

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

## **August 5<sup>th</sup>, 2018 – Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time** **Celebrant: Fr. Dominic White, OP**

**Readings (Missal no. 905): Exo 16:2-4, 12-15 • Ps 78:4, 23-25, 54 • Eph 4:17, 20-24 • Jn 6:24-35**

### **Holidays: let the clock have a rest.**

A pupil of St Paul wrote the letter to the Christian community in Ephesus. Our short paragraph may be a good reading for the holiday time (Eph 4,1-6). The text we heard calls us to:

- **Live with humility:** this means to accept all that we *are* and all we are *not*. We can relax. We do not have to be perfect, we do not have to be like God in order to be loved. Lives that have a great need to be huge and greatly respected and listened to and in control are based on fear, not humility. Let us try to accept, gradually, the love God has for us, the love that makes us safe. We are who we are.
- **Let us live with gentleness:** we are all to keep *this* Lord before our eyes - the God who gives lasting peace. Let us relax. We are each loved by the infinitely gentle God. As far as that goes, culture sometimes tells males that gentleness is just for women and children. Men should be tough, all tough, and only tough. Let us relax. Yes, bodies and minds of men and women have the capacity to be strong, but peace comes from balancing this strength with tenderness toward our friends, our families, our "neighbors".
- **Let us live with patience:** patience can be defined as "bearing pains or trials calmly or without complaint." Did you know that the Latin origin of the word patience is *patior*? And *patior* means "to allow, to consent". We are to allow the gift of life in all its forms, not push it away because there is too much else to do. God gives us our selves one minute at a time, one hour after the other, not all at once. If we want to "have it all and have it now" we are going against our nature. Each moment, each flower, each step is precious if we take time to "let it be." Let us accept the gifts of the compassionate giver and let the clock have a rest.
- **Let us bear with one another through love:** let us think how wonderful it would be if someone were to bear with us, even when we mess up. We would not have to be anything but our own adequate self, loved by God, able to bear up under the surprisingly light burden of loving others.
- **Finally, the text calls us** "to preserve the unity of the spirit through the bond of peace": one Lord - one faith - one Baptism - one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all. We are all to keep this Lord before our eyes. The God who gives lasting peace. This is our hope. This is our call. One bread, one body, one Lord of all.

**Cf: John Foley, SJ - [http://liturgy.slu.edu/17OrdB072918/reflections\\_foley.html](http://liturgy.slu.edu/17OrdB072918/reflections_foley.html)**

### **August 12<sup>th</sup> 10:00 a.m.: Mass: Celebrant N.N.**

Lector: NN • Eucharistic Ministers: Thomas Schmidt, Heide Doblhofer, Jennifer Evans •  
Greeters: Christopher Lusaka, Andreas Urechia • Altar Servers: Konrad Giersdorf, Oshim Michael •  
Hospitality: NN • Designated collection: All Saints

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