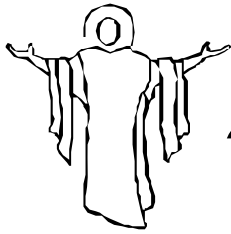


Serving Berlin's English-speaking Catholic Community since 1957



ALL SAINTS



## Catholic Community

Member of the English-Speaking Mission

Youth Mass: **1<sup>st</sup> Friday** 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

Phone (030) 8620-3636 • Fax (030) 8620-3638

Email: [allsaintsberlin@t-online.de](mailto:allsaintsberlin@t-online.de) / Website: [www.all-saints-berlin.de](http://www.all-saints-berlin.de)

Facebook: All Saints Catholic Community Berlin

Office Hours: Mondays and Thursdays 10:00-12:00

### March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2019 – Fourth Sunday of Lent

**Readings (Missal: 819): Josh 5:9, 10-12 • Ps 34:2-3, 4-5, 6-7 • 2 Cor 5:17-21 • Lk 15:1-3, 11-32**

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

- Lector: Brendan FitzPatrick • Eucharistic Ministers: Johannes Ploog, Beate Hausmann, Thomas Schmidt •
- Greeter: Anthony Kwasi Sessi • Altar Servers: Konrad Giersdorf, Timothy Pedussel •
- Hospitality: Beata McGreal • Designated collection: All Saints •

### Homily on the Third Sunday of Lent (Glory and Praise #816)

The liturgy of Lent can be disturbing. It will not allow us to sit back and be content with the situation as it is. Nevertheless, one or the other of us may be tired of conversion, perhaps feeling to be on the right track, "I am doing my very best", and what is needed is continuity, the courage to keep the course. "Carry on like this!" Even in this case, the liturgy offers a prudent word of warning. "*Whoever thinks he is standing secure should take care not to fall.*" That is St. Paul's advice at the end of the second reading.

However, most of us, I think, will have their doubts about this "*standing secure*". Can I really be content with my situation, with the way I live, with the atmosphere I create around me in the family and my daily relations, in my place of work, and with my neighbours, with my involvement in social matters, or my distance from public affairs? Would all this stand up to the test, and pass as acceptable? Can I in all honesty present all this to the Lord without a profound sense of shame, because it is too far removed from what he wanted his followers to be?

Last Sunday we heard the voice of the Father from the cloud "*This is my chosen Son, listen to him.*" And the more we make the effort to listen to him, the clearer we sense in us a certain insufficiency, an inadequacy, falling short, literally a shortcoming by not going far enough, a heaviness, paralysis, the lack of radical discipleship. Do you know the feeling of being caught between the insight that one needs to improve and the inability to take effective steps that would make a difference? There is little consolation in the thought that others may be greater sinners. As we heard in the gospel, Jesus treats those comparisons as deadly illusions. "*By no means. But I tell you, if you do not repent, you will all perish as they did!*"

There we are again faced with the call to conversion, and with the problem that it is so awfully difficult to take effective steps to change for the better. We all carry with us our past, our personal history, our acquired habits, our character, our spontaneous responses, our compliance to social pressure and expectation. We are all driven by the need to cultivate our image in front of others, and so forth. Somewhere deep down we are paralysed by the fear what I would look like, if I really became a radical Christian. This fear makes comfortable compromises all the more attractive.

At this point we recognise today's gospel as "good news", because in the parable the gardener proclaims God's marvellous patience. The owner of the fig tree speaks as a businessman, bent on profit, of course. It sounds very human: "Three years no fruit. That's enough. Cut it down. Why should it exhaust the soil?" The gardener pleads: "Not so fast, please. Give it another chance. Leave it for this year also." But he will not leave it alone – knowing that time by itself would not make any difference. "*I shall cultivate the ground around it, and add a little manure. I shall take good care of it. It may bear fruit in the future. If not, you can cut it down.*"

We are promised this patience that God will have with us. We should grasp it with joy. Where we by ourselves feel unable to initiate a thorough change in our life, even there is an opportunity for a new beginning, despite everything.

**Fr. Dietmar Lenfers**

# 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 March 24th: 87

Collection: All Saints: €210,79



## Pray the Stations of the Cross on April 19<sup>th</sup> 2 p.m. at All Saints

The Stations of the Cross are a 14-step Catholic devotion that commemorates Jesus Christ's last day

The 14 devotions focus on specific events of His last day, beginning with His condemnation. The stations are commonly used as a mini pilgrimage as the individual moves from station to station.

At each station, the individual recalls and meditates on a specific event from Christ's last day. Specific prayers are recited, then the individual moves to the next station until all 14 are complete.



Hello High School All Sainter's – did you know that Justine Pedussel and Tom FitzPatrick are spear-heading a new Youth Group?

Why not join them and the other youth members at their next meeting?

The All Saints Council will meet after Mass on April 7<sup>th</sup>.

If you have something that needs to be considered please let Konrad Giersdorf or Buck Chisolm know.

## Easter Triduum



*The English-speaking Mission celebrates the Triduum as one large community, with All Saints, St. Bernard's, and St. Elisabeth's each hosting one of the liturgies.*

**Holy Thursday (18.04)** - Mass of the Lord's Supper - St. Bernard's Church, 7 p.m. The faithful are invited to stay for a period of quiet adoration after the transfer of the Blessed Sacrament.

**Good Friday (19.04)** - Celebration of the Lord's Passion - All Saints Church - with distribution of Holy Communion, at 3 p.m., preceded by the Stations of the Cross at 2 p.m. Opportunity for individual confessions.

**Holy Saturday (20.04)** - Easter Vigil Mass - St. Elisabeth's Church, 9 p.m.

**Easter Sunday (21.04)** - Masses will be celebrated according to the usual Sunday schedule in each community.

## Spring Cleaning of our Church on Saturday, April 6



Join PFF, Crossways and All Saints for our spring cleaning of the church on Saturday, April 6<sup>th</sup>.

A comprehensive list of cleaning tasks has been created and is posted throughout the church. Please take a moment and sign up for one..

Lent is still being celebrated so this can be one of your offerings.

## April 7<sup>th</sup> 10 am Mass at All Saints. Our Celebrant today is Fr. Sylvester Ajunwa

- Lector: Eddie McGreal • Eucharistic Ministers: Beate Hausmann, Thomas Schmidt, Heide Doblhofer •
- Greeter: Anthony Kwasi Sessi • Altar Servers: Konrad Giersdorf, Oshin Michael •
- Hospitality: Beata McGreal • Designated collection: MISEREOR •

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