



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 29, 2013 The Holy Family

Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14 • Psalm 128:1-5 • Colossians 3:12-21 • Matthew 2:13-15, 19-23

Welcome to our 10 am Mass at All Saints. Our Celebrant today is Fr. Jun de Ocampo SVD

Lector: Anna Berger • Eucharistic Ministers: Levina Menjares, Heide Doblhofer, Beate Hausmann •

Altar Servers: Erik Walton, Gwendolyn Walton and Joshua Wunder •

The designated collection is for All Saints.

A gratuitous gift

Every year before Christmas television shows the classic movie „Little Lord Fauntleroy“. It is the story of snobbish, cynical, selfish old English aristocrat who is gradually transformed by the affection and irresistible charm of his grandchild and heir *Cedric*. The boy is not turned off by the impossible character of the old Lord, ignores his arrogance and idiosyncrasies. He just loves him as he is and so turns him slowly round. The little Lord is a fitting initiation into the mystery of Christmas; God entering the life of a self-centered humanity and transforming it gradually through the gratuitous gift of a child, His own Son.

Hopefully we have all met one day the transforming power of genuine love. It is the stuff of countless movies and of the greatest works of world literature: goodness overcoming evil, love proving stronger than selfishness, an innocent child redeeming a rotten world. The book of wisdom saw the Word of God coming down in the silence of the night as a fierce warrior (Wis. 18:15); instead God the Word came in the form of a defenseless, powerless child. The Baby of Bethlehem shatters all our images of a mighty, revengeful God who comes to reestablish law and order in the world by wiping out the wicked. It is an image still very much alive in the minds of Christian, Muslim and other religious fundamentalists, and maybe in our own heads. At Christmas God's messenger gives the shepherds a completely different indication how to find Him: "This is a sign for you: you shall find an infant..." It was a child that began to change humanity. A child is a pure, gracious, gratuitous gift, not a product of our own making. By coming to us as a child God says to us: Do not be afraid of me, I love you – just love me, take me into your arms. Become a child like me.

The great mystic Meister Eckhard writes: What does the birth in Bethlehem profit me, if it does not happen in me? God's gratuitous gift in Jesus is the invitation to make our lives a gratuitous, selfless gift to others. Gratuitous love and service is what transforms ourselves and our relationships, and will eventually also transform our Church and our society...just as young *Cedric* transformed his old cynical, selfish Grandpa. *Fr. Wolfgang Schonecke M.Afr.*

We welcome Fr Jun Ocampo SVD on his first celebration of the Eucharist at All Saints!

We wish you a blessed New Year!



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Attendance on December 22nd: 90

Collection: Friends €391.44

Attendance on Dec. 24th, Children's Mass: 168

Collection: Friends €315.70

Attendance on Dec. 24th, Midnight Mass: 117

Collection: Friends €293.32, Adveniat: €68.01

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!

Mark your Calendars

- **Taizé prayer & singing** in the Alte Dorfkirche, Zehlendorf Mitte on **December 31st at 11:15 pm!**
- We will be celebrating **Three King's Day** on Sunday, **January 5th** with a '**Rosca de Reyes**' during Hospitality. The lucky one who finds the treasure in his or her cake will be King or Queen for the day. Then join us two weeks later for the Fiesta as we celebrate with a piñata on Sunday, January 19th after Mass!

Notes

- A big thank you to the families, friends and Scouts that joined Konrad in spreading the Christmas cheer by caroling at the Seniors' Residence in Steglitz over the holidays!
- Thank you to all of the actors, singers and musicians who made this year's **Children's Mass and Christmas Pageant** a big success. The Pageant was led by a large crew of very talented youth and children!

Sunday, January 5th, 10 am Mass. Our Celebrant will be Fr. Herbert Gillessen

Lector: Christian Doeringer • Eucharistic Ministers: Heide Doblhofer, Beate Hausmann, Renée Menjares •
 Altar Servers: Erik Walton, Gwendolyn Walton and Conrad Chisolm • Hospitality: Rose Oruga •
 The designated collection on January 5th is for African Catechists.

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!

Friends of All Saints Verein: Bank Account No.: 6001669018, BLZ 370 601 93, Pax-Bank eG
 BIC: GENODED1PAX IBAN: DE15 37060193 6001669018

Our celebrants: Jesuits and White Fathers

All Saints Coordinato	Altar Servers	Katharine Doeringer, Buck Chisolm	03328/335725, 86203785
	Bulletin, Website	Tamás Meggyes, Vanessa Hansen	811 06 33; 0157 78 95 9845
	Eucharistic Ministers	Heide Doblhofer	832 62 72
	Hospitality	Levina Menjares, Lupita Wilhelm	466 09 788, 305 82 45
	Lectors	Johannes Ploog	0160 98 28 9515
	Music Director	Johannes Wrembek	341 31 90
	Office, Treasurer	Heide Doblhofer	832 62 72

All Saints Council: Konrad Giersdorf (Co-Chair) * Vanessa Hansen (Co-Chair) * Rudolf Hausmann * Nora Loebach * Tamás Meggyes * Marianne Sihotang

Friends of All Saints Verein: Howard Eyth, Mike Hoth, Lupita Wilhelm, Heide Doblhofer, Eddie McGreal

Rector Ecclesiae: Fr. Gillessen, English-Speak. Cath. Mission, Johann-Georg-Str. 8, 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)

Directions to All Saints:

- **Subway:** U 3, Oskar-Helene-Heim (10-min. walk) or S 1, Zehlendorf, then bus.
- **Bus:** Bus 285: stop Am Waldfriedhof (last stop, 2-min. walk); bus 110 or 623: stop Oskar-Helene-Heim (10-min. walk) or bus 115: stop Hüttenweg (5-min. walk).
- **Car:** A115 Avus highway, Hüttenweg exit or Clayallee (<http://berlinonline.de/citymap>)

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