

Serving Berlin's English-speaking Catholic Community since 1957



Catholic Community

Member of the English-Speaking Mission

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Our Mission Statement: The All Saints Catholic Community is a fully integrated, multicultural community with English as its unifying language. It is an open, warm, welcoming, inclusive community that prays together and celebrates its unity in diversity.

November 25, 2012, Christ, King of the Universe

Daniel 7:13-14 Psalm 93:1-2, 5 Revelation 1:5-8 John 18:33-37

Love, not punishment, is the reason for Jesus' second coming.

The French Jesuit Pierre Teilhard de Chardin had a very interesting theology that was based on evolution. In his theology, there are no earth-shattering, all-destructive, eschatological battles or natural disasters that precede the end of the world; on the contrary, the final transition from this world to the next will be relatively peaceful: *we will become one with Christ and Christ one with us.*

Neither the **Daniel** passage (12:1-3) nor the passage from **Mark** (13:24-32) depict the cosmic end of our planet in Teilhard's terms. In **Daniel**, the author warns: "*It shall be a time unsurpassed in distress since nations began until this time... There will be a time of anguish greater than any since nations first came into existence*" (v 1). **Mark's** Jesus tells his followers: "*In those days after that tribulation the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, the stars will fall from the sky, and the powers in the heaven will be shaken.*" (v 24)

So what was the purpose of these biblical apocalyptic authors? It was simple: they bought into the widespread belief that titanic wars, destructive natural phenomena and other great disturbances that would precede "the end." We would say that this was not specifically revealed by God, but by these authors. Our ancestors in faith believed that wars and earthquakes were an essential part of "*the Final Show.*" Today, modern theologians speak about Jesus' arrival without wars and earthquakes.

We find a reason for the new theology in Hebrews (10:11-14, 18). "*Where there is forgiveness... there is no longer offering for sins – when sins have been forgiven, there is no need to offer any more sacrifices*" (v. 18). In other words, forgiveness changes the world order as we know it. Love, not punishment, is the reason for Jesus' Parousia - his second coming. Love, not destruction, will precede his arrival. According to Teilhard, whenever and wherever living entities become more complete and at the same time more complex, evolution is taking place. Is the act of forgiving not one of the most complex, highly developed acts we can realize? "*When sins have been forgiven, there is no need to offer any more sacrifices.*" Let us pray for this capability to forgive. Let us especially pray for the Near East where forgiveness is the clue to solve the challenges and conflicts. Cf. <http://www.dignityusa.org/breath/november-15-2009-thirty-third-sunday-year-B>

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

Lector: Eddie McGreal • Eucharistic Ministers: Celso and Levina Menjares, Beate Hausmann •

Altar Servers: Niels Waliszewski, Sarah Schmidt-Bleek • Greeters: Hasmin Quiming, Konrad Giersdorf •

Hospitality: Lupita Wilhelm • The designated collection today is for All Saints.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Attendance on November 18th: 132

Collection: Friends €459.04, Diaspora €38.05

If you are **visiting All Saints for the first time**, please introduce yourself at the end of Mass. Please join us for coffee and cake after Mass in the Community Hall! Welcome to All Saints!

Mark your Calendars

- All Saints offers **First Communion and Confirmation classes** through the English Speaking Catholic Mission. For more information, please contact Vanessa Hansen at vhansen980@hotmail.com. The next class will take place on December 2nd.
- The first **BibleLive** study is planned for **Wednesday, November 28th 7:30 pm at All Saints**. For more information, please call Klaudia Höfig at 01573-870-3659 or 030-60975944 (office) or email her at info@ipz-berlin.de.
- **Taizé prayer and singing** in the Alte Dorfkirche, Zehlendorf-Mitte (Potsdamer Str./Clayallee) on **Thursday, November 29th at 7 pm**. Singing-in starts at 6:30 pm.
- We will be **decorating the Church for Christmas** on Friday, November 30th at 5 pm. Volunteers welcomed!

Other Notes

- The **First Communion Class** collected and presented 8 crates of food and 450 euros to the soup kitchen in Lichtenrade last Sunday! Thank you to the parents, particularly, Rachel, Lynn, Katie, and all the children who participated! It is a shining example of what All Saints is about: Faith in Action.
- Thank you to the volunteers who set up, prepared turkeys, brought side-dishes to share and cleaned up at the Annual **All Saints Thanksgiving Potluck**. We would also like to thank the children and teens who participated in the program for the evening.

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 printed below. THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

Please take this copy of the bulletin and use it to spread the word about All Saints.

Friends of All Saints Verein: Bank Account No.: 6001669018, BLZ 370 601 93, Pax-Bank eG

December 2nd, 10 am Mass. Our Celebrant will be Pfr. Herbert Gillessen

Lector: Howard Eyth • Eucharistic Ministers: Beate Hausmann, Heide Doblhofer, Renée Menjares •
Altar Servers: N. N., N.N. • Greeters: Hasmin Quiming, Konrad Giersdorf •
Hospitality: Rückeis Family • The designated collection on Dec. 2nd is for Orphans.

Celebrants		Father Wolfgang Felber SJ Fathers of the Jesuit Community	
All Saints Coordinators	Altar Servers	Katharine Doeringer	03328/335725
	Bulletin, Website	Tamás Meggyes, Vanessa Hansen	811 06 33; 0157 78 95 9845
	Eucharistic Ministers	Heide Doblhofer	832 62 72
	Greeters, Family Group	Konrad Giersdorf	797 83 709
	Hospitality	Levina Menjares, Lupita Wilhelm	466 09 788, 305 82 45
	Lectors	Mike Hoth	354 06 724
	Music Director	Johannes Wrembek	341 31 90
	Office, Treasurer	Heide Doblhofer	832 62 72
	Rosary	Eleonora Loebach	500 14 506

ALL SAINTS COUNCIL: Konrad Giersdorf (Co-Chair) * Vanessa Hansen (Co-Chair) * Rudolf Hausmann * Nora Loebach * Tamás Meggyes * Marianne Sihotang

FRIENDS OF ALL SAINTS ASSOCIATION: Howard Eyth * Mike Hoth * Lupita Wilhelm * Heide Doblhofer * Eddie McGreal

RECTOR ECCLESIAE: Fr Herbert Gillessen, English-Speaking Roman Catholic Mission, Johann-Georg-Str. 8, 10709 Berlin, Tel: 8132026

Boy Scout Troop 46: All Saints is the proud Chartered Organization for Boy Scout Troop 46 "Freedom Outpost." *True to Scouting Values for Over 55 years* (www.troop46berlin.ScoutLander.com)

Altar Flowers are donated by ROTHE Gartenbau GmbH, Clayallee 282, Berlin Zehlendorf