

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.

September 28, 2014 Twenty-sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Ezekiel 18:25-28 • Psalm 25:4-9 • Philippians 2:1-11 • Matthew 21:28-32

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

Lector: Tamás Meggyes • Eucharistic Ministers: Heide Doblhofer, Beate Hausmann,
Renée Menjares • Greeter: Buck Chisolm • Altar servers: Niels and Josephine Waliszewski •
Hospitality: Rose Oruga and Vanessa • Designated collection today is for All Saints.

An Unfair Change of Rules?

Matthew was not writing about workers' rights in Matthew 20:1-16a as he addressed second and third generation of Jews in the late first century. Jews had slowly become a minority in the church that began as a completely Jewish religious movement. Since Jesus was originally regarded as a reformer of Judaism, not the founder of a new way to encounter God, non-Jewish converts were expected to embrace Judaism with its 613 laws. This was changed in the early first century: liberals like Paul of Tarsus began baptizing Gentiles without insisting that they first convert to Judaism. Gentiles appreciated this 180-degree turn, but Christians of Jewish origin had a problem that they had borne "*the day's burden and the heat*," circumcision and those all-pervasive Jewish regulations. To them, it was unjust.

This is when Matthew's Jesus comes to the scene. He tells the story of a landowner who pays each of his workers the same amount of money even if some worked twelve hours while others only one or two! When confronted with this unjust wage scale, the employer reminds his workers that he paid the amount they had agreed upon. Therefore, the laborers could only challenge his generosity. In other words, Christians of Jewish origin who still were obliged to follow the laws of Moses were not being treated unjustly by God. They had made that commitment at the foot of Mount Sinai 1,200 years before. God was simply being generous to Gentiles by not demanding the same commitment from them. At its core, this message, though unpleasant to some, is fundamental to our faith: God rarely works in "black or white" nor does fit into a "one size fits all" theology. This would contradict the fundamental truth of our faith: „Unity in diversity“, not „uniformity“.

When Paul first began to follow the risen Jesus, he assumed that the second coming of the Lord was just around the corner (Philippians 1:20-24, 27a). But as the years went on and Jesus' second coming was delayed, Paul was forced to admit: someone seems to have changed the rules of the game – no second coming in sight..

This is a great occasion to reflect upon how our understanding of God has changed since we first learned about God as children. Perhaps some of these changes we like while others are problematic because they make us leave the comfort zone of our childhood faith.

<http://www.dignityusa.org/breath/september-18-2011-twenty-fifth-sunday-year>

Fr Wolfgang Felber SJ

Children's Liturgy begins today, followed by a Fall Harvest Celebration!





ANNOUNCEMENTS

Attendance on September 21st: 93

Collection: Friends €202.96, Caritas: €54

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

- The bi-monthly **Children's Liturgy** begins today for children four and older who have not made their First Communion. After mass we will have a special **Fall Harvest Celebration!**
- Please be sure to read about our **new interfaith youth group: LIFT (Living In Faith Together)!** The first events are taking place on **Saturday, October 18th and October 25th!**

Notes

- **Hospitality:** We are looking for a new Hospitality Coordinator. Please contact Vanessa.
- **Confessions** can be heard on request. Please contact the celebrant.
- All food donations in the **wicker basket** at the entrance to church go to families in need and to the Soup Kitchen of the Sisters of Charity in Kreuzberg. Thank you for your generosity.
- Please visit our website at <http://www.all-saints-berlin.de>.

October 5th, 10 am Mass: Our Celebrant will be Fr Helbert Gillessen

Lector: Matthias Waliszewski • Eucharistic Ministers: Renée Menjares, Beate Hausmann

• Greeter: Buck Chisolm • Altar servers: Conrad Chisolm •

Hospitality: Marianne Sihotang • Designated collection on October 5th is for All Saints.

All Saints supports the designated collection by the Archdioceses. However, since All Saints Catholic does not receive any financial support by the Archdiocese, we are completely **dependent upon your donations**. Please donate to All Saints by using the **white envelopes** stamped "**ALL SAINTS FUND**" or transferring your donation to the Pax-Bank account below. Thank you!

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 Coordinators	Altar Servers	Katharine Doeringer, Buck Chisolm	03328/335725; 86203785
	Bulletin, Website	Tamás Meggyes, Vanessa Hansen	811 0633; 0157 78959845
	Eucharistic Ministers	Heide Doblhofer	832 6272
	Greeters	Buck Chisolm	0152 56301776
	Children's Liturgy	Jenny Gebhardt	843 10073
	Lectors	Johannes Ploog	0160 98289515
	Music Director	Johannes Wrembek	341 3190
	Office, Treasurer	Heide Doblhofer	832 6272

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

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

Rector Ecclesiae: Fr. Gillessen, English-Speaking 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.