

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

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Office Hours: Mondays and Thursdays 10-12



June 4th, 2017 – Pentecost Sunday

Readings (Missal p 166 et seqq.): Acts 2:1-11 • Ps 104:1, 24, 29-30, 31, 34 • 1 Cor 12:3b-7, 12-13 • Jn 20:19-23

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

Lectors: Christine Tombarge • Eucharistic Ministers: Glenda Massey, Johannes Ploog, Beate Hausmann

Greeter: Buck Chisolm • Altar Servers: NN • Hospitality: Beata McGrea

Designated collection: RENOVABIS

ALL I HAVE IS YOURS

Prayer is an essential expression of our relationship with God. Today's reading teaches us a lot about prayer. We see the apostles with Mary and other women disciples at prayer to ask for the coming of the promised Spirit. And we listen to the great prayer of Jesus at the last supper shortly before his passion and death. The readings put us the question what the place of prayer is in our own life. How much time and attention do we give to prayer?

Jesus asked his friends to pray always. Only a few saints have reached such closeness to God. We should at least try to pray at important moments. The most important moment during the week is surely the Eucharist that we are about to celebrate. It is the great prayer of thanksgiving of the Church. As the priest lifts up to heaven the symbols of bread and wine, we bring ourselves and our lives before God in praise of the Lord, the God of all creation.

There are at least three moments every day that naturally lend themselves to prayer. At the beginning of each day before the bustle of daily activities claims all our attention we could dedicate the day to God and ask His blessing. And the end of the day, when the TV is switched off, the kids are in bed and our brains begins to wind down we could pass our day in review, become aware of the little signs of God's love and drift into sleep with a heart-felt "Thank you Lord." And then there are the common meals, these sacred moments of sharing food and friendship. It is such a loss that table prayers have virtually vanished from Christian practise. They could be a moment during the day to remember that food does not come just from the supermarket, but in the last resort is gift of God's creation for us. As we grow into a discipline to give to God key moments of the day, we might also find ourselves sometimes praying spontaneously at critical moments during the day: before an exam, when we have problems with a difficult person or seem stressed by the overload of work. Prayer thus becomes slowly a habit. The way we send spontaneously a photo or a whatsapp message to friends about an interesting happening we naturally communicate with the One who promised to be always with us. We do not even have to type it in.

A word about a special form of prayer one might call: prayer of discernment or prayer of decision. This is what the apostles did when Jesus was gone from them. They were in a difficult situation. Jesus had given them the mission to make the whole world his disciples and yet he had not left them with a work-programme how to go about it. He had simply told them to wait and to pray for the Spirit.

One element in making wise decisions is to wait for the right moment. Jesus often said: My time has not yet come. In todays Gospel, he said at last: My hour has come. He waited for a sign from his Father. Mature decisions are like a ripe fruit that falls from the tree. When you pick it too early, it is still sour. When you wait for too long, it has started rotting. We have to learn to wait for God's time.

The other element in a decision-making process is prayer. It is not good to take decisions when we are emotionally upset. We need to wait that our heart is at peace. Prayer leads to peace. To make a good decision we have to gain inner freedom, a disposition where we put gently aside our natural preferences and become open to God's will, whatever that entails. Then, we need to use our intelligence and weigh the reasons for and against each option. Finally, in prayer we put the decision we need to take before God and ask him to show us what He wants from us. God usually does not send us messages. The sign of the direction in which God calls us is a deep sense of inner peace.

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 May 28th: 79

Collection: All Saints €212.55



Come and watch **Rogue One**, the latest Star War's release on Saturday, June 10th at 18:00 h. to celebrate the end of the school year.

No charge for attending. We plan to offer free hot dogs, chips and soda to make the evening special. All we ask is ask that movie attendees help us straighten up the Fellowship Hall when we finish.

Families are welcome and we should be done by 20:30. So that we are sure to have sufficient food and drink we ask you to please contact Vanessa (vhansen980@hotmail.com) so we know how many to prepare for.

Mark your calendars:

- June 9th - **Girls Confirmation Class** meets at 18:00 h at the Zaby residence.
- June 10th – **Youth Film Night** begins at 18:00. Plan to come and see **the latest Star War's release**.
- June 11th – **All Saints Council** meets at 11:15 h in the conference room.
- June 11th - **Boys Confirmation Class** meets at 17:00 h at the Castellon residence.
- June 18th - **Boys Confirmation Class** meets at 17:00 h at the Ching residence.
- June 23rd - **Girls Confirmation Class** meets at 18:00 h at the Brinda residence.
- June 25th - **Girls Confirmation Class** meets at 18:00 h at the Pedussel 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



2017 VELOTHON 60/120 / 180 km races will be running on June 18th throughout Berlin!

This may make it difficult for you to reach All Saints by your normal route. You can plan your route of travel by visiting their website (<http://www.velothon.com/events/velothon-berlin.aspx#axzz4hjduDGTo>) and viewing the course.

Thanks for helping with the spring BBQ

Many thanks to all who helped with the BBQ. Special thanks to Marianne, Vanessa, John & Glenda, Konrad and Karen who helped in the set-up / clean-up. Kudos' to our chefs Christian and Aidan.

We thank everyone who participated in our lottery. Heide takes away the grand prize and we will see the proceeds used to renew some of our altar linen.

We wish everyone a wonderful summer vacation as we head toward the break.



Make a note - Friday Mass

We celebrate weekday Mass in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel at All Saints every Friday beginning at 18:00 h.

The Most Holy Trinity, June 11th, 2017, Celebrant: Fr. Wolfgang Felber

Lectors: Rachel Rückeis • Eucharistic Ministers: Johannes Ploog, Beate Hausmann, Thomas Schmidt
Greeter: Buck Chisolm • Altar Servers: Samantha Scott • Hospitality: NN
Designated collection: 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: GENODED1PAX