



"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 – AUGUST 31ST, 2025

HUMILITY: FOR TRUE LOVE OF GOD AND NEIGHBOR

Being Exalted in Humility

Undue pride and self-exaltation are personality traits rejected and condemned by most, particularly when they are overt and evident. Sometimes, however, these personality traits are disguised by those who pretend to be humble and meek, even when their egos are bigger than the sun.



But what leads human beings to pride and self-exaltation? According to the writer of the Book of Sirach "the beginning of pride is to forsake the Lord; the heart has withdrawn from its Maker." And he reiterates: For the beginning of pride is sin, and the one who clings to it pours out abominations."

Forsaking the One who has made us, not recognizing Him, but pretending that mere chance engendered us through our parents, and we have made ourselves through the working of our own minds, is the origin of all sins, and particularly of pride and self-exaltation as the number one fallacy that leads to all the calamities of our lives.

It is pride that stands in the way of true love. When we think of ourselves as greater and more relevant than the rest of our fellow human beings, and the rest of creation, we are subverting reality into a self-asserting illusion that may temporarily give us satisfaction, but in the end will only make our relationships with others toxic or even violent.

In order to make this false illusion last, people spend their lifetime in a useless pursuit of "happiness" based on the premise of obtaining as much as they can from others, instead of partaking in the genuine joy of sharing and self-giving, which is the nature of our true self in God.

This false and unnatural view of life is condemned by the writer of Sirach in these words: "Pride was not created for human beings, or violent anger for those born of women."

The writer of Hebrews, in turn, reminds his readers of the need to show mutual love, and hospitality to strangers, and to remember those who are in prison and being tortured as if they were in those circumstances themselves. He also encourages his readers to hold marriage in honor and undefiled, and to keep their lives free from the love of money, be content with what they have, and put their all their confidence in God.

In all this, this writer is translating the humility required by true love of God and neighbor into concrete practices.

In the parable that Jesus tells the guests at the banquet, according to St. Luke the Evangelist, those who sit themselves at the best places are asked by the host to give up their seats to others, whereas those who sit at the back are asked by him to move forward. Jesus then summarizes the message in these words: “For all who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted.”

And then Jesus links the idea of humility to that of authentic loving service—the love that is not expecting anything in return—when He urges His listeners to invite the poor, the lame, the crippled, and the blind to banquets, because these cannot repay us in earthly ways, but in turn we will receive the greatest of all exaltations by our Creator: the resurrection of the righteous.

May the Lord of all power and might, the author and giver of all good things—as the Collect so aptly puts it—graft in our hearts the love of His name, nourish us with all goodness, and bring forth in us the fruit of good works. This is the true and only exaltation we should humbly desire in our hearts.

Fr. Carlos Expósito, Rector

READINGS FOR THE TWELFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Sirach 10:12–18 + Psalm 112 + Hebrews 13:1–8, 15–16 + Luke 14:1, 7–14

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 **August 31st, 2025 Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost**
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