

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 22, 2013 Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**Amos 8:4-7 • Psalm 113:1-2, 4-6, 7-8 • 1 Timothy 2:1-8 • Luke 16:1-13**

### **The Prodigal Son**

This is probably one of the greatest Gospels ever written. As I read it, I begin to feel sympathy for the younger son. Wasn't leaving home the right thing for him to do? After all, the Bible states that a man must leave father and mother... (cf. Gen 2:24) and psychologists tell us that a youngster must leave his parents in order to become an adult person and to learn how to stand on his or her own feet. In former times, young men would travel through Europe after their professional training before settling down and still today, youngsters sometimes visit foreign land or do a year of service overseas after graduating from high school.

So, yes, in some ways the son did the right thing by seeking and testing his freedom.

However, he also does a very wicked thing: he asks his father for his share of the inheritance while he is still alive which is perceived as a death wish. Moreover, he believes in freedom without consequences and ends up in total dependence on alcohol and sex. He also misunderstands his father and sees him as a tyrant oppressing his freedom when in fact his father respects his freedom and lets him go in spite of his insolence knowing full well that his boy will make a mess of his life.

How many of us have been brought up with this same false image of God and see religion as an opposition to personal freedom? If I want to live a self-determined life, there can be no room for God; it's either him or me. There can be no place for my freedom in his overwhelming presence. The lost son understands his father only when he finds himself in his arms. No blame, no questions about the past, no demand to repay the wasted family fortune. All his guilt, his utter failures are gone and simply put aside. For the first time in his life, the son feels truly free with his father.

When we meditate about Jesus' parable, we better understand the words that are said during Mass before communion: *Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world.* Jesus is like the young man's father – he takes away our failings and sins and sets us free. If we believe this, we can celebrate the Eucharist in the same joy as the lost son at his father's feast.

**Fr. Wolfgang Schonecke**

**Welcome to our 10 am Mass at All Saints. Our Celebrant today is Fr. Clemens Pfaff**

Lector: Anna Berger • Eucharistic Ministers: Celso and Levina Menjares, Heide Doblhofer •  
Altar servers: Niels Waliszewski, Aidan Brinda and Karoline Rossberg • Greeter: Anthony Reilly •  
Hospitality: Hansen-Waliszewski & Brinda Families •  
The designated collection on September 22nd is for Caritas



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

Attendance on September 15th: 78

Collection: Friends €285.55

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

- There will be an **Altar Server Refresher Course and Introduction to Altar Serving on Sunday, September 29th** directly after Mass. There will be an additional Altar Server training this fall – so please stay posted. Thank you for your service to our community!
- **Taizé prayer and singing** in the Alte Dorfkirche, Zehlendorf Mitte on Thursday, **September 26th 6:30 pm.**
- **Diaspora travel to Fläming:** St. Joseph/Luckenwalde, Kloster Zinna, Nikolaikirche/Treuenbrietzen, St. Bonifatius/Bad Belzig on **September 27th**, 8:30 am to 7 pm. More information: Bonifatiuswerk, [kategoriale.seelsorge@erzbistum.berlin.de](mailto:kategoriale.seelsorge@erzbistum.berlin.de), 030/32684-530.
- **Berlin Marathon on September 29th:** please be prepared for possible traffic interruptions

### Notes

- Please contact Vanessa ([vhansen980@hotmail.com](mailto:vhansen980@hotmail.com)) if you are interested in having your child participate in **First Communion** classes at All Saints. Classes are for children starting in the second grade.

#### **Sunday, September 29th, 10 am Mass. Our Celebrant will be Fr. Simon Boiser SVD**

Lector: Cathleen Rückeis • Eucharistic Ministers: Levina Menjares, Heide Doblhofer, Beate Hausmann •

Altar servers: Philip Rückeis, Samantha Rückeis, Madeleine Rückeis • Greeter: Anthony Reilly •

Hospitality: Thomas & Josephine Schmidt • The designated collection on September 29th is for All Saints.

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  
BIC: GENODED1PAX IBAN: DE15 37060193 6001669018

#### **Our celebrants: Jesuits and White Fathers**

<b>All Saints Coordinators</b>	<b>Altar Servers</b>	Katharine Doeringer	03328/335725
	<b>Bulletin, Website</b>	Tamás Meggyes, Vanessa Hansen	811 06 33; 0157 78 95 9845
	<b>Eucharistic Ministers</b>	Heide Doblhofer	832 62 72
	<b>Greeters</b>	Anthony Reilly	940 53 619
	<b>Hospitality</b>	Levina Menjares, Lupita Wilhelm	466 09 788, 305 82 45
	<b>Lectors</b>	Johannes Ploog	354 06 724
	<b>Music Director</b>	Johannes Wrembek	341 31 90
	<b>Office, Treasurer</b>	Heide Doblhofer	832 62 72
	<b>Rosary</b>	Eleonora Loebach	500 14 506

**All Saints Council:** Konrad Giersdorf (Co-Chair) \* Vanessa Hansen (Co-Chair) \* Rudolf Hausmann \* Nora Loebach \* 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 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](http://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 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>)

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