



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 — JUNE 8TH, 2025

“FROM VARIETY COMES UNITY”



Variety for Unity

When we think of what happened in the Tower of Babel, what comes to our minds is that the variety of languages that was produced at that point caused confusion, so that people could no longer understand each other, and they were thus dispersed throughout the earth.

Dispersion is not necessarily a bad thing though, and it must have been in God's plan that humankind should be dispersed and occupied different parts of the planet, and that a multitude of different rich forms of civilization would emerge from this dispersion.

The fact that different people spoke different languages and made it harder for different nations to communicate with one another was not so positive, but it also contributed to enrich the cultural heritage of humanity.

And people found their way to learn other languages and cultures, so as to enable communication among the different nations.

As a linguist and a person who has been able to learn other foreign languages and cultures, I can say, based on personal experience, that this has greatly expanded my horizons, and made me more empathic to other cultures.

The Pentecost phenomenon—insofar as languages are concerned—clearly shows that variety does not necessarily mean confusion, but it can serve the purpose of unifying people from different cultural and linguistic backgrounds.

The people who attended the Feast of Pentecost were all probably able to understand the languages that were used as the main means of communication in that part of the world at that time: Koine Greek and Aramaic. Most learned people spoke Koine Greek, but Aramaic was probably the language all the disciples could speak. If the disciples had used either of these most of the people present would have understood at least the essence of what was said.

But what the Holy Spirit enabled them to do was to use a variety of languages, the local languages of all those present, so that the message would go straight to their hearts. As a person who can speak a second language well, I can attest to the fact that what is said in my mother tongue still resonates deeper into my heart and mind.

The Holy Spirit is one, just as God Himself is one, even though He is known by us in three persons. This Spirit of Truth teaches us to be one with one another, with God, and with the whole creation. Unity is its main goal. But the way this unity is achieved is not through uniformity, but through a wonderful variety of gifts.

As Jesus' followers, we are all members of Christ's Body—the Church. But for a body to function properly, it needs different members with specific tasks working harmoniously with a common goal. This common goal, as St. Paul points out in his First Letter to the Corinthians, is the common good. From the Christian standpoint, the common good is that we may all be brought to the communion of the Saints, where there is no longer "Jew" or "Greek", "slaves" or "free", but all with their unique gifts contribute to make up the Holy Assembly in which God is one in all, and all are one in Him.

Fr. Carlos Expósito, Rector

This reflection was originally written in May 2024.

READINGS FOR THE DAY OF PENTECOST / WHITSUNDAY

Acts 2:1-21 + Romans 8:14-17 + John 14:8-17, 25-27 + Psalm 104:25-35, 37

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 June 8th, 2025 Day of Pentecost / Whitsunday

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