



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 — July 10 & Beyond

"The Word Is Very Near to You"



In the first book of the Bible, known as Genesis, it is said that it is through His Word that the Creator of all that is has brought everything into existence, including us human beings. It is God's Word which conveys His creative will and power and makes possible that His will be translated into existence.

It is also God's Word inspired by His Spirit that has spoken to His people through the prophets, and has been transmitted from generation to generation, in spoken form first, and later in writing, so as to guide us into all truth and enable us to live in fullness of love and harmony with one another and with the rest of creation.

As Moses said to the people, according to the Book of Deuteronomy, God's commandment given to His people is not an alien law, unrelated to people's everyday lives, or contrary

to natural laws, that people need to find in inaccessible places or make an extraordinary effort to put into practice.

On the contrary, the commandment that our Creator has transmitted to us through His prophets, is simply the law of love. Love is at the very essence of nature and all creation. It was out of love that God made all that is, and made us in His very likeness and image that we might be partakers of His loving joy at sharing it with our human fellow beings, and the rest of the living beings on this Earth.

In the written law inspired by the Holy Spirit, God's commandments may be summarized in two: to love our Creator with our whole being, and to love our neighbors as we love ourselves. If we follow this law of love we will share in God's joy for all His creatures, and will be partakers of His love.

Going back to the first book of the Bible, in the depiction of the Garden of Eden, we find that God's intention is for human beings to enjoy a close communion of love with Him, with one another, and with the rest of creation. But God did not create us humans as automatons who follow a pre-determined built-in program, but as free beings, with the capacity to make choices—even the wrong ones, and also learn from our mistakes.

One of the choices we make is whom to love. Throughout history, humans have tended to associate with others with similar interests and characteristics, considering them their “neighbors”, while rejecting those who they see as alien, or even enemies. This does not reflect God's universal and unconditional love, but a limited kind of self-centered love who conveniently includes only those who can benefit our selfish interests in some way.

This is clearly reflected in the dialogue between Jesus and the lawyer In Luke 10:25-37. The lawyer can accurately determine the commandments he must follow to inherit eternal life—the law of love—but fails to understand that when the commandment says “your neighbor” it is not about each of us determining who our neighbor is, but that we are to become the “neighbor” of all those we come in contact with, and show compassion and love to all, regardless of any labels society may have put on them.

This is the essence of the Parable of the Good Samaritan.

To the ears that heard Jesus tell it, it must have sounded highly offensive that a Samaritan—the enemy—as opposed to the priest and the Levite, was the one who had compassion for the wounded man. But Jesus did it on purpose to show that real love has no labels.

Jesus Himself is God's Word incarnate and never before has God's Word been nearer to us than after Jesus Christ became flesh to live among us. Through the power of the Holy Spirit, God's Word now also inhabits each of us if only we open our hearts to Him.

As Moses clearly implied, there is no excuse for not following God's Word; it is so very near to us.

Fr. Carlos E. Expósito. Rector

Readings for The Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

Deuteronomy 30:9-16 Colossians 1:1-14 Psalm 25:3-9 Luke 10:25-37

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 Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

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

Christian Formation every second and fourth Sunday of the month at

11:30am Studying *Sacred Earth, Sacred Soul* by John Philip Newell

Rector's Study

A Spanish Mass will be held on the first, second, fourth (and fifth)

Sundays each month at 1pm. Everyone is welcome.

TUESDAY Noon Mass in St. Mary Chapel

THURSDAY Spanish Class 1:00pm to 3:00pm in the Flower Room. Taught by Fr. Carlos

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

SUNDAY The Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

10:00am Mass in All Saints' Church

Join Zoom Meeting from our web site at www.allsaintschurch.org

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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