



"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."

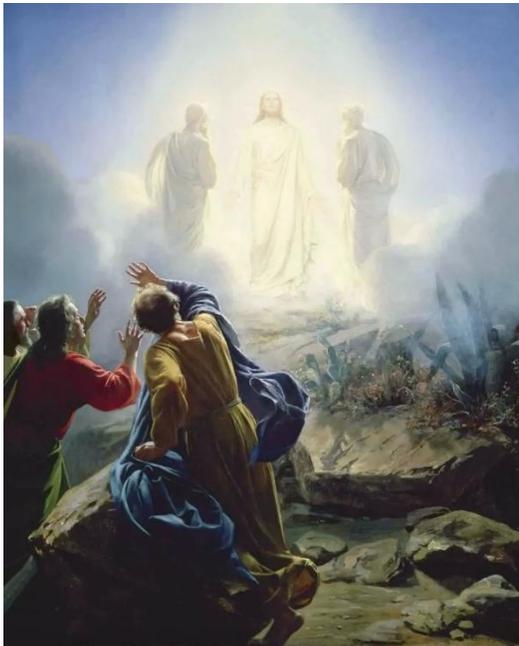
Our Vision: *"We strive to be a haven of healing, reconciliation, joy and peace in service to our wider community and beyond, so that our example in prayer and practice may reflect Christ's love for us all."*

THIS SUNDAY – FEBRUARY 15TH, 2026 TO BECOME OUR GLORIOUS SELVES

Why Listen to Him?

If a caterpillar had a conscience similar to ours, and had never heard anyone tell it that it would one day be a butterfly, would that caterpillar be easily convinced that is what it would become? Certainly not. Faith would have to enter the equation here.

This is the subject of a story I read several decades ago, and the reason why I am bringing it up is because when we are in the last week of the season after the Epiphany, we always use the readings of the Transfiguration, and this is where we are in the Christian year right now.



The word for Transfiguration in the original Koine Greek is transcribed as metamorphosis, the same term we use to describe the process that a caterpillar undergoes to become a butterfly. The depiction we have in the Gospels about this event, witnessed only by three of the inner circle of the twelve—Peter, James, and John—is of Jesus' face shining like the sun and His clothes becoming dazzling white.

This image showed these three disciples a glorified Jesus. We could say that Jesus Himself had become the brightest of lights, as if portraying what He had said about Him being “the light of the world.”

But Jesus did not appear alone in this vision. He was accompanied by two well known characters who epitomize the Law and the Prophets for the peoples of Israel—Moses and Elijah. This vision was not only a presentation of Jesus in His ultimate glorified way, but also a visual statement that the Law and the Prophets are recapitulated in His person.

Now the Transfiguration was for these three disciples, not only an awesomely extraordinary visual experience, but an auditory one as well. It was accompanied by a heavenly voice addressed to them, saying, “This is my Son, the Beloved; with Him I am well pleased; listen to Him!”

But let us notice that “listen” in this message is not simply “hear”, but “hear and heed what he says.” But why should the disciples listen to Him?

Was this a command from a King who wants the ones He rules over to do His Son's will, simply because that pleases Him? Why should we listen to Jesus?

Let us go back to the story of the caterpillar. Why should the caterpillar listen to anyone telling it the "nonsense" that it would one day be a butterfly? Does it make any sense? We know it does make sense, but the supposed caterpillar in this story has not heard of such a thing happening, nor has it witnessed it.

Now the three disciples had witnessed something extraordinary happening to Jesus. They had heard the voice coming from above. But did that give them the certainty that by following Jesus' Way they would eventually share the same fate? After all, Jesus was God's beloved Son. He was extraordinary. But were they even deserving of such a wonderful fate?

This is the question we keep on asking ourselves, even when Scripture and our faith tell us to believe that we will share in Jesus' glory if we follow His Way. Is it easy to believe that we, with our faults, our petty selfishness, even our cruelty sometimes, may one day become pure light? Isn't it unthinkable? But what if we are not becoming something we are not, but simply becoming what we already are?

If we believe what the First Book of the Bible tells us, that we have been created in God's image and likeness, then it should follow that we are beings of light, just as He is light. Just as the caterpillar and the butterfly are not really two distinct species but two different stages of the same species, so this present tainted stage of our humanity and the luminous stage belong to one and the same humanity that God created in His image.

But just as the caterpillar needs to enter the cocoon and undergo a rather painful process to become the butterfly, so must we die to our old sinful self before our resurrected glorious being can be manifested in our lives.

Fr. Carlos Expósito, Rector

READINGS FOR THE LAST SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

Exodus 24:12-18 + Psalm 99:1-6 + 2 Peter 1:16-21
+ Matthew 17:1-9

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 15th, 2026** **The Last Sunday after the Epiphany**
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