

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.

December 16, 2012, Third Sunday of Advent

Zephaniah 3:14-18a Resp ps Is 12:2-6 Philippians 4:4-7 Luke 3:10-18

Paul invites us to discover the risen Jesus in our lives

The vast majority of our Sacred Scriptures were composed years, even centuries after the events took place. The interval between the events and the biblical text provided their authors with something very valuable: the ability to interpret those events through the lens of later events and of later experiences. 50 years after John the Baptist's public appearance, **Luke** wants his readers to reflect on the significance of his ministry: John the Baptist not only had a great impact on his contemporaries, he also played an important role in the decision of Jesus to go public.

Before mass, in the sacristy, I sometimes tell the altar servers: "Let's go, if you don't make a move, mass cannot start." In the same way, Luke tells us: "If John hadn't made **his** move, Jesus wouldn't have made **his**."

Luke uses a quotation from Isaiah to anticipate Jesus' coming: "In the desert someone is shouting, 'Get the road ready for the Lord! Make a straight path for him.'" What John had declared in the context of his own religious community is re-interpreted by Luke in a Christian context. Only years after John's original proclamation did the followers of Jesus find this deeper significance in John's words. If this is the case with John and what he did and said, the events of our everyday lives may also have a deeper meaning – as long as we know how to interpret them.

That's what Paul says in **Philippians** (1:4-6, 8-11): *I pray that your love will keep on growing and that you will fully know and understand how to make the right choices. Then you will still be pure and innocent when Christ returns. And until that day, Jesus Christ will keep you busy doing good deeds that bring glory and praise to God.* Paul wants his community to have experiences of the risen Jesus in their lives. We, too, can have experiences of the risen Christ in our everyday lives: every time we feel that something hopeless turns into good, if we receive something without "deserving" it, if we are loved or can share love. Let us discover the risen Lord in our lives, in the lives of others and in our world.

Fr. Wolfgang Felber cf. <http://www.dignityusa.org/breath/december-6-2009-second-sunday-advent>

Our Christmas Schedule

December 23, 10:00 am: **Sunday Mass** - Father Wolfgang Felber SJ

December 24, 3:00 pm: **Children's Mass & Christmas Pageant** - Father Wolfgang Felber SJ

December 24, 9:30 pm: **Christmas Carols**

December 24, 10:00 pm: **Midnight Mass** - Father Wolfgang Schonecke M.Afr.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

Lector: Johannes Ploog • Eucharistic Ministers: Renée Menjares, Heide Doblhofer, Beate Hausmann • Altar Servers: Karoline Stein, Joshua Wunder, Isabella Gneist • Greeters: Hasmin Quiming, Konrad Giersdorf • Hospitality: Marianne Sihotang • The designated collection today is for All Saints.

Attendance on December 9th: 90

Collection: Friends €317.42

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

Mark your Calendars

- **First Holy Communion class today after Mass from 11:00am to 12:30pm**
- We are looking for actors for our annual **Children's Christmas Pageant** on December 24th at 3 pm. And we would also love to have teens for our Christmas Youth Choir. There will be a **rehearsal on Saturday, December 22nd from 2 pm to 5 pm** followed by a **Potluck**. Please contact Vanessa (vhansen980@hotmail.com).
- Thanks to Konrad for organizing the event and to Maureen and Eavan for organizing the youth that participated in the **Christmas Caroling** at the **Senior Residence** in Steglitz last Sunday. We had a great turnout despite the snow. And the residents appreciated the good cheer!
- The next **BibleLive** study will take place on **Wednesday, January 9th** at All Saints (time to be announced). For more information, please call Klaudia Höfig at 01573-870-3659 or 030-60975944 (office) or email her at info@ipz-berlin.de.

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. We are completely **dependent** upon your donations. 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 23rd, 10 am Mass. Our Celebrant will be Fr. Wolfgang Felber SJ

Lector: Cathleen Rückeis • Eucharistic Ministers: Levina, Celso and Renée Menjares • Altar Servers: Niels Waliszewski • Greeters: Hasmin Quiming, Konrad Giersdorf • Hospitality: Loebach Family • The designated collection on Dec. 23rd is for All Saints.

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