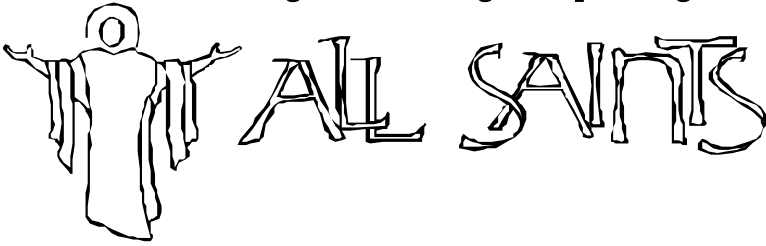


Serving Berlin's English-speaking Catholic Community since 1957



Catholic Community

Member of the English-Speaking Mission

Youth Mass: 1st 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 / Website: www.all-saints-berlin.de

Facebook: All Saints Catholic Community Berlin

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

October 20th, 2019, Twenty-Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Readings (Missal no. 939) Exodus 17:8-13 • Ps 121:1-8 • 2Tim 3:14-4:2 • Luke 18:1-8

Welcome to our 10:00 am Mass at All Saints. Our Celebrant today is Fr. Wolfgang Felber, SJ

• Lector: Karen Castellón • Eucharistic Ministers: Beate Hausmann, Thomas Schmidt, Heide Doblhofer •
Greeter: NN • Altar Servers: Konrad Giersdorf, Oshin Michael •
Hospitality: NN • Designated collection: All Saints

We are the descendants of the ten lepers (G&P N° 936, Luke 17,11-19)

I would like to talk about the experience Jesus makes with the ten lepers. Usually the text is presented so that the one leper who comes back to Jesus understands Jesus, thanks Jesus, is the only one really healed. The other nine are unthankful and do not understand anything. I don't like this way of presenting the story.

Why? Because Jesus never puts people down. I would like to point to a different topic: Ten lepers come to Jesus, all ten are healed, but only one remains with Jesus. Nine to one – this relation is still valid – generously calculated. I speak of the part of the population still remaining with the traditional Church and its message. Only ten percent may share the religious nearness to Jesus by continuing to go to Church (in Berlin the percentage is smaller: 12% of the population are baptized protestant, 3% catholic – but the number attending services in churches is much smaller).

All the lepers have been touched, have been healed by Jesus. The ten are not so different from each other: they all have been healed, but only one remains with Jesus. It is the **difference in reaction to the healing** that makes them different. The ways to experience God's nearness do not necessarily lead through the church doors. Those who come to church on Sunday, like you, live a special form of religiosity, marked by the communion of the Church, the wish to experience God's nearness in the space of a church building, of a Church community.

But there are many other forms where people are experiencing the nearness of God, the Church is seen as just one of these places. What does this mean for the Church?

One way of dealing with the phenomenon is to continue as usual: tradition, dogmas, doctrine, neither looking to the right nor to the left, not perceiving the world that surrounds the Church. Then the Church, then we as a community, may become a ghetto in which people with the same ideas and ideals gather, a ghetto on the edge of society. *Uniformity instead of diversity* reigns.

The second way would be to be totally open to everything we see in the modern world, to limit ourselves to the realm of giving good advices of how to succeed in life and in its crises. But here the Christian message would lose its specificity. The Church would not be more than a giver of good advices like so many other gurus. Perhaps: *"Diversity without unity"*?

This is a real **dilemma** – a dilemma that keeps the church alive. The tension is a fruitful tension if the two sides approach each other, if ideas and visions are shared. In this process, there is not one side in the possession of the full truth, not one side has a monopoly for salvation. *"Unity in diversity"* would be the objective. The ten lepers make it clear: The story is not about the one single follower of Jesus and the nine renegades. No! They have all been touched and healed, but each one of them has his or her own way of dealing with it. It was the task of **Jesus** to handle this, Jesus had to live with this. It is **our** task today to handle this same phenomenon – we who are following Jesus, we who are the descendants of the ten lepers.

Fr. Wolfgang Felber, SJ

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 October 6th: 69

Collection: St. Hedwig: €33,90, All Saints: €115,13

Special Halloween Hospitality

After Mass on October 27th we will have a special Hallows Eve Hospitality with suitable beverages and ghoulish treats!



Young children are welcome to knock on the door to the room full of ghosts, goblins and zombies and say "trick or treat" to win a sweet.

But, only knock on the door if you are really brave!



Join us to celebrate **Thanksgiving** at our annual dinner held on Saturday, **November 30th** 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 29nd at 16:00.



Join the Choir...
You'll Be Glad You Did!

We are seeking several new volunteers to join our choir. If you feel the calling, please speak with Johannes Wrembek

Mark your calendars:

- November 29th – **Christmas Tree arrives.** Tree set up / decorated and church decorated with ivy beginning at 5:00 p.m.
- December 8th – **Annual Christmas Caroling** at Elder Folks Home starting at 3:00 p.m.
- Rehearsals for the **Children's Christmas Pageant** will be announced soon.



The English-Speaking Mission celebrates the Feast of All Saints on Friday, November 1st in the main church.

Join with the other members of our ESM to celebrate Mass at **7:00 p.m.**

Please sign up on the sheet provided in the Community Hall after Mass so we know how many will attend.

October 27th, 10 am Mass at All Saints. Our Celebrant today is Fr. Wolfgang Schonecke

- Lector: Eric Bertrand • Eucharistic Ministers: Thomas Schmidt, Jennifer Evans, Johannes Ploog • Greeter: NN • Altar Servers: Konrad Giersdorf, Oshin Michael • Hospitality: NN • Designated collection: World Mission •

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: GENODE33