

Serving Berlin's English-speaking Catholic Community since 1957



## Catholic Community

Member of the English-Speaking Mission

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Office Hours: Mondays and Thursdays 10-12

**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.

### April 26, 2015 Fourth Sunday of Easter

Readings (*Missalette* p 88 et seqq.): Acts 4:8-12 • Ps 118:1, 8-9, 21-23, 26, 28, 29 • 1 Jn 3:1-2 • Jn 10:11-18

**Welcome to our 10 am Mass at All Saints. Our Celebrant today is Fr Wolfgang Felber SJ**

Lector: Johannes Ploog • Eucharistic Ministers: Celso Menjares, Jennifer Evans, Beate Hausmann •

Greeter: Buck Chisolm • Altar servers: Conrad Chisolm, Thomas Donovan, Michael Donovan,

Shadrach A. Nyaaba • Hospitality: Thomas Schmidt • Designated collection: All Saints.

#### The first step for finding the risen Jesus in one another: to forgive one another

In **Luke 24:35-48**, the author tries hard to demonstrate that the risen Jesus is present in the lives of the disciples and in our lives. This presence isn't just an invention of our imagination. The risen Jesus in Luke's gospel and in his "Acts of the Apostles" makes two Easter Sunday appearances in situations involving food. First, Jesus makes himself known to his two "runaway" disciples at the inn in Emmaus during "the breaking of bread" and, second, in today's passage in Luke, Jesus proves he is not a ghost by eating a piece of baked fish. In Luke's day, proof that someone was real and not a ghost revolved around eating something. Whatever ghosts ate would simply fall through their apparent bodies and end up on the floor. They don't have "flesh and bones" as the risen Jesus has. But there seems to be a deeper reason for Luke using the context of meals to present the appearances of Jesus. Luke presumes the first Christians most frequently experienced the risen Jesus during those instances in which they also broke bread. The first Christians experienced the risen Jesus when they celebrated the Lord's Supper. It wasn't just the fact that they discovered this new creation, the risen Christ in the bread and wine – as we believe when we celebrate the Eucharist. No, they discovered and experienced the risen Christ in a very visible and tangible way in those who participated in the meal. Finding the risen Jesus in one another – that became the trademark, and the test, of true Christian faith. Discovering the risen Christ in those around us can be a messy process. People's personalities can be a stumbling block that makes this discovery difficult. Like ourselves, the people we meet are not perfect. Not to mention that some might actually be sinners! Perhaps that is why forgiveness is a constant theme in our Christian biblical writings. In today's Acts passage, Peter even forgives those who crucified Jesus (Acts 3:13-15, 17-19). Peter is convinced the people of Jerusalem "...didn't want Jesus freed - this holy, righteous one. Instead they demanded the release of a murderer." But Peter also presumes they "...acted out of ignorance.", "what they did to Jesus was done in ignorance". Even those who killed "the author of life" can be forgiven. The author of 1 John encourages the members of his community not to sin (**1 John 2:1-5a**). But he also takes for granted they will not always be able to follow his advice. That's why he brings up "the Advocate with the Father" which each of us has: "if we sin, there is someone to plead for us before the Father." The risen Jesus is "expiation for our sins, and not for our sins only but for those of the whole world." Expiation is a word we hardly understand. A translation could be: "Jesus is the forgiveness for our sins, and not only ours but all the world's." If Jesus has already died for everyone, why do we make the sinfulness of others an obstacle when we want to experience the risen Jesus in those others? *If Jesus is alive among us, Jesus is alive in real people.* Is it possible that our determination to forgive one another might be the first step in discovering Jesus in one another?

**Today we have Children's Liturgy.**

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# ANNOUNCEMENTS

Attendance on April 19: 83

Collections: Friends €173.52

*Visiting All Saints for the first time? Please introduce yourself and tell us where you are from at the end of Mass so we can welcome you and join us after Mass for coffee and cake in the Community Hall!*

**May 3rd, Fifth Sunday of Easter, 10 am Mass: Our Celebrant will be Fr Herbert Gillessen**

Lector: Jennifer Evans • Eucharistic Ministers: Beate Hausmann, Celso Menjares, Jennifer Evans • Greeter: Buck Chisolm • Altar server: Conrad Chisolm • Hospitality: N. N. • Designated collection: Pro Vita.

## UPCOMING DATES

### **First Holy Communion at All Saints**

All Saints will be offering English-language sacramental preparation for First Holy Communion starting September 2015. First Holy Communion will be celebrated in May 2016. Parents who would like to pre-register their children are invited to contact Jenny Gebhardt (jgebhar@yahoo.de) or Vanessa Hansen (vhansen980@hotmail.com) to receive a pre-registration form.

### **MAY CROWNING, Sunday, May 10th**

May is dedicated to the Blessed Virgin Mary and all mothers! A special Sunday Mass will be celebrated on **May 10<sup>th</sup>**, preceded by a 30-minute **May Crowning** ceremony in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel starting at 9:30 AM in which the statue of Mary will be blessed and crowned with flowers. Music, a reading, short reflection and a procession will complete the ceremony. During Mass, mothers will receive a blessing and flowers to honor them. **Brian Wasileski** has kindly agreed to support on the guitar! There will be a **rehearsal on May 9<sup>th</sup>**, at 6 PM with a pizza dinner. **Children and youth of all ages** are especially welcome. Please sign up for this very special event by contacting Jenny G. (jgebhar@yahoo.de) or Vanessa H. (vhansen980@hotmail.com).

### **Pilgrimage to Rome - October 2015!**

Please see Buck or Vanessa for more info. Reserve your tickets for the audience with Pope Francis! Tickets are limited and going fast!

### **Next Children's Liturgies on Sunday May 17th & 31st**

### **ALL SAINTS ANNUAL FAMILY BASAAR**

**May 9th, 9 am – 3 pm.** The fee for a space is €10 plus a cake/pack of coffee. Bring your own table. Contact the office (Heide). We will need volunteers for set-up/break-down and volunteers for the coffee and cake table. Great opportunity for service hours.

**HOSPITALITY** - Hospitality takes place after Mass on Sundays thanks to the volunteers who make it happen! It is an important element of community life. Please consider volunteering for this special ministry as an individual or as a family one Sunday per semester. We need your help!

**THANK YOU!** The first 200 euro donation has been transferred from our Bildungsspender fundraising account!

Please **CONTINUE** to support **All Saints Community Life** through our fundraising site at [www.bildungsspender.de/all-saints-berlin](http://www.bildungsspender.de/all-saints-berlin) at no extra cost. It's easy! Shop at one of more than 1500 online shops through this website, and All Saints receives a DONATION from the online shop for every transaction you make.

"Designated collections" are for special purposes in the Archdiocese of Berlin and are transferred in full. However, in agreement with the Archdiocese, the All Saints Catholic Community receives no financial support, so 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 written below. **THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!**

**Friends of All Saints e.V.** IBAN: DE15 3706 0193 6001 6690 18, BIC: GENODED1PAX

**Directions 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 110 or 623: stop Oskar-Helene-Heim (10-min. walk) or bus 115: stop Hüttenweg (5-min. walk). • **Car:** A115 Avus highway, Hüttenweg exit or Clayallee (<http://berlinonline.de/citymap>)