

"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 — June 1st, 2025 "ONLY THIRST LIGHTS US"



Only Thirst Lights Us

A well-known and well-loved Taizé Chant in Spanish, based on John of the Cross's works, says: "De noche, de noche iremos, que para encontrar la fuente, solo la sed nos alumbra, solo la sed nos alumbra." Although translations can never exactly reproduce the flavor of the original, a possible rendering in English would be: "By night, by night we will go because to find the spring only thirst lights us, only thirst lights us."

This chant is not a particular line taken from one of John of the Cross's works, but it paraphrases some of his main ideas in his Spiritual Canticle–

particularly the idea that only a deep longing for God in our lives can bring us to real communion with Him. This deep longing is expressed in the chant as thirst, one of the most overwhelming and vital urges that human beings and most animals feel when the body needs hydration.

The same image is found in the excerpt from the Book of Revelation that the Lectionary brings us this Sunday, in chapter 22. This is the last chapter of the book, and it concludes the series of revelations with Jesus' promise of being with His true followers promptly.

At the end both the Spirit, and the bride—who represents the Holy Assembly of the saints, the Church—call Jesus to come to them, expressing their deep desire for true communion with God's beloved Son, and all those who hear this are encouraged to join them in their call to Jesus to come.

And then we have these two remarkable lines:

"And let everyone who is thirsty come.

Let anyone who wishes take the water of life as a gift."

It may well be that John of the Cross was inspired in his writings by these passages from the Book of Revelation, although no one could state this for a fact. John of the Cross's writings are mainly about the mystical union with the divine, and the Book of Revelation tells us about the consummation of God's

plan for humanity and the whole of His creation, but in both cases the authentic deep longing for communion with Him is the driving force that will enable it.

It was God's prerogative and will to create us in His image and likeness, which means that he gave us His capacity to love in total freedom. We have the freedom to deeply desire for His love and communion with us, or not to do it. This deep desire in us has already been planted by God Himself but, unfortunately, the distractions of the world stifle it in many of us. It is this deep desire which ultimately drives us to commune with God and His beloved Son, encouraged by the power of His Spirit.

If we follow this thirst—this overpowering impulse which sometimes lies buried deep within us—the water of true and everlasting life will be given to us freely, as the most wonderful of gifts.

As we celebrate Jesus' glorious Ascension—the perfect expression of His oneness with the Father and look forward to the powerful manifestation of His Spirit among and within us, let us be reminded once more that even if we cannot perceive it with our physical eyes, the spring—the fountain of true life—is right there for us to drink from it freely, but only our authentic thirst for it will enable us to find it.

Fr. Carlos, Rector

READINGS FOR THE SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Acts 16:9-15 + Revelation 21:10, 22 - 22:5 + John 14:23-29 + Psalm 67

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.

SUNDAYJune 1st, 2025Seventh Sunday of Easter10:00 AM Mass in All Saints' ChurchJoin Zoom Meeting from our web site at www.allsaintschurch.orgRecording 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 <u>www.allsaintschurch.org</u>

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