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 – October 25th, 2026

Because We Follow His Will

The True Sonship

As followers of Jesus' Way, we have been called to be the children of Jesus' heavenly Father, whom we also call our Father.

This is both a great privilege and a great responsibility. We are certainly, by definition, God's creatures, the special creation of His hands, the ones He declared to have been made in His image and likeness.

A son or daughter, however, is much more than just someone who has come from a progenitor. It is someone who loves that progenitor, loves their siblings because they come from the same source, and show this love in concrete ways, by responding in a loving relationship, in which we show respect and follow the loving will of the one who guides us to become the best version of ourselves.

This is what we, who claim to follow Jesus' Way, are called to be: God's full children in whom He finds delight. In fact, God already finds delight in the very fact of having created us, and His infinite love for us is far beyond our ken, but His greatest delight comes when we find our way to a true loving relationship with Him, with all humanity, and with all His created world.

Why is that so? Simply because then, and only then, can we find our real joy. We have been created by God with free will, because having been created in His image, He who is the epitome of freedom also made us free to make choices. But at the same time, we have been created for God, as St. Augustine points out, and only when we find our way back to Him will our joy be complete.



In this Sunday's readings we find, in the Book of Leviticus, chapter 19, this statement addressed to the people, which the writer ascribes to God, "You shall be holy, for I the Lord your God am holy." In other words, if you are to be my people, my true children, there is no way you cannot be like me.

And how does the writer define holiness here? Is it rolling one's eyes upward, living separate from everyone, or falling into ecstatic trances often? None of it. This is what God tells His people: "You shall not render an unjust judgment, you shall not be partial to the poor or defer to the great: with justice you shall judge your neighbor. You shall not go around as a slanderer among your people, and you shall not profit by the blood of your neighbor: I am the Lord."

And the conclusion of this excerpt is: "but you shall love your neighbor as yourself: I am the Lord."

So we clearly see that recognizing God as our Lord, as the ruler of our lives, equals having a true loving relationship with our neighbors.

Having this kind of loving relationship with our Creator and our fellow human beings is, according to Psalm 1, what makes a person happy. The psalmist refers to such people as the ones "who delight in the law of the Lord, and meditate on His law day and night." These are the people who are "like trees planted by streams of water, bearing fruit in due season, with leaves that do not wither; everything they do shall prosper."

This image reminds us that when we follow God's loving will—His law—we are, as it were, grafted in God's true source of life, and His true life flows through us and towards the rest of the word, carrying the fruits of love.

In his First Letter to the Thessalonians, the apostle Paul reminds the new converts of the many tribulations he and those who accompanied him in his evangelizing mission to this part of the world had to endure, and that in no way were they trying to obtain any personal benefits, but were simply obeying Christ's Great Commission. He also states that they not only shared the gospel with them, but learned to love them as well.

In this Sunday's Gospel reading Jesus reminds us of the prominence of the love for God and our neighbor, as what sums up all the law and the prophets, but also brings another crucial question, one that the Pharisees were not able to answer.

Whose son is the Christ, the Messiah? For the Pharisees, well versed in scriptures, the answer was David's, because the prophets said the Messiah would descend from his lineage. Jesus then quotes a passage from the Book of Psalms in which David calls the Messiah "Lord." Jesus asks the Pharisees, "If David calls Him Lord, how can He be his son?" They were not able to reply anything.

What the Pharisees missed, and we should not miss is the fact that true sonship comes from the Spirit, not from human lineage. We are true children of God not because we descend from the first human being that was in this world that God Himself created, but because we, freely and responsibly, with the liberty He created us, choose to relate to Him by following His loving will, and by loving one another as His children.

Fr. Carlos E. Expósito, Rector

READINGS FOR
THE TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Leviticus 19:1–2,15–18 + 1 Thessalonians 2:1–8 + Matthew 22:34–46 + Psalm 1

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 **October 25th, 2026 The Twenty-Second Sunday after Pentecost**
10:00 AM Mass in All Saints' Church
Join Zoom Meeting from our website at www.allsaintschurch.org
Recording of Mass available before noon at www.allsaintschurch.org

Christian Formation and First Communion Instruction for Children
Ages 5 to 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