



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 — May 18th, 2025

"The Way That Leads to New Creation"



The Way That Leads to New Creation

In the Collect for the Fifth Sunday of Easter, we ask God to grant us a deep and perfect knowledge of Jesus Christ as "the way, the truth, and the life," so that we might follow steadfastly in His steps towards eternal life. These are familiar words, drawn from Jesus' own mouth in John's Gospel, but they also present a challenge: what does it mean, day by day, to walk in the way of Jesus? And what is the life we are promised when we follow Him?

This Sunday's readings offer a rich and hopeful vision of what that way and life look like. In particular, Revelation 21:1-6 gives us an image of where the journey ends—or perhaps better said, where it begins anew. The writer of Revelation beholds "a new heaven and a new earth," a holy city where God dwells intimately with

humanity, wiping every tear from every eye. "See," the voice from the throne declares, "I am making all things new."

This is not just a vision of heaven far off in time or space; it is the culmination of God's ongoing work of renewal in us and in the world through Christ. Jesus, who is the way, does not lead us out of this world but through it, into its healing and transformation. Eternal life, then, is not only a promise for after death—it is the fruit of a life lived in tune with the risen Christ, here and now.

This vision gains even more power when we remember the context of John's writing. Revelation was composed in a time of fear, oppression, and uncertainty. The early church was not

a place of privilege but of vulnerability. And yet it is into that very space of longing and struggle that God speaks the promise: “It is done. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end.” The One who began the work will surely bring it to completion.

To walk in this way of Jesus means, among other things, trusting that God’s renewal is already at work in places that look forgotten, overlooked, or even lost. In Acts 11, Peter recounts his vision that leads him to welcome Gentiles into the household of faith—a radical expansion of the church’s boundaries. The Spirit is moving, and the church must follow.

Psalm 148 reminds us that this praise is not ours alone. The entire created order—sun, moon, fire, hail, fruit trees and mountains—joins the chorus. God’s renewal is not limited to human hearts but extends to all creation.

And then, in John 13, Jesus gives us a simple but powerful commandment: “Love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another.” If we are seeking a clear step on the way that leads to life, here it is. Love is the road. Not just a vague or sentimental affection, but the kind of love that washes feet, bears the cross, and embraces the outcast.

To know Christ as the way, the truth, and the life is to commit ourselves to that kind of love—to believe that in doing so, we are joining the Spirit’s movement towards the new creation. The city of God is not just our destination. It is the shape of our discipleship.

So, in this Easter season, let us walk the road with hope, looking for signs of renewal, listening for the Spirit’s leading, and loving as Christ loved. “To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life,” says the Lord. May we drink deeply—and may we offer that water freely to others, until all is made new.

Fr. Carlos, Rector

Readings for *the Fifth Sunday of Easter*

Acts 11:1-18 + Revelation 21:1-6 + John 13:31-35 + Psalm 148

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 May 18, 2025 Fifth Sunday of Easter

10:00 AM 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 10:00 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

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

www.allsaintschurch.org

www.edsd.org