

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

## **February 5<sup>th</sup>, 2017 - Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**Readings (Missal p 64 et seq.): Isa 58:7-10 • Ps 112:4-9 • 1 Cor 2:1-5 • Mt 5:13-16**

**Welcome to our 10 am Mass at All Saints. Our Celebrant today is Fr Sylvester Ajunwa**

Lector: Ruby Schmidt • Eucharistic Ministers: Heide Doblhofer, Jennifer Evans, Beate Hausmann •  
Greeter: Buck Chisolm • Altar Servers: Shadrack Nyaaba, Conrad Chisolm  
• Hospitality: Jackie Anders • Designated collection: All Saints

### **Sense of reality - sense of potentiality**

We distinguish people according to the color of their skin, according to their age, their sex, their formation, their social position, their achievements, their political opinion: people come in very different ways. From time to time we may encounter someone who impresses us, not because he or she is white or young or male or female, because he or she is wealthy or sportive or has a university degree. No, just someone who makes an impression on us. Who are these people?

In today's gospel, Jesus shows us people who may make an impression on us. Jesus presents people as models for us: those who are poor, who mourn and grieve, who manage to live their lives without violence, who seek to make the world a more just place. People who ask for God, who can wait for God. People who know that God can fulfill their hopes. Jesus speaks well of those who are humble and merciful, who make peace, who suffer because of their wish that everyone be treated right.

This is how the friends of Jesus ought to be: humble, merciful, promoting peace, and working for a more just world. Our faith marks our lives – at least our faith should mark our lives. So, if we believe in a God who is merciful, sincere and just, we cannot be unmerciful, insincere and unjust. Faith finds its expression in our lives, in the lives of people who believe in God.

We are certainly people with a sense of reality – otherwise we would not be fit for our modern societies. We do need this sense of reality, but I think people with faith also need a sense of potentiality: potentiality – I looked it up in several dictionaries – and I came to like this word: *“latent or inherent capacity or ability for growth, fulfilment”; “state of being not yet evident or active”; “an aptitude that may be developed”;* my definition would be: *“a sense of what is possible, what is desirable, what we can aspire to.”*

As believers, we do not only see what the world is like now, but we also see what the world could be like, what the world should be like. So, we do thirst for justice, we want everyone to be treated right. We do see the possibilities, the potentiality for change and we aspire to it. In our eyes, the future is not determined and fixed and finished and automatic like a machine. We do not capitulate in front of the future. As believers, we can leave out-trodden ways – without being mere dreamers. As believers, we see hope and future and open horizons where others don't. As believers, we see the potentiality of our world – and we try to follow and live up to what Jesus says about his friends: we do not use violence, we are merciful, we have a pure heart, we promote peace and justice.

At least this is the wish, the vision Jesus has for his friends. People with a sense of reality and at the same time people with a sense of potentiality – this is what we should be or become. In the light of faith, we can see the potentiality of our world. And we know our world embedded in God's hands.

This leads me to the words of Ignatius of Loyola, the founder of the Jesuits. In a book called “Ignatian workout”, an American theologian, Tim Muldoon, formulated a thought of Ignatius in modern words:

***“With regard to any project, we must put ourselves in God's hands as if our success depended on Him, but with regard to choosing the means and doing the work, we must labor as if everything depended on us.”***

Isn't this the good mix between the sense of reality and the sense of potentiality? Choose the means we need to make the world a more just world, or at least a less unjust world with our sense of reality. And at the same time admit that it is God who created everything, who holds the world in his hands, who inspires us this sense of potentiality when we see the world through the eyes of God.

**Fr Wolfgang Felber, SJ**



# 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 29<sup>th</sup>: 80

Collection: All Saints: €222.75

## LIFT – Living in Faith Together



On February 18<sup>th</sup> we will have a special LIFT around the theme of Africa Today.

This month we will explore the people and culture of the Republic of Ghana and perhaps even get a sample of some local food specialties.

Music, song and dancing are planned. Families are invited to attend and asked to bring a side dish to share.

We will collect €2 per person to cover the costs for the refreshments and to make a donation to a designated charity. RSVP by February 15 to [vhansen980@hotmail.com](mailto:vhansen980@hotmail.com).



## Join our Confirmation Class . . . but you need to hurry!

There are still openings for one girl and one boy in the two current groups.

**Sign-up continues through March and new groups will be formed as candidates come forward**

Our next Confirmation will be in 2020 so if your child is of age and interested, now is the time to act. Contact Jenny Gebhardt at:

[jgebhar@yahoo.de](mailto:jgebhar@yahoo.de)

## Plan for the whole family to join us to celebrate St. Patrick's Day on March 18<sup>th</sup> at 6 p.m.



Potluck, music, dancing and good conversation. Make sure you block this date for our March get together.

## Mark your calendars:

- February 12<sup>th</sup> – **Scout Sunday**
- February 12<sup>th</sup> – **Girls Confirmation Class Kickoff meeting** after Mass in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel 1115 – 1200.
- February 12<sup>th</sup> – **All Saints Council** meets after Mass at 11:15 h in the Classroom.
- February 18<sup>th</sup> – **All Saints Youth Event / LIFT** – 1800 to 2100 in the Fellowship Hall.
- February 19<sup>th</sup> – **Children's Liturgy of the Word** during Mass.
- February 19<sup>th</sup> – **High School Youth Group** – meets after Mass at 11:15 h in the Classroom.
- February 19<sup>th</sup> – **Confirmation Class** meets at 16:00 h at the Ching residence.
- February 22<sup>nd</sup> – **Confirmation Class** meets at 19:00 h at the Schulze-Makuch residence.
- March 1<sup>st</sup> – **Ash Wednesday Mass** at Saint Bernard's, Königin-Luise-Str. 33, 14195 Berlin-Dahlem at 19:00 h.



## Scout Sunday on February 12<sup>th</sup>



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](mailto:vhansen980@hotmail.com).)

**Scouts & Scouters, please be in uniform!**



**Boys and Girls – Join in the Mexican tradition of the breaking of the piñata six weeks after Rosca de Reyes (Christmas in Mexico) at our hospitality on February 19<sup>th</sup>**

## **February 12<sup>th</sup>, 2017, 10 am Mass: Celebrant: Fr Wolfgang Felber**

Lector: Christian Doeringer • Eucharistic Ministers: Jennifer Evans, Beate Hausmann, Johannes Ploog • Greeter: Buck Chisolm • Altar Servers: Scout Sunday • Hospitality: Scout Sunday • Designated collection: Caritas

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: GENODE1PAX