

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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Office Hours: Mondays and Thursdays 10-12

November 19th, 2017 – Thirty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Readings (Missal p 224 et seqq.): Prov 31:10-13, 19-20, 30-31 • Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5 • 1 Thess 5:1-6 • Mt 25:14-30

Welcome to our 10 am Mass at All Saints. Our Celebrant today is Fr. Wolfgang Schonecke, MAfr

Lector: Glenda Massey • Eucharistic Ministers: Jennifer Evans, John & Glenda Massey •

Greeter: Buck Chisolm • Altar Servers: Samantha Scott • Hospitality: Beata McGreal •

Designated collection: Diaspora Sunday

The Thirty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Some countries have the custom of the bride being a few minutes late for the wedding. But there was a different custom for weddings at the time of Jesus.

It was the groom who had the privilege of delaying the bride at the time of Jesus. The wedding could take place anytime within two weeks. So, the poor bride had to be in a state of constant alert during those two weeks.

However, the groom did make it easier for her by sending messengers to her house to warn that he would be coming later that day to pick her up for the wedding. Therefore, the bride and groom could not send out invitation cards because only the groom knew when the wedding would be and he gave very little notice. He could choose any day and any hour within those two weeks.

When the groom went to the bride's house to pick her up for the wedding he would have to negotiate with her relatives the gifts he would give for the privilege of being able to marry her. Sometimes these negotiations could drag on for a time before he took the bride back to his house for the wedding.

So, it seems that in the parable Jesus told in the Gospel today there was a lot of negotiating about what gifts the groom should give for the privilege of being able to marry the bride; the negotiating went on so long that the bridesmaids back at the groom's house grew so tired of waiting that they fell asleep.

When the bride and groom arrived in the groom's house the parents pronounced a blessing over the happy couple and the singing and dancing lasted for a week. No wonder they ran out of wine during the wedding at Cana!

The bridesmaids in the parable were given an opportunity to be ready for the wedding in the groom's house later that evening. The groom had already sent word to the bride that the wedding would be later that day.

They knew the wedding would take place; the only delay would be the negotiations with the bride's relatives. But five of them did not bring enough oil. They had an opportunity during the day to get a supply of oil but they didn't bother. Then when the couple arrived for the wedding it was too late and those who had oil had only enough for themselves and were unable to share it.

It reminds us that we have to make choices going through life and we live afterwards with the consequences of those choices. There is no getting away from making choices, we have to make decisions. The option we have is to choose well or choose badly. Whatever way we choose, we will live with the consequences.

Some of the bridesmaids in the parable squandered the opportunity they had during the day to get some oil. **Like them we have choices and decisions. We want to choose well because we pass this way only once.**

The parable reminds us to choose well because at the end of life we will meet our Savior and we do not know when he will call us; that's why Jesus said in the Gospel, "So stay awake because you do not know neither the day nor the hour."

Each decision or choice we make going through life is a decision or choice for Jesus or against Jesus. There will be consequences to all of our decisions for Jesus or against Jesus. When Jesus calls us from this life whenever that will be, we will face the consequences of all our decisions for or against Jesus. "So stay awake because you do not know neither the day nor the hour."

Fr. Frank Rossmann

Girl's Confirmation Class meets today at noon in the All Saints nursery

ANNOUNCEMENTS



WELCOME! *Visiting for the first time?* Please introduce yourself and tell us where you are from at the end of Mass, so we can welcome you. Please join us for coffee and cake in the Community Hall!

Attendance on November 12th: 93

Collection: All Saints: €172.47



Final Call for candidates to serve on the All Saints Council.

All Saints Council elections will be held on November 25 and 26th.

If you are interested in serving on our six-member council, please talk with either Mike Hoth or John Massey for additional information.

Whether you are a new or old member we seek your help to guide out parish over the next two years.



Join us to celebrate Thanksgiving at our annual dinner held on Saturday, November 25th from 6 to 8 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

Turkey, potatoes, corn and lots of other goodies provided.

Sign your family up to attend so we know how much to prepare and plan to bring a dish (salad, side or dessert) to share with the community.

To help defray the expense we will have a donation jar in the Fellowship Hall on the Sunday's leading up to this dinner.

Sign-up sheets will be in the Fellowship hall after Mass for volunteers to make themselves known.

Friends of All Saints Verein

Annual membership meeting

Our annual membership meeting will be held on December 10th after Mass. All members of the Friends of All Saints Verein are invited to attend.

If you have not paid your yearly dues (€5), please do so before the meeting. You can verify that your fees are current by checking with Heide Doblhofer in the church office.

Any other questions should be directed to Howard Eyth or Mike Hoth.



Christmas Caroling at the Bergstrasse Senior Citizen's Residence (Steglitz) on Sunday, December 3rd, 2017

It will soon be time again for our annual visit to the Senior Citizen's Residence located at Altmarkstr. 27, 12169, Berlin.

Practice starts at 15:00 h and caroling at 16:00 h.

For more information please contact Konrad Giersdorf at: giersdorf@hotmail.de.

Altar Server Meeting after Mass on 26 November

A brief meeting of the Altar Servers will be held after Mass in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel. We should be done in under 30 minutes. New servers and parents are welcome!

WE NEED YOU FOR



Christmas Pageant at Christmas Eve Mass from 0930 – 1100 a.m.

CHRISTMAS PAGEANT CASTING CALL Boys and girls - we are looking for actors. Angels, Gabriel, Mary and Joseph; wise men, sheep, donkeys, camels, shepherds, and more! You do not have to attend All Saints to participate so pass on the word to your friends.

An adult DIRECTOR is also sought. Our seasoned director will be away over the Christmas holidays but can train and assist with the rehearsals.

The pageant will be held at morning Mass which will start at 0930 on December 24th (Christmas Eve). Send an email to: vhansen980@hotmail.com

November 26th, 2017, 10 am Mass: Celebrant: Fr. Wolfgang Felber, SJ

Lector: Matthias Waliszewski • Eucharistic Ministers: John & Glenda Massey, Johannes Ploog •

Greeter: Buck Chisolm • Altar Servers: NN • Hospitality: NN •

Designated collection: All Saints

Designated collections are for special purposes in the Archdiocese of Berlin and are transferred in full. **However, in agreement with the Archdiocese, All Saints receives no financial support, so we are completely dependent upon your donations.** 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 written below. **THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!** • *Friends of All Saints e.V.*, IBAN: DE15 3706 0193 6001 6690 18, BIC: GENODED1PAX