

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

May 7th, 2017 – Fourth Sunday of Easter

Readings (Missal p 153 et seqq.): Acts 2:14a, 36-41 • Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6 • 1 Pet 2:20b-25 • Jn 10:1-10

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

Lectors: Howard Eyth • Eucharistic Ministers: Thomas Schmidt, Heide Doblhofer, Jennifer Evans •

Greeter: Buck Chisolm • Altar Servers: NN • Hospitality: Monika & Kjate Gorka •

Designated collection: Pro Vita

Emmaus – A Parable of Christian life

Two disciples are on the way to Emmaus. Luke mentions only one by name: Cleopas. Who was the other? Many Bible experts suggest that Luke invites the reader to see himself in the second anonymous disciple. So, let us listen to the story imagining that it is me who is walking with Jesus and Cleopas on the road, on the road of my life.

The unknown stranger invites the downcast disciples to tell him what happened. He asks me to tell him what happens in my life. Do I do this? I probably think: He knows everything about me anyway. So why tell him? But Jesus apparently wants to hear it from me. Don't I tell my marriage partner or my intimate friends what makes up the fabric of my life? Sharing experiences is a sign of trust. Why not share my life with the invisible companion with whom I have made a "covenant", a pact of friendship in baptism? He expects me to be open him and tell him what makes me sad or glad, what are my plans and hopes, and also what are my failures, disappointments and pains.

Jesus listens to Cleopas and to all his disciples with genuine interest and great patience. But he does not stop there. He explains to them why things happen using the scriptures. He gives a new meaning to events. We often cannot make sense of tragic events, just as the disciples could not understand what happened on Good Friday. Whenever we are hit by some disaster, we say: How could God allow this to happen? Why did it happen to me? What did I do wrong to deserve such treatment? At best, we quarrel with God, in the worst case we dismiss him from our heart because he has not fulfilled our expectations.

Jesus does not give the disciples a long theological explanation about the meaning of suffering. He simply says: "The Christ had to suffer and so enter into his glory". His suffering and death was a necessity. Suffering is not something outside of God's plans, it is part of it. Why? Because something has to die in us, if we are to share God's life. Our body has to die to be transformed into a glorious body.

Jesus explains to the disciples the meaning of God's plan through the scriptures. He Himself found the meaning of his own fate in the poems of the suffering servant of Yahweh in the prophet Isaja. It is the Word of God that makes sense of our lives, even the tough bits of it. A prayerful reading of scripture helps us to find an answer for our questions and a key to place the puzzling pieces of life into the larger context of God's plan.

The story of the disciples ends with an overwhelming moment of joy when they recognise the risen Jesus by the way he breaks the bread for them. By God's grace we, too, may have experienced moments of deep joy in God's presence. But such moments do not last. For the rest of our journey we have to open our hearts to the one who is always with us, listen to his word through the scriptures and so find the strength to carry on the journey.

Fr. Wolfgang Schonecke, MAfr



ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

Attendance on April 29th: 109

Collection: All Saints €200.04



Altar Server Volunteers

Interested in becoming an Altar Server? We are looking for new Cross Bearers. Training is on May 27th from 15:00 – 17:00 h.

Fill out a Green volunteer form (found in the info rack outside the office) and drop it in our mailbox or give it to someone in the office.



Spring BBQ Potluck May 28th after Mass

Please join us for our annual All Saints Community Spring BBQ Potluck on Sunday, May 28th starting after Mass.

Hamburgers, grilled meat and drinks will be provided. Please bring a hearty side dish, salad or dessert to share.

We will need volunteers to help set-up, serve and clean-up. Please sign-up to help with in the Fellowship Hall after Mass today.

All Saints Family Bazaar

Thank you to all who helped with our spring All Saints Family Bazaar on Saturday, 6 May.

Special thanks goes to Heide Doblhofer who organized and helped to manage this event.

It was a huge success and is one of our major fund raisers for the church community.



Do you feel lucky?

During our annual spring BBQ we will be having a raffle!

First Prize is a **Lenovo YOGA Tab 3 - 10.1 in. tablet.**

Proceeds will be used for the purchase of new altar linen.

Buy your ticket(s) after Mass.

The drawing is on May 28th at about 11:30 during the Spring BBQ.

Mark your calendars:

- May 7th - **Boys Confirmation Class** meets at 17:00 h at the Wilson residence.
- May 7th - **Girls Confirmation Class** meets at 12:00 h at the Zaby residence.
- May 10th - **Boys Confirmation Class** meets at 18:30 h at the Schulze-Makuch residence.
- May 14th – **All Saints Council** meets in the conference room at 11:15 h.
- May 17th - **Boys Confirmation Class** meets at 18:30 h at the Chisolm residence.
- May 19th - **Girls Confirmation Class** meets at 18:00 h at the Pedussel residence.
- May 21st - **First Holy Communion Mass** – All Saints: **begins at 9:45 h**
- May 21st - **Boys Confirmation Class** meets at 17:00 h at the Wilson residence.
- May 21st - **Girls Confirmation Class** meets at 13:00 h at the Okwechime-Reich residence.
- May 27th - **Altar Server Training** – in the main church from 15:00 to 17:00 h. Watch for the Doodle to sign-up for new or refresher training.
- May 28th - **Spring BBQ** after Mass.
- June 2nd - **Girls Confirmation Class** meets at 18:00 h at the Sulzberger residence.
- June 18th - **Boys Confirmation Class** meets at 17:00 h at the Ching residence.
- June 30th - **Boys Confirmation Class** meets at 18:00 h at the Schulze-Makuch residence.
- October 19th – 30th – **Pilgrimage to the Holy Land** - Konrad Giersdorf has details. Contact him at: giersdorf@hotmail.de

4th Sunday of Easter, May 14th, 2017, 10 am Mass: Celebrant: Fr Wolfgang Felber, SJ

Lectors: Tamas Meggyes • Eucharistic Ministers: Heide Doblhofer, Jennifer Evans, John Massey • Greeter: Buck Chisolm • Altar Servers: Will Sheehan • Hospitality: Vikki Ruiz •

Designated collection: Pro All Saints

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