

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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Facebook: All Saints Catholic Community Berlin

Office Hours: Mondays and Thursdays 10:00-12:00

### **December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2017 – The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph**

**Readings (Missal no. 799): Sir 3:2-6,12-14 • Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5 • Col 3:12-21 • Lk 2:22-40**

**Welcome to our 10:00 am Mass at All Saints. Our Celebrant today is Fr. Wolfgang Felber**

Lector: Christine Tombarge • Eucharistic Ministers: John & Glenda Massey, Johannes Ploog •

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

Designated collection: All Saints

## **Fourth Sunday of Advent**



This Sunday we read the story of the angel Gabriel's announcement to Mary about the birth of Jesus. This story is found only in Luke's Gospel. On this fourth Sunday of Advent, the liturgy shifts our attention from John the Baptist to Mary, the mother of Jesus. Both John and Mary serve as important figures for our reflection during the season of Advent; they both played instrumental roles in preparing the way for Jesus. Last week we reflected on John the Baptist's announcement

that the Savior was among us, although not yet recognized. This week we reflect upon Mary's example of faith and obedience to God, traits which permitted her to receive the angel's message that God's Son would be born as a human person, as one of us.

We are familiar with the story of the Annunciation, and it is fitting that we recall how God announced the birth of Jesus as we make our final preparations for our celebration of the Incarnation. The angel Gabriel visited Mary, a virgin betrothed to a man named Joseph. Mary greeted the angel's news with awe and wonder and asked how it could be possible that she could give birth to a child. In his reply, the angel Gabriel announced the seemingly impossible reality: the child to be born would be conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and would be God's own Son. The angel reported to Mary another miracle; her relative Elizabeth was also pregnant despite having been thought to be unable to have a child. Mary's response to the angel, which is called her fiat, is an example of complete faith and obedience to God.

The story of the Annunciation calls to our attention God's wondrous action in human history. God chose a human person to give birth to his Son so that all humanity would know God's salvation. Mary, already full of God's grace, was able to cooperate in this great plan for our salvation. Thus, Jesus was born as one of us, fully human and also fully divine. This is the mystery we prepare to celebrate at Christmas, the mystery of the Incarnation. In the model of Mary, we pray that we will be people of faith who recognize God's saving plan for us and are able to respond with obedience.

<https://www.loyolapress.com/our-catholic-faith/liturgical-year/sunday-connection/fourth-sunday-of-advent-cycle-b-sunday-connection>

*Have a blessed Happy New Year 2018!*



## 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:

December 24<sup>th</sup> (Children's Mass): 171

December 24<sup>th</sup> (Midnight Mass): 129

Collection: Children & Youth Ministries: €330.72

Collection: All Saints: €760.09 Adveniat: €75.45



### Three Kings Day Celebration

We will have a special Three Kings Day hospitality after Mass on **Sunday, January 7<sup>th</sup>**.

Did you know? - January the 6<sup>th</sup> is a special day in Mexico. Known as *El Dia de Reyes* (Three Kings Day), this holiday represents the height of the Christmas season. The date marks the culmination of the twelve days of Christmas and commemorates the three wise men who traveled from afar, bearing gifts for the infant baby Jesus. The children of Mexico in particular look forward to this holiday as traditionally, gifts are exchanged on this date, not on Christmas day.

Will you be the lucky one to find the special item in the *Rosca de Reyes*? **If so, you get to be the King or Queen of the day!**



### Holy Father's prayer intentions for January 2018

#### Evangelization: Religious Minorities in

**Asia:** That Christians, and other religious minorities in Asian countries, may be able to practice their faith in full freedom.

Thank you for your generous tithes on December 24<sup>th</sup>. We are a self-financed community so every cent counts! The tithes help to finance our rent and every day running as well as our Community Life such as our Children's & Youth Ministries and Hospitality. Thank you for your support.

**Clip out and put on your fridge or family board!**

### Mark your calendars:

- January 1<sup>st</sup> – **Holy Mass at St. Bernard's**, Königin-Luise-Straße 33, 14195 Berlin, at 11:00 a.m.
- January 7<sup>th</sup> – **Special Three Kings Day** hospitality after Mass in the Fellowship Hall.
- January 14<sup>th</sup> – **All Saints Council** meets in the small conference room after Mass at 11:15 a.m.
- January 21<sup>st</sup> – **Combined Confirmation Class** meets at St Bernard's from 4:45 – 6:45 p.m.
- February 18<sup>th</sup> – **Combined Confirmation Class** meets at St Bernard's from 4:45 – 6:45 p.m.
- February 25<sup>th</sup> – **Combined Confirmation Class** meets at St Bernard's from 4:45 – 6:45 p.m.
- March 10<sup>th</sup> – **English Speaking Mission Day** – at Rosenkranz-Basilika (Kielstr.11, 12163 (Steglitz) Berlin) from 6:00 p.m. Please watch the bulletin and on our website for additional information which is coming soon.

Check for the latest "News" at the **All Saints website** (<http://www.all-saints-berlin.de/home.shtml>) or visit All Saints on Facebook: *All Saints Catholic Community Berlin*

If you have a date that needs to be added to our calendar or website, please send an email to [b.chisolm@gmx.de](mailto:b.chisolm@gmx.de) with the details.



On Friday, January 12<sup>th</sup> we will take down the Christmas tree and decorations. Will you help us?? If so, please be at the church at 5:00 p.m. and depending on how many helping hands show up we should be done by 7:00 p.m. or earlier.

### January 7<sup>th</sup>, 10:00 pm: Mass: Celebrant Fr. Wolfgang Felber, SJ

Lector: Tom FitzPatrick • Eucharistic Ministers: John & Glenda Massey, Beate Hausmann •

Greeter: Buck Chisolm • Altar Servers: NN • 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: GENODE33PAX