

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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Facebook: All Saints Catholic Community Berlin

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

July 8th, 2017 – Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time Celebrant: Fr. Wolfgang Felber, SJ

Readings (Missal no. 893): Ezek 2:2-5 • Ps 12:1-4 • 2 Cor 12:7-10 • Mk 6:1-6 •

Homily on the Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

In our first reading today from the Book of Wisdom we are told that God takes no pleasure in death, and in this the author is referring to spiritual death. God created humans for life and even though we die in this physical world, even so our soul, our spirit, continues to live. What people must fear is not death in this physical world but the death of our soul in the next. That death comes through the work of the devil and the reading is a warning to those who prefer the work of the devil to the work of God.

Our gospel passage for today contains two miracles. In the first, a synagogue official comes to Jesus to seek his healing touch for his dying twelve-year-old daughter. On the way to the house the Lord becomes side-tracked and a message arrives to say that the child has died. There is a sense of hopelessness in the question, *'Why put the Master to any further trouble?'* Jesus continues to the house with a few apostles and is there greeted with derision when he says that the girl is not dead. Taking only his disciples and the girl's parents – those who believed in him – he went to the room and restored the girl to life. In the second miracle – the one which side-tracked the Lord – a woman who had a bleeding disorder for twelve years, is cured. Because of her condition she was impure and so would be anyone who touched her, therefore she couldn't easily approach the Lord in the crowd and ask for his help. Quietly she approached him and touched his garments and was cured. She then bravely owned up and the Lord spoke with her and for her faith and her courage the Lord told her that she was healed and saved. We are called on today to have faith in Jesus Christ even when all seems lost and there is no hope, and to share our faith with others knowing that a great reward awaits us – that of eternal life with Christ.

St Paul tells the Corinthians in the second reading that they are quite rich in faith, in eloquence and in his love for them, and so out of this they should be willing to share with others. He doesn't suggest that they should become poor themselves but that they should look at their surplus and be very generous with it. As Paul was writing as a collection was being taken up for the Mother Church in Jerusalem and so he was exhorting the Corinthians to give what they could. He also reminds the people that there may come a time when they will need the help of others and so they should give now in the hopes of receiving in the future. This should be done in imitation of the Lord who gave his life that they may have eternal life.

<http://www.carmelites.ie/readingsreflect.html>

July 15th 10:00 a.m.: Mass: Celebrant Fr. Wolfgang Felber, SJ

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

Greeter: Buck Chisolm • Altar Servers: Konrad Giersdorf, Buck Chisolm • Hospitality: NN •

Designated collection: All Saints

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