

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

July 15th, 2018 – Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time Celebrant: Fr. Wolfgang Felber, SJ

Readings (Missal no. 896): Amos 7:12-15 • Ps 85:9-10, 11-12, 13-14 • Eph 1:3-14 • Mk 6:7-13

Homily on the Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

We read in the text from the prophet Ezekiel how the Lord spoke to Ezekiel and sent him to preach his word. The people were a stubborn people and had rebelled against God's prophets, but even this is not to stop the prophet from preaching. Whether the people believe or not the prophet will still speak to them.

In the gospel passage from St Mark, we see Jesus being rejected in his own home town because the people thought they knew him. Up to this point we have read of how the people received Jesus and his message and of how they flocked to him to be healed and cured and have their burdens lifted. Now his own people reject him because he grew up in their town and his family still lives there. As a result of their rejection of him, Jesus is unable to do very much for them because his ministry and mission depended on people both listening and believing. Jesus will not force any of us to do his will and if we don't want to do his will then we simply ignore him as did the people in his home town. Jesus is no longer physically present with us as a preacher but his Church is and she preaches his message and brings his forgiveness. As members of that Church each of us was commissioned at baptism to preach that message and if the Lord's death was not to be in vain, if we are to be saved, then we must live and preach that message in all that we do and say. Whether or not people wish to listen to the message, or to acknowledge God, is irrelevant because God lives forever and is to be served. If we wish to live forever with him then we must play our part in the spread of the Good News regardless of the rejections we may experience, including from family and neighbor.

In our final passage from the letters to the Corinthians, St Paul acknowledges that there are those who have persecuted him and have tried to silence him – who he refers to as 'a thorn in the flesh' – and for this he has prayed to the Lord for deliverance. However, he no longer prays for this because suffering is part and parcel of being a Christian. It also helps to highlight the power of God working in and through him, and that power is at its most evident when Paul is at his weakest, demonstrating the presence of God and of the truth of the Gospel which he preaches to the people.

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

July 22nd 10:00 a.m.: Mass: Celebrant Fr. Wolfgang Schonecke

Lector: NN • Eucharistic Ministers: Glenda Massey, Johannes Ploog, Heide Doblhofer •
Greeter: Buck Chisolm • Altar Servers: Konrad Giersdorf, Buck Chisolm • Hospitality: NN •
Designated collection: All Saints

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