

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](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

## January 5<sup>th</sup>, 2019 – The Epiphany of the Lord

Readings (Missal no. 803): Isa 60:1-6 • Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13 • Eph 3:2-3, 5-6 • Mt 2:1-12

Welcome to our 10:00 am Mass at All Saints. Fr. Wolfgang Schonecke will preside the Eucharist

• Lector: Karen Castellon • Eucharistic Ministers: Heide Doblhofer, Johannes Ploog, Jennifer Evans •  
Greeter: NN • Altar Servers: Konrad Giersdorf, Bobot Quiming •  
Hospitality: NN • Designated collection: For African Catechists

## Holy Ground – reflections on the Feast of the Holy Family

A tendency found in many religions is to escape, sometimes even negate and deny, the ordinary: the *Buddha* finds enlightenment after leaving home, friends, and attachments; the *yoga path of Hinduism* is an ascending detachment from family, business, relationships; the *Greek ideal of truth* is the world of forms, while the “life of time and senses” is illusion. *Christianity* itself has had its traditions of flight— we know this: flight from marriage, from the city, from the “world”.

But the heart of Christianity is a *transformation of the ordinary, not a flight from it*. After all, Incarnation, the central mystery we embrace, affirms that the eternal Word **becomes** flesh, not **flees** it. We are, in this respect, children of Judaism where the God of Moses and the prophets enters space and time, where God is deeply concerned about and profoundly moved by our condition. The most ancient covenant of Abraham arises from his relationship to Sarah—her childlessness, her laughter, the baby she finally nursed in old age. Abraham’s mighty faith was tested in relationship to his son—his son was his prize possession, was his guarantee of immortality.

In the *Christmas narratives*, ordinary people like shepherds and travelers are the messengers of God, not just angels and certainly not the power-brokers of nations. *Zechariah* in his doubts and dumbness; *Elizabeth* finding God in her cousin Mary; *Joseph* coping with the demands of Caesar—taxes, housing, and relocation—they all encounter God. A simple, devout man like *Simeon* still searches, still hopes, and finally sees. Another old prophet, *Anna*, still praying in the temple sixty years after her husband’s death —when one might think there was not much more to look forward to —this Anna discovers the truth.

And then this *holy family*, these people... Cousins and aunts and acquaintances. A mother who is mother of one child, yet mother of us all. Her spouse, a man, a worker, a father of a child somehow not fully his. They are all ordinary people who find the place where strength and wisdom and favor might flourish.

It is first and foremost in our relationships, our families, our friends, that God is encountered, that faith is given flesh, that our theories of justice are tested out, that our prayer is made real, that dreams are actualized.

Even the great mystic teacher *St. Teresa of Avila* insisted on that truth: when people came inquiring about the heights of holy prayer, she would ask how their relationships were going. And the great skeptic *Sigmund Freud* knew it, too: the stage of the ordinary, of the family, was where the deepest dramas were played out.

Our most profound sufferings, our greatest heroics, our most significant encounters with God are here with these people we know and love, in their goodness, in their weakness. Where else do we most intimately encounter what *Paul* calls the “requirements” of love: patience, humility, forgiveness, kindness... It is one rather easy thing to **love humanity**. It is quite another to love **this one**, who is so close to me, so like me.

It is all here, in our homes, in the pews of our churches, in our friends, in our families. Here is the holy ground. Here is the face of God, the smile shining upon us, the kindly gaze upon us. These are arks of the covenant. These are “the holy of holies” if we only **look**, like Simeon; if we only **see**, like Anna; if only, like Mary, we **take time** to ponder it all in our hearts.

[https://liturgy.slu.edu/HolyFamilyA122919/theword\\_kavanaugh.html](https://liturgy.slu.edu/HolyFamilyA122919/theword_kavanaugh.html)

# 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 December 29th: 67

Collection: All Saints: €154.95



## Three Kings Day Celebration

We will have a special Three Kings Day hospitality after Mass TODAY.

Did you know? - January the 5th is a special day in Mexico. Known as *El Dia de Reyes* (Three Kings Day), this holiday represents the height of the Christmas season. The date marks the culmination of the twelve days of Christmas and commemorates the three wise men who traveled from afar, bearing gifts for the infant baby Jesus. The children of Mexico in particular look forward to this holiday as traditionally, gifts are exchanged on this date, not on Christmas day.

Will you be the lucky one to find the special item in the Galette des Rois? **If so, you get to be the King or Queen of the day!**



## Become a Hospitality Volunteer

Our loyal group of hospitality volunteers are looking for some "new blood" to support this important ministry. Consider you, or your family, hosting a hospitality once a quarter! That's only 2 - 3 hours four times a year.

What is involved? Come about 9 a.m. to make coffee and put out the cakes and refreshments which we have already purchased. After Mass stay and get the Fellowship hall neat/ready for the next group and ensure all our coffee cups/ plates are in the dish washer.

Signup in the office or ask for more information.



## World Peace Day 2020

Pope Francis message for the celebration of World Peace Day of January 1<sup>st</sup> may be found if you use the search string: **World Peace Day 2020 Pope.**



## Holy Father's prayer intentions for January 2020

**Promotion of World Peace:** We pray that Christians, followers of other religions, and all people of goodwill may promote peace and justice in the world.



On Friday, January 10<sup>th</sup> we will take down the Christmas tree and decorations. Will you help us?? If so, please be at the church at 5:00 p.m. and depending on how many helping hands show up we should be done by 7:00 p.m. or earlier.



**Editors wanted for our bulletin** . . . Join our small group that reviews the draft each week. No original writing just checking the content.

Sorry no money, but, you will have the satisfaction of helping our bulletin team to get the weekly news out.  
Want to help? Contact Buck Chisolm ([b.chisolm@gmx.de](mailto:b.chisolm@gmx.de)) for more details.

***Please take this copy of the bulletin and use it to spread the word about the All Saints Community***

## January 12<sup>th</sup> Mass at All Saints. Fr. Wolfgang Felber is presiding the Eucharist

- Lector: Matthias Waliszewski • Eucharistic Ministers: Jennifer Evans, Johannes Ploog, Beate Hausmann •
- Greeter: NN • Altar Servers: Konrad Giersdorf, Bobot Quiming •
- 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