. The service will also be on Zoom. The service time is 10am. Tuesday Noon Mass and Friday Morning Prayer are held in All Saints' St. Mary Chapel.

SUNDAY The Third Sunday of Advent

10:00am 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

1:00pm Mass in Spanish St. Mary Chapel

Christian Formation and First Communion Instruction for Children

Ages 5-12 in the Parish Hall from 10:00am-10:45am

Christian Formation gathering at 11:30am in the Rector's study

TUESDAY Noon Mass in St. Mary Chapel

WEDNESDAY Spanish Classes from 5:30pm to 7:30pm in the Rector's Office taught by
Fr. Carlos Expósito

FRIDAY 10:00am Morning Prayer in St. Mary's Chapel

SATURDAY Society of Mary Day of Devotion

11:00am Rosary St. Mary Chapel

11:30am Mass St. Mary Chapel

Noon Potluck Lunch Parish Hall

SUNDAY The Fourth Sunday of Advent

10:00am 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 10:00am-10:45am

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