

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.

October 20, 2013 Twenty-ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Exodus 17:8-13 • Psalm 121:1-8 • 2 Timothy 3:14—4:2 • Luke 18:1-8

The word of God is not chained (2 Tim 2:9)

Some principles of our faith can change and have changed but others cannot. After being healed, Naaman makes a bizarre request: "two mule-loads of earth" (2 Kings 5:14-17). This request comes from a period in which people thought Yahweh was only the territorial God of Israel. Other gods take over once you leave the Promised Land. Naaman now believes in Yahweh, but is returning to Damascus in Syria. "*How will I offer holocaust or sacrifice to any other god except to Yahweh?*" His solution is to take two mule-loads of dirt from Israel to Damascus. There he will spread it around his property, thus creating a small annex of Israel in Syria and permitting Yahweh to hear and answer the prayers of the former leper. Only a few centuries later, Isaiah is exiled in Babylon and he understands Yahweh's presence beyond the Promised Land's confines. This was a tremendous shift in Jewish theology: God is present everywhere.

On the other hand, another theological aspect of 2 Kings hasn't changed – or shouldn't have changed. Elisha, the prophet, refuses Naaman's gift after the healing. His stubborn refusal springs from a biblical conviction: a payment for performing a holy act would mean that the human agent accomplished the sacred act and not God. Thus the person through whom God worked made it clear that God was at work and not the person. Though this *no-pay-for-sacred-acts belief* has never changed, we Christians have created all sorts of loopholes permitting us to bypass it. Elisha warns us that any linkage between money and the sacred is forbidden.

Luke reminds us of another dimension of faith which never changes: gratitude (Luke 17:11-19). Only the heretical Samaritan returns to thank Jesus for curing his leprosy, the other nine disappear. The second letter to Timothy states that Jesus always remains the same for Christians (2 Timothy 2:8-13). "*If we die with him, we shall live with him; if we persevere, we shall also reign with him.*" Dying and rising with Jesus is at the heart of our faith. During the first centuries Jesus' followers employed only a cross adorned with jewels instead of Jesus' crucified body. The cross represents death; the jewels, life. Those who imitate Jesus' dying and rising become one with Him. Though certain aspects of our faith can't be changed, they can be forgotten, but fortunately not completely. The second letter to Timothy states: "*The word of God is not chained.*" Perhaps some of our church leaders or we should use bolt cutters to unchain God's word.

<http://www.dignityusa.org/breath/october-14-2007-twenty-eighth-sunday-year> **Fr. Wolfgang Felber SJ**

Summer daylight-saving time ends on October 26th.

Remember to move your clock back one hour!

Lord God, watch over those separated from their loved ones, those who are lost and those who have left their home. Bring them back safely to the place where they long to be. Grant this through Christ our Lord.

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

Lector: Anthony Reilly • Eucharistic Ministers: Renée, Celso and Levina Menjares •
Greeter: Anthony Reilly • Hospitality: Rose Oruga • The designated collection is for Catholic schools.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Attendance on October 13th: 95

Collection: Friends €122.80

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

- **Taizé prayer and singing** in the Alte Dorfkirche, Zehlendorf Mitte on Thursday, **October 24th 6:30 pm.**
- The **Altar Server Training** is scheduled for November 2nd. The exact time will be announced later.
- A **Friends of All Saints Association membership meeting** will take place on **November 10th after Mass** in the Community Hall. A list of dues paying members is in the Office. Please check to see that you have paid for 2013. **Please renew your membership if you have not yet done so.**
- All Saints will be celebrating its annual family **Thanksgiving** on **Saturday, November 23** starting at 6 pm. Konrad and Vanessa are organizing the event and ask for help with setup/cleanup, decorating, as well as for people cooking the turkeys. Please sign up after Mass. We expect visitors from the diocese.

Sunday, October 27th, 10 am Mass. Our Celebrant will be Fr. Wolfgang Felber SJ

Lector: Ruby Schmidt • Eucharistic Ministers: Celso and Levina Menjares, Heide Doblhofer • Greeter: Anthony Reilly • Hospitality: Beata McGreal • The designated collection on October 27th is for MISSIO.

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

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	Anthony Reilly	940 53 619
	Hospitality	Levina Menjares, Lupita Wilhelm	466 09 788, 305 82 45
	Lectors	Johannes Ploog	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 (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. Gillissen, 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 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>)