

Serving Berlin's English-speaking Catholic Community since 1957



Catholic Community

Member of the English-Speaking Mission

Hüttenweg 46 • 14195 Berlin-Dahlem
Phone (030) 86203636 • Fax (030) 86203638
Email: allsaintsberlin@t-online.de
www.all-saints-berlin.de



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.

December 11, 2011, Third Sunday of Advent

**Isaiah 61:1-2, 10-11; Luke 1:46-50, 53-54; 1 Thessalonians 4:16-24;
John 1:6-8, 19-28**

In Saint Paul's first letter to the Corinthians there is a very important line which we often overlook. He writes something very beautiful and important: "... You are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revelation of our Lord Jesus Christ." (1 Cor 1-8). Paul presumes his readers understand what he means by "spiritual gifts". But for those of us who are not accustomed to his terminology, we have to turn to a different chapter of this letter to see some of them listed: wisdom, knowledge, faith, healing, mighty deeds, prophecy, discernment of spirits, and so forth. Paul, as always, presumes each Christian community has been blessed with sufficient spiritual gifts to make it viable. Once its members commit themselves to imitate Jesus' dying and rising, the gifts come.

The problem Paul encounters is not that his communities do not have sufficient gifts to carry on the ministry of the risen Jesus. Rather, they do not recognize those gifts and do not know how to integrate gifts into the community's life. Paul spends lots of time addressing these two topics: recognize gifts and integrate them. The authors of the biblical books frequently warn their readers to always do what God wants them to do. As Isaiah says in today's first reading, it's easy to do "religious and good things" but still not to carry out God's will (Is 63) – "All our good deeds are like polluted rags" (Is 63 6). No matter what we do in the name of our religion, if it isn't God's will, it's totally wasted.

Knowing Paul's theology about spiritual gifts, one wonders what Paul would say about our practice of "praying for vocations", or our complaining that we do not have enough people to run activities in the community. We pray for vocations because we do not see them. "Sometimes we find ourselves praying for rain, standing in a downpour with an umbrella over our heads. Maybe we should simply pray for enough courage to fold up the umbrella." Advent is a time when we are called to be alert, to discern God's presence in our lives, to find the courage to fold up the umbrella so that we see love, life, talents pouring down in our and others' lives. Amen

cf <http://www.dignityusa.org/breath/>

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

Lector: Tamás Meggyes • Eucharistic Ministers: Beate Hausmann, Heide Doblhofer, Celso Menjares •
Altar Servers: Philip Rückeis, Samantha Rückeis, Aidan Brinda • Greeters: Hasmin Quiming, Konrad
Giersdorf • Hospitality: Marianne Sihotang

Collection on December 11th is designated for All Saints

**Interfaith Concert & Open House today,
starting at 4:20 pm with the Brass Ensemble**



ANNOUNCEMENTS

December 4 attendance: 62

Collection: Friends €111.30, Orphans €15.45

- Please drop your food donations for the **Interfaith Concert & Open House** in the kitchen. Thank you!
- If you are **visiting All Saints for the first time**, please introduce yourself at the end of Mass so we can welcome you, and join us for coffee and cake after Mass in the Community Hall!
- Our **Children's Mass & Christmas Pageant** will take place on December 24th at 3 pm. We are looking for child participants. Please Contact **Vanessa** (vhansen980@hotmail.com).
- The evening Mass on **Dec. 24th** at 22:00 will be preceded by carol singing at 21:30.
- On Sunday, Dec. 25th, the Holy Mass is at 10 am, as usual.
- **All Saints is on Facebook!** Please have a look! You can find us under "**All Saints Catholic Community in Berlin, Germany**".
- **The European Peace Meeting of Taizé** will take place in Berlin from **Dec 28, 2011 to Jan 1, 2012**. Please consider hosting one or more young people in your home. Further information: www.taize-berlin.de and/or Margarethe@taize-berlin.de
- Please note that a **new Liturgical Year** started on the first Sunday of Advent: we are having now **Year B**.
- 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 printed below. We are completely **dependent** upon your donations. THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

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

Friends of All Saints Verein: Bank Account No.: 6001669018, BLZ 370 601 93, Pax-Bank eG

December 18th 10 am Mass. Our Celebrant will be Father Wolfgang Felber SJ

Lector: Eddie McGreal • Eucharistic Ministers: Renée Menjares, Beate Hausmann, Heide Doblhofer • Altar Servers: Isabella Gneist, Theresia Giersdorf, Johanna Süssel • Greeters: Hasmin Quiming, Konrad Giersdorf • Hospitality: Levina Menjares

Collection on December 18th is designated for All Saints

Celebrants		Father Wolfgang Felber SJ Fathers of the Jesuit Community	
All Saints Coordinators	Altar Servers	Katharine Doeringer	03328/335725
	Bulletin, Website	Tamás Meggyes, Vanessa Hansen	811 06 33; 0157 78 95 9845
	Eucharistic Ministers	Heide Doblhofer	832 62 72
	Greeters, Family Group	Konrad Giersdorf	797 83 709
	Hospitality	Levina Menjares, Lupita Wilhelm	466 09 788, 305 82 45
	Lectors	Mike Hoth	354 06 724
	Music Director	Johannes Wrembek	341 31 90
	Office, Treasurer	Heide Doblhofer	832 62 72
	Rosary	Eleonora Loebach	500 14 506

ALL SAINTS COUNCIL: Konrad Giersdorf (Chair) * Vanessa Hansen * Rudolf Hausmann * Tamás Meggyes * Grey Okute * Marianne Sihotang

FRIENDS OF ALL SAINTS ASSOCIATION: Howard Eyth * Mike Hoth * Lupita Wilhelm * Heide Doblhofer * Eddie McGreal

RECTOR ECCLESIAE: Fr Herbert Gillessen, English-Speaking Roman Catholic Mission, Johann-Georg-Str. 8, 10709 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)

Access 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 M11: stop Oskar-Helene-Heim (10-min. walk) or Bus 115: stop Hüttenweg (5-min. walk),

Car: Via Clayallee (<http://berlinonline.de/citymap>). Currently, **no access** from the A115 **Avus highway**.

Altar Flowers are donated by ROTHE Gartenbau GmbH, Clayallee 282, Berlin Zehlendorf