



"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 – FEBRUARY 1ST, 2026

THE AUTHENTIC WAY OF LOVE

Being Present

In this world of global communication, it would seem that today we can all be present to one another much more easily and readily than decades ago. However, are we really present when we rely more and more on electronic communication as a substitute for face-to-face presence? Something to ponder on.

It would be unfair to downplay the undeniable usefulness of distance communication that telephony brought about in the last century, and that has been greatly enhanced with the advancement of mobile phones, personal computers, tablets, and other devices. All this has enabled us to communicate instantly with our family, friends, coworkers, and people living on the opposite end of the earth.



Electronic social media has practically made it available for most people on the planet to become communicators, and we now meet people online whom we will probably never meet in person. Influencers count the rising number of online followers proudly, knowing it will give them financial profit, and call them "friends". But how authentic is this sort of communication?

Are we really present when we follow someone online? Is this person by our side in our moments of need of a real presence, or the other way around? What does real presence actually mean?

Being present involves a real and vulnerable relationship with the other person. And relationships imply personal connection. It means gradually getting to know (always respecting the other person's privacy and the extent to which they allow us to interact with them) how the other person actually lives, what they feel, what makes them happy or sad, what they have or lack, what they look like at different times of the day—not what they decide to show on a screen, but the real person they are.

This is what Jesus meant when He told those who asked them where He was staying, "come and see." He did not mean to take a peek at the place where He was staying, and notice how messy or tidy it looked. He meant to share real time with Him, to do things together, to listen to His teachings, and watch Him interact with people. To be really present to Him, and Him to them.

Being present to our Creator also implies a personal relationship with Him. It means being attentive to the ways in which God communicates with us, and responding to this communication. We should not necessarily expect to hear God's voice speaking to us, although this can never be totally discarded. But we can find His voice in Holy Scripture, in what the Saints throughout the centuries have written about their experience with God, in the inspiration we receive when we pray or when we dream, in the insights we get when we interact with other believers, in the way Jesus is shown to us in the face of the needy and the oppressed, in the wonder of nature, and in so many other unpredictable ways.

In this week's celebration of the Presentation of Our Lord in the Temple we talk about Jesus being presented to the Father. But we should also notice Joseph and Mary being present to the Lord. We should notice Simeon and the prophet Anna being present to this unique moment, and how this presence made the greatest of differences in their lives.

The writer of Hebrews reminds us that what makes Jesus a unique and real high priest is His presence among us, in the flesh, as a human being, partaking our fragility and our humanness, even to the point of suffering the cruelest of deaths on a cross. "Because He Himself was tested by what He suffered, He is able to help those who are being tested," he states.

Being really present can be uncomfortable because it implies "rejoicing with those who rejoice, and crying with those who cry." Being present is not being there for others as an attentive spectator, or as a scrutinizer with psychological curiosity, but being in the other person's shoes, sharing their joy and their sadness, their gains and their losses, and showing compassion in a concrete way, the authentic Way of Love that Jesus showed us in His person.

Fr. Carlos Expósito, Rector

READINGS FOR THE PRESENTATION OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST IN THE TEMPLE

Malachi 3:1-4 + Psalm 24:7-10 + Hebrews 2:14-18 + Luke 2:22-40

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 February 1st, 2026 The Presentation of Our Lord Jesus Christ in the Temple
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