

Serving Berlin's English-speaking Catholic Community since 1957



Catholic Community

Member of the English-Speaking Mission

Mass: Fridays at 6 p.m. in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel

Sundays at 10 a.m. in the main Sanctuary

Interfaith Community Center • Hüttenweg 46 • 14195 Berlin-Dahlem

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Office Hours: Mondays and Thursdays 10-12

January 22nd, 2017 - Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Readings (Missal p 60 et seq.): Isa 8:23 - 9:3 • Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14 • 1 Cor 1:10-13, 17 • Mt 4:12-23

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

Lector: Jennifer Evans • Eucharistic Ministers: Beate Hausmann, Johannes Ploog, Thomas Schmidt •

Greeter: Buck Chisolm • Altar Servers: Luc, Carl & Noemi Dethlefsen • Hospitality: Alicia Ching •

Designated collection: All Saints

WORLD DAY OF MIGRANTS AND REFUGEES

The remarkable film "I, Daniel Blake" tells the story of a hardworking carpenter who after a heart attack is no longer able to work. The attempt to get his social welfare benefits proves to be an endless heart-renting battle against a merciless bureaucracy. Only a second heart attack saves this kind, honest man from ending up on the street. Since I saw that film I look at the homeless with different eyes, realising that I too, with a bit of bad luck, could be one of them.

Even more precarious than people who lose their job and fall through the social net are migrants and refugees who lose all they have and find themselves in a foreign country trying to find their way in a foreign culture among often hostile or indifferent neighbours. The hardest hit among them are the children. In his message for the World Day of Migrants and Refugees, Pope Francis appeals to us to be especially concerned about refugee children who often are not only traumatised but also abused and exploited.

The coming of a million refugees and migrants in 2015 has caused a social and political earthquake. Many Germans have responded with great generosity and openness. But there is an increasing part of the population that reacts with fear and even hatred to the foreigner. What causes that fear which we might feel ourselves at times?

I think that there are two reasons. The images of endless streams of men, women and children walking along roads and railway lines or reaching our shores in make-shift rubber boats gives the impression that they will keep coming for ever. You get the feeling of being drowned by these unending waves of human beings. The other reason is the realisation that most of them are Muslims and while most of them are peaceful persons who simply seek security and a place to live in peace, there is an increasing upsurge of young Muslims who interpret the Koran as a mandate to conquer the world and eliminate all other religions and cultures. Both fears are real, even if sometimes they are exaggerated. The crucial question is how we react to them.

There are two levels of action to be taken. One is political. The challenge is to strike a balance between the legitimate need to maintain security and public order and the duty of the state to protect its citizens on one side, and our human and Christian duty to assist people in need and respect their rights. We can only pray for our politicians for the wisdom to maintain that delicate balance. If we lose it, we risk to lose our humanity and become a selfish, a hard-hearted people and to destroy the core values on which our open, democratic society is built.

At a personal level the great challenge is to overcome our innate fear of strangers, to reach out to them and to listen to their story. As I experienced watching the film about Daniel Blake and changing my view about homeless people, it is by meeting refugees and listening to their story that we realise that they are human beings like ourselves. If we should allow our hearts to be poisoned by fear and hatred, we betray the central message of the Gospel, and find in the end that there is in our hearts no more room neither for our neighbour in need nor for God.

Fr Wolfgang Schonecke, MAfr

Pope Francis' message can be found at https://w2.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/messages/migration/documents/papa-francesco_20160908_world-migrants-day-2017.html



ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

Attendance on Jan 15th: 120

Collection: All Saints: €287.95



Confirmation Class 2017 – 2018 Sign-up today

Our Confirmation program kicks off today for the first group selected for Confirmation. We are holding a meeting in the chapel after Mass. Confirmation will take place in the late spring of 2018.

We will be forming up additional groups through the **end of March** so if you have a child age 12 and up now is the time to submit your application.

The format for this year's program is based on a small-group model that is relevant to young people's lives, builds strong relationships and empowers parents to support their child's spiritual growth more effectively.

Interested parents should contact Jenny Gebhardt at: jgebhar@yahoo.de or Maggie Repp at the Office of the English-speaking Mission (alsda46@aol.com).



Scout Sunday on February 12th



For over 100 years, Scouting programs have instilled in youth the values found in the Scout Oath and Scout Law. Today, these values are just as relevant in helping youth grow to their full potential as they were in 1910. Scouting helps youth develop academic skills, self-confidence, ethics, leadership skills, and citizenship skills that influence their adult lives. While various activities and youth groups teach basic skills and promote teamwork, Scouting goes beyond that and encourages youth to achieve a deeper appreciation for service to others in their community.

On Scout Sunday our scouts will serve as the Altar Servers, Lector, Greeters, Ushers and will provide our after Mass hospitality. To volunteer for any of these positions please contact Vanessa Hansen (vhansen980@hotmail.com).

Scouts & Scouters, please be in uniform!

LIFT – Living in Faith Together



On Saturday, February 18th we will have a special LIFT around the theme of Africa Today. We will

explore life and culture in several countries of modern Africa and perhaps even get a sample of some local food specialties.

More details coming soon so watch the bulletin or visit: www.all-saints-berlin.de/home.shtml.

Mark your calendars:

- January 27th - **Friday Mass - in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel** at 1800.
- February 5th – **Children's Liturgy of the Word** during Mass.
- February 5th – **High School Youth Group** – meets after Mass at 11:15 h in the Classroom.
- February 12th – **Scout Sunday** – Boy and Girl Scouts serve at all levels during Mass
- February 18th – **All Saints Youth Event / LIFT** – 1800 to 2100 in the Fellowship Hall.



Editors wanted for our bulletin . . . Join our small group that reviews the draft each week. No original writing just checking the content.

Sorry no money, but, you will have the satisfaction of helping our bulletin team to get the weekly news out.

Want to help? Contact Buck Chisolm (b.chisolm@gmx.de) for more details. Thanks.

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

January 29th, 2017, 10 am Mass: Celebrant: Fr Wolfgang Felber

Lector: Rachel Ruckeis • Eucharistic Ministers: Johannes Ploog, Thomas Schmidt, Heide Doblhofer • Greeter: Buck Chisolm • Altar Servers: NN • Hospitality: Marianne Sihotang • Designated collection: Bible Sunday

Designated collections are for special purposes in the Archdiocese of Berlin and are transferred in full. **However, in agreement with the Archdiocese, All Saints 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