

Serving Berlin's English-speaking Catholic Community since 1957



Catholic Community

Member of the English-Speaking Mission

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Our Mission Statement: The All Saints Catholic Community is a fully integrated, multicultural community with English as its unifying language. It is an open, warm, welcoming, inclusive community that prays together and celebrates its unity in diversity.

May 27, 2012, Pentecost Sunday

Acts 2:1-11; Psalm 104:1, 24, 29-31, 34; 1 Corinthians 12:3-7, 12-13; John 20:19-23

Jesus stayed with his disciples for 40 days. They were glad to see him again, but something had obviously changed. In Mark's gospel there is no mention of Jesus performing a single miracle during that time. So what did he do? Well, he talked with them, saying that he would give them power to forgive one another, and to chase away evil. He told them that they would be able to pick up snakes with their bare hands (snakes had always been a symbol of evil and sin), and drink the deadly poison of an evil world without being harmed. He told them that he would send them the Holy Spirit. Apart from that there was nothing new or spectacular until the 40th day when they met with him on a hilltop just outside the city of Jerusalem.

Once there, they asked him the question that had been burning in their hearts for long. "Lord, has the time come?" "Are you going to restore the world now?" They pressed further: "When are you going to bring the salvation and redemption and the kingdom you promised? For which we are still waiting..." They must have felt that Jesus was withdrawing from them. The more they threw their questions at him, the more he was withdrawing. The disciples realised his way of being present among them was now something totally different. By now he was above their heads... The more they insisted, the higher he rose. Eventually he spoke: "Let us not speak about the time and date when all this will be fulfilled. Let us talk about how you will become aware of the power of the Holy Spirit within you. Now you will proclaim the Good News, baptising all those who believe, chasing away evil and the devil, picking up snakes, laying on hands and speaking unknown languages. Go, it's up to you, I am placing everything into your hands." And he rose higher and higher until he disappeared from view.

How many of us who claim to be followers of Christ are really willing and prepared to take up the task he left us? We live in a world full of "snakes", corruption, hunger, neglect and hatred, you name it. It would be a terrible misunderstanding if we were only concentrating on staring at Christ "sitting at the right hand of the Father", and leave the world to itself, being concerned with one's own sanctification, hoping to be received into heaven, hallelujah...

"Men of Galilee, why are you standing there, looking at the sky?" On this day, when we remember and celebrate the Ascension, we consider what Jesus is actually doing "at the right hand of the Father". In Hebrews 10,13 we find the answer: "He is now waiting until his enemies (the snakes of all shapes) are made into a footstool for him", meaning evil being conquered and crushed. Jesus is waiting for us to fulfil his mission in the world. We cannot be passive, inactive onlookers when confronted with the suffering and corruption around us. We are the salt, the leaven (yeast) and the light that Jesus left to the world. So often we wait for God, Jesus, to do something about the world, while in reality he is waiting for us to take the initiative.

Fr Clemens Pfaff

Welcome to our 10 am Mass at All Saints. Our Celebrant today is Fr Ludger Hillebrand

Lector: Christian Doeringer • Eucharistic Ministers: Celso, Levina and Renée Menjares • Altar Servers: Aidan Doeringer, Dylan Schmidt • Greeters: Hasmin Quiming, Konrad Giersdorf • Hospitality: Josephine Schmidt

The designated collection today is for Renovabis.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

May 20th attendance: 77

Collection: Friends € 201.79

- If you are **visiting All Saints for the first time**, please introduce yourself at the end of Mass so we can welcome you, and join us for coffee and cake after Mass in the Community Hall!
- **Confessions** can be heard on request. Please contact the celebrant.
- We pray the **Rosary** next Sunday at 9:30 before Mass. Please join us in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel.
- Many of the **designated collections** are for special purposes of the Archdiocese of Berlin. All Saints supports these initiatives and transfers this money in full. However, in agreement with the Archdiocese, All Saints receives no financial support from the Archdiocese. We are completely **dependent** upon your donations. Please continue to donate to All Saints by using the **white envelopes** stamped **ALL SAINTS FUND** and/or transferring your donation to the Pax-Bank account printed below. **THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!**

Please take this copy of the bulletin and use it to spread the word about All Saints.

Friends of All Saints Verein: Bank Account No.: 6001669018, BLZ 370 601 93, Pax-Bank eG

June 3rd 10 am Mass. Our Celebrant will be Pfr Herbert Gillessen

Lector: Rachel Ruckeis • Eucharistic Ministers: Beate Hausmann, Levina Menjares, Heide Doblhofer • Altar Servers: Philip Ruckeis, Samantha Ruckeis, Denis Loebach • Greeters: Hasmin Quiming, Konrad Giersdorf • Hospitality: Loebach Family

The designated collection on June 3rd is for All Saints.

Celebrants		Father Wolfgang Felber SJ	
		Fathers of the Jesuit Community	
All Saints Coordinators	Altar Servers	Katharine Doeringer	03328/335725
	Bulletin, Website	Tamás Meggyes, Vanessa Hansen	811 06 33; 0157 78 95 9845
	Eucharistic Ministers	Heide Doblhofer	832 62 72
	Greeters, Family Group	Konrad Giersdorf	797 83 709
	Hospitality	Levina Menjares, Lupita Wilhelm	466 09 788, 305 82 45
	Lectors	Mike Hoth	354 06 724
	Music Director	Johannes Wrembek	341 31 90
	Office, Treasurer	Heide Doblhofer	832 62 72
	Rosary	Eleonora Loebach	500 14 506

ALL SAINTS COUNCIL: Konrad Giersdorf (Co-Chair) * Vanessa Hansen (Co-Chair) * Rudolf Hausmann * Nora Loebach * Tamás Meggyes * Marianne Sihotang

FRIENDS OF ALL SAINTS ASSOCIATION: Howard Eyth * Mike Hoth * Lupita Wilhelm * Heide Doblhofer * Eddie McGreal

RECTOR ECCLESIAE: Fr Herbert Gillessen, English-Speaking Roman Catholic Mission, Johann-Georg-Str. 8, 10709 Berlin, Tel: 8132026

Boy Scout Troop 46: All Saints is the proud Chartered Organization for Boy Scout Troop 46 "Freedom Outpost." *True to Scouting Values for Over 55 years* (www.troop46berlin.ScoutLander.com)

Access to All Saints:

Subway: U 3, Oskar-Helene-Heim (10-min. walk) or S 1, Zehlendorf, then bus.

Bus: Bus 285: stop Am Waldfriedhof (last stop, 2-min. walk); Bus M11: stop Oskar-Helene-Heim (10-min. walk) or Bus 115: stop Hüttenweg (5-min. walk),

Car: Via Clayallee (<http://berlinonline.de/citymap>). Currently, **no access** from the A115 **Avus highway**.

Altar Flowers are donated by ROTHE Gartenbau GmbH, Clayallee 282, Berlin Zehlendorf