

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

November 18th, 2018 – Thirty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Readings (Missal 950: Dan 12:1-3 • Ps 16:5, 8, 9-10, 11 • Heb 10:11-14, 18 • Mk 13:24-32

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

- Lector: Howard Eyth • Eucharistic Ministers: Thomas Schmidt, Heide Doblhofer, Jennifer Evans •
- Greeter: Christopher Lusaka • Altar Servers: Konrad Giersdorf, Oshin Michael •
- Hospitality: NN • Designated collection: Diaspora Sunday •

SHE GAVE ALL SHE HAD

Today thousands of children take their little lanterns and march in the dark to celebrate Saint Martin, the Roman soldier, who gave half his cloak to a beggar. We can only pray that in spite of our narcissic ego-centered culture Martin's spirit of sharing will touch the hearts of our children and our own.

St. Martin gave away half his cloak. In first reading and the Gospel of today we hear of two women who gave more than that. Each of them gave away "all she had to live on", the widow of Serepta to the prophet of God and the poor widow in the Gospel to God Himself. This short and moving story helps us understand Jesus better and it challenges us who want to model our lives on his example.

Most striking is that Jesus notices that poor widow. The temple court was crowded with pilgrims, foreigners and local citizens of Jerusalem. In that crowd the attention of Jesus goes to an old poor woman. Nobody else, neither his disciples nor anyone in the crowd, took any notice of her. They all overlooked her. But Jesus has this special antenna, this personal concern for the poor, the little and marginal people.

Do we take any notice of the poor, the lonely, the old, the sick in our neighbourhood? Often, we tend to overlook and ignore them. Why? Because allowing the pain and suffering of people touch our hearts, can be very disturbing. It can overwhelm us because we often feel so helpless and powerless in front of the human misery around us and in the large world.

What we can also learn from Jesus is how to look at people. "God does not see as man does. For man sees the outward appearance, but the LORD sees the heart." (1 Sam 16:7) says the Bible. Jesus sees in the generous gesture of the widow her great love and trust in God. We so easily judge people by external, superficial criteria: the way they dress, the car they drive, the position they hold, the money they have accumulated. Just look at the fascination so many people have with royal families, film stars, pop singers and other so called "trendsetters" and their glamorous life style. God sees the heart and often the hearts we admire prove to be empty and lonely, selfish and narcissic. We can learn from Jesus to look at others with the eyes of God.

We can also learn the ways of God from those two widows. How can poor people give away the very things they need to live? The decision to empty her purse into the temple treasury and remain with nothing, was totally unreasonable. Surely, God cannot expect from us to empty our bank accounts and dissolve our life insurances, especially when we are responsible for a family. Why do people sometimes do such foolish things? The answer is: out of love. Lovers do unreasonable things. The widow's generous gesture comes from a whole-hearted love of God and an equally whole-hearted trust of God. Giving away what she needs today, she trusts that God will provide for tomorrow.

In front of the great faith of these two poor widows we can only stand in awe. We cannot imitate them literally, but let us ask the Lord to help us to be a bit less anxious about the future, a future we cannot control anyway. Tomorrow will take care of itself. God is there also tomorrow and will take care of us.

Fr. Wolfgang Schonecke MAfr

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 11th: 87

Collection: All Saints: €189,56 Catholic Schools: €13.10



Join us to celebrate Thanksgiving at our annual dinner held on Saturday, November 24th 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.

Volunteer sign-up sheets will be in the Fellowship hall after Mass. Consider volunteering to help with the preparation on Friday, November 23rd at 16:00.



Volunteers sought to become Eucharistic Ministers

Perhaps you have already served as a Eucharistic Minister in a previous parish or would like to explore becoming one.

The ESM will offer a class in English during February 2019. If you are interested please inquire in the office or speak with any of our Eucharistic Ministers.

Clip out and put on your fridge or family board!

Mark your calendars:

- November/December – **Special election for open position on the All Saints Council** - TBA
- November 23rd – **Set-up for Thanksgiving Dinner** in the Fellowship Hall from 5 p.m. onward.
- November 24th – Mass followed by **Thanksgiving Dinner** in the Fellowship Hall from 5 p.m. onward.
- November 25th – **Confirmation Class** meets at 11:15 a.m. in the Conference Room.
- November 25th – **First Holy Communion Class (FHC)** meets at 11:15 – 12:00 p.m. in Classroom 1
- November 30th – **Christmas Tree arrives.** Tree set up / decorated and church decorated with ivy beginning at 5:00 p.m.
- December 2nd – **All Saints Council** meets after Mass in Classroom 2.
- December 2nd – **Annual Christmas Caroling** at Elder Folks Home starting at 3:00 p.m.
- December 8th – **Combined Advent Service** with PFF and Crossways – additional details coming soon
- December 8th – Preparations for the **Annual Children's Pageant** – Director and adult helpers needed. Volunteer in the church office or send a message to b.chisolm@gmx.de
- December 22nd rehearsal for Children's Christmas Pageant. Time to be announced.



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 10 a.m. on December 24th (Christmas Eve). Send an email to: vhansen980@hotmail.com

November 25th, 2017, 10 am Mass: Celebrant: Fr. Dietmar Lenfers, MAfr

- Lector: Helga Beck • Eucharistic Ministers: Heide Doblhofer, Jennifer Evans, John Massey •
- Greeter: Christopher Lusaka • Altar Servers: Konrad Giersdorf, Oshin Michael • 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