

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

Phone (030) 8620-3636 • Fax (030) 8620-3638

Email: allsaintsberlin@t-online.de / Website: www.all-saints-berlin.de

Office Hours: Mondays and Thursdays 10-12

October 1st, 2017 – Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Readings (Missal p 207 et seqq.): Ezek 18:25-28 • Ps 25:4-5, 6-7, 8-9 • Phil 2:1-11 • Mt 21:28-32

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

Lector: Christine Tombarge • Eucharistic Ministers: Jennifer Evans, John & Glenda Massey •

Greeter: Buck Chisolm • Altar Servers: NN • Hospitality: Marianne Sihotang •

Designated collection: All Saints

God's special justice

The labourers of the first hour in today's parable grumble against the landlord, because they do not find his system of paying fair. We, too, at times grumble against God, because we find the way He deals with us at time grossly unjust. And we have good reason to grumble.

Is it fair that one child is born with an IQ of 150 and the other child is struggling with a severe mental or physical handicap? One is born into a well-off family and will have a good education and favourable chances to make a career. The other grows up in the slums of a Megacity as a street child and will suffer from hunger and sickness most of his life. And what to think about the fact that often the unscrupulous and ruthless get super-rich and the honest and hard-working hardly earn a living? Not to mention the many made-mad injustices, the brutal oppression, unjust discrimination and economic exploitation in so many countries. Many are so scandalized by the apparent injustice of the world that they stop believing in such an unjust God.

With the story of the workers in the vineyard Jesus gives us at least a partial answer and at the same time another way of thinking about God of whom the Prophet Isaiah in the first reading said, that "His thoughts are not our thoughts and our ways not His ways". How then does our God act in this way?

The landowner, representing God, spends the whole day seeking co-workers for his enterprise. He seems to need an unlimited number of workers. No unemployment in his kingdom. Anybody is welcome any time. In a way, God does the exact opposite of what modern managers do. They are often only interested in efficiency and productivity and try to pay their workers as little as possible and to squeeze as much as possible out of them. So, our God is all the time inviting us to work with him in the corner of his vineyard he has put us in. Do we hear his invitations?

And then there is God's extraordinary system of payment. He seems to be a radical socialist: same salary for everyone irrespective of the work done. In our economic system, we are supposed to get paid for performance. In theory, often not in reality. Or how can you justify that a CEO gets 100 times the salary of his secretary or that women are paid less than men? The landowner in the story gives every worker the same wage whether he or she has worked little or much. That seems grossly unfair if you only look at the work done by each person. But God's criteria of reward is not the workers' output, but rather his needs. All workers whether they started early or late have a family at home. The denarius, the wage for a day's work, is just enough to provide the main meal in the evening. Those who don't get it will go to bed hungry. So, the landowner gives to everyone what he needs to survive that day, his daily bread, the food for the day for which we pray in the Our Father.

God's justice is to give us according to our needs. The one who has received little at the start will receive what he needs, and so will the one who has received much. In the end, all God's co-workers will receive not some material advantage, but something infinitely greater. God wants to give Himself to us and He is the total fulfilment of all our needs and desires. All who followed the invitation to work in God's vineyard whatever corner he has worked in for whatever length of time will have "life to the full".

Fr. Wolfgang Schonecke, MAfr

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 September 24th: 68

Collection: All Saints: €188.19 Caritas €19.00



**Join Us at the GIMN!
Intergenerational Event
Mary: The "Yes" That
Changed the World**

Date: 7 October 2017, 5:30 – 7:30 p.m. in the All Saints Community / Fellowship Hall.

Please contact us if you are planning to attend, providing us with the number of people in your group. E-mail: jgebhar@yahoo.de

Please RSVP by: 1 October 2017



**All Saints Church
Council Elections - Call
for Candidates!**

We will be holding elections for a new slate of candidates to serve for the next two-years as members of the All Saints Council.

There are six elected positions on the council. Candidates (16 yrs and older) should submit a brief, one-page (DIN A4) profile with a picture to Mike Hoth.

Profiles will be published. Deadline: October 29th. Elections will take place on Saturday, Nov 25th (Thanksgiving Potluck) and on Sunday, Nov 26th after Mass.

Clip out and put on your fridge or family board!

Mark your calendars:

- October 4th, **Boy's Confirmation Class** meets at 1800 at Family Wilson's house
- October 6th, **Boy's Confirmation Class** meets at 1800 at Family Chisolm's house
- October 12th, **English-Speaking Mission Council (ESM)** meets in the Fellowship Hall 1700 – 2100 h
- October 15th – **Combined Confirmation Class** meets at St Bernard's from 1645 – 1845 h.
- November 7th, **Girl's Confirmation Class** meets at 1330 at Family Pedussel's house.
- November 8th, **Boy's Confirmation Class** meets at 1800. Location TBA.
- November 12th – **Combined Confirmation Class** meets at St Bernard's from 1645 – 1845 h.
- November 13th, **Girl's Confirmation Class** meets at 1330 at Family Pedussel's house.
- November 19th, **Girl's Confirmation Class** meets at noon at All Saints (nursery).
- December 1st – **Christmas Tree arrival and decoration of the church** at 1700 h.
- December 3rd – **Annual Christmas Caroling** at Elder Folks Home starting at 1500 h.
- December 3rd – **Combined Confirmation Class** meets at St Bernard's from 1645 – 1845 h.
- December 7th, **Boy's Confirmation Class** meets at 1800 at Family Dethlefsen.



Did you know that All Saints is run entirely by volunteers?

We pride ourselves that we are a self-supporting parish, but, new-helping hands are always appreciated! Please consider joining one of the volunteer groups that make the community work.

Would you like to help with the offering and acting as an usher during Mass? Are you 16 years or older and think being a Lector is your cup of tea? Altar Servers are always welcomed! Finally, you and your family might want to host one of our hospitality hours.

If you are interested, you can fill in a form located outside the office. We will be in touch to give you additional details and help you join in our volunteer efforts.

October 8th, 2017, 10 am Mass: Celebrant: Fr. Wolfgang Felber, SJ

Lector: Rachel Rückeis • Eucharistic Ministers: John & Glenda Massey, Johannes Ploog • Greeter: Buck Chisolm • Altar Servers: NN • Hospitality: Marianne Sihotang, Vanessa Hansen, Lupita Wilhelm • Designated collection: Catholic schools

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