

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

October 22nd, 2017 – Twenty-Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Readings (Missal p 214 et seq.): Isa 45:1, 4-6 • Ps 96:1, 3, 4-5, 7-10-6 • 1 Thess 1:1-5 • Mt 22:15-21

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

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

Greeter: Buck Chisolm • Altar Servers: NN • Hospitality: Reich Family •

Designated collection: World Mission Sunday: MISSIO

God invites all of us to a great feast and is unhappy when folks don't accept the invitation

The vision of **Isaiah** (Is 25,6-10a) is the vision of a God who wants good things for all people, no one is excluded. The world in which Isaiah lives is a world of poverty and injustice – not unlike ours. And in this world, Isaiah paints a vision of a God who provides for everyone generously. Isaiah's world is a world of nationalism and of ethnic and racial division. And in this world, Isaiah paints a vision of a God who destroys the web that covers all people, who destroys the veil that divides all people. The world in which Isaiah lives is a world in which people are focused on money and the problems of the economy. And in this world, Isaiah talks about discovering a God who saves us.

Isaiah talks about a God with a liberating set of values. In a world, which continues to see so many tears and so much injustice, Isaiah paints the vision of a God who wants to wipe away those tears and bring us together in a new way. This vision of Isaiah has been written down some hundred years before Jesus began his teaching. And this vision of Isaiah is repeated in Jesus' story of the **wedding feast** (Mt 22,1-14).

What God wants is a great wedding feast – a feast that is open to all. God is unhappy when folks don't accept the invitation. "*The servants went out into the streets and gathered all they found, bad and good alike, and the hall was filled with guests*" (Mt 22,10). The vision is expressed in what we call today the "*option for the poor*." The vision is made concrete whenever we work to include those on the outside, those without power, minorities, women, immigrants, the elderly, the sick, those who don't fit our expectations and priorities.

In our fast and busy world, this story of Jesus reminds us of what can prevent us from sharing in the vision Jesus has for us. What can prevent us from sharing in his vision? We get too busy with other things. We miss the invitation. Instead of taking advantage of the feast, we end up going our own way to "*buy a farm*" or "*manage a business*" (Mt 22,5). We may become preoccupied with money or possessions or security or comfort. Then we may get separated from the vision of Jesus; we may miss out on the great wedding feast. In modern words: we can be distracted by the various ideologies of our culture - ideologies like consumerism, discrimination, militarism, sexism, racism, fear, isolation, ferocious individualism, nationalism, and so on. We can be distracted by wealth or financial security or entertainment or prestige. This may be what Jesus warns us of.

The passage from **Philippians** (Phil 4,12-14.19-20) reminds us that the vision of Jesus is a vision of freedom: to have a lot or a little, to come to the banquet and to share the banquet, to share "in the glorious riches of Jesus Christ." It is the very opposite of the spirit that leaves a large percentage of mankind, men, women and children in poverty and hunger. It is the opposite of the spirit of war and terrorism. It is the very opposite of the spirit that puts us in a world of radical economic inequality and injustice. It is the very opposite of so many of the "ungodly" or "unholy" spirits around us.

So, what do we find in the three texts? In the three texts, we find an unconditional invitation to come together, to rejoice in life, to take time to be with others and to be thankful for our lives. In none of the texts we need to fulfill rules or commandments or directives to be invited. We just need to accept the invitation that comes from God, from Jesus – and I may say: from our fellow human beings. At the end of this short homily, just two questions: How does this image of a banquet help us envision what God might want for our world? How does the image of the wedding feast contrast with our perception of what we witness in our world?

cf. <https://educationforjustice.org/resources/lectionary-reflections-twenty-eighth-sunday-ordinary-time-october-12-2014>

Children's Liturgy of the Word during Mass

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 October 15th: 114

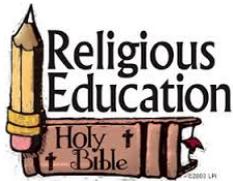
About Mass at All Saints!

"The *All Saints Catholic Community* takes great pride that our congregation comes from all over the world. This brings to us a multitude of views and also introduces us to liturgical practices from different traditions with distinct customs.

One such custom may raise the question: "*Should I stand, kneel or even sit during the Eucharistic prayer (the consecration of bread and wine) during the service at All Saints?*"

The answer is: "Do whatever you are **most comfortable** with, determined by what you have done in the tradition or parish in which you grew up."

We hope this helps you to participate in our celebration the way you are used to.



Call for volunteer catechists: any confirmed adult who wishes to minister to our children and youth by teaching the faith,

particularly in preparation for the Sacraments of Holy Communion are invited to contact any member of the All Saints Council. We need your help to support this vital ministry!



Summer daylight-saving time ends on October 28th

Remember to move your clock back one hour!

Collection: All Saints: €407.31 St. Hedwig's: €20.50

Clip out and put on your fridge or family board!

Mark your calendars:

- November 1st – Holy Mass "All Saints Day" at St Bernard's at 19:00 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 12th – **Children's Liturgy of the Word** during Mass
- 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).
- November 25th – **Thanksgiving Dinner** in the Fellowship Hall from 18:00 h onward. Please volunteer with Konrad Giersdorf to help with the set-up and take down of the hall or to be a helper in the kitchen during dinner. Don't forget to sign-up so we know how many we will need to prepare for.
- November 26th – **Children's Liturgy of the Word** during Mass
- December 1st – **Christmas Tree arrives.** Tree set up / decorated and church decorated with ivy beginning at 17:00 h. Volunteers to help with the tree and church decorations should contact Konrad Giersdorf.
- 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.
- December 10th – **Children's Liturgy of the Word** during Mass
- December 24th – **Annual Children's Christmas Pageant** – more details coming shortly!

October 29th, 2017, 10 am Mass: Celebrant: Fr. Wolfgang Schonecke, MAfr

Lector: Jennifer Evans • Eucharistic Ministers: Beate Hausmann, Thomas Schmidt, Heide Doblhofer • Greeter: Buck Chisolm • Altar Servers: NN • Hospitality: Marianne Sihatong, Julia Zaby • 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: GENODE1PAX