

Serving Berlin's English-speaking Catholic Community since 1957



## **Catholic Community**

### **Member of the English-Speaking Mission**

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Office Hours: Mondays and Thursdays 10-12



**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.

## **November 30, 2014 First Sunday in Advent**

**Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11 • Psalms 85:9-10, 11-14 • 2 Peter 3:8-14 • Mark 1:1-8**

**Welcome to our 10 am Mass at All Saints. Our Celebrant today is Fr. Jun Ocampo SVD**

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

Greeter: Buck Chisolm • Altar server: Conrad Chisolm • Hospitality: Beata McGreal •

Today's designated collection is for Caritas.

### **Why can't we again become what we once were?**

We often hear: "*the Church is not a democracy!*" But in church history, we find something different. Pope Leo the Great in the 5<sup>th</sup> century said: "*The one who governs all must be chosen by all.*" Matthew (15:31-46) has important implications in this respect. When Christianity appeared, people lived in hierarchical societies but Christianity insisted on the equality and dignity of all its members. The first Christian communities were attractive and people often converted to this new religion because of the importance given to each individual when he or she committed themselves to imitating Jesus and became the communities' equal members and part of Jesus' family.

Long before Jesus, the classic Hebrew prophets also criticized cruel and heartless political and religious leaders. The prophet Ezekiel (Ez 34, 11-12, 15-17) promises to their victims: "*I promise to take care of them and keep them safe, to look for those that are lost and bring back the ones that wander off, to bandage those that are hurt and protect the ones that are weak. Because I am a shepherd who does what is right.*" Paul carries God's promise to care for all one step further (1 Cor 15, 20-26, 28). He reminds the Corinthians that whatever happened to the risen Jesus will happen to them. If Jesus died, they will die; if Jesus rose, they will rise. "*For just as in Adam all die so too in Christ shall all be brought to life. But we must each wait our turn. Christ was the first to be raised to life, and his people will be raised to life when he returns.*" The end result is that "*God will be all in all! God will rule completely over all.*" Matthew (Mt 25,31-46) presents us Jesus as someone who is concerned that his followers recognize his presence, especially in those most in need: "*Amen, I say to you, whatever you did for one of these least brothers or sisters of mine, you did for me!*"

We usually have little pity for the "goats" who "go off to eternal punishment" because they refuse to see the risen Jesus in the needy. Our inability to do what Jesus expects of all Christians might be the biggest "need" we Catholics have here and today. "*The first Christian communities were attractive because of the importance given to each individual.*" Why can't we again become what we once were?

cf <https://www.dignityusa.org/breath/novemeber-20-2011-feast-christ-king> (sic!)

**Fr. Wolfgang Felber SJ**



# ANNOUNCEMENTS

Attendance on November 23rd: 83

Collections: Friends €222.79

**Visiting All Saints for the first time?** Please introduce yourself and tell us where you are from at the end of Mass so we can welcome you and join us after Mass for coffee and cake in the Community Hall!

**December 7th, 10 am Mass: Our Celebrant will be Fr. Herbert Gillessen**

Lector: Howard Eyth • Eucharistic Ministers: Beate Hausmann, Renée Menjares •

Greeter: Buck Chisolm • Altar servers: Niels and Josephine Waliszewski •

Hospitality: Beata McGreal • Designated collection on December 7th is for Orphans.

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

## **DECEMBER AT ALL SAINTS**

For all events, please RSVP to Vanessa ([vhansen980@hotmail.com](mailto:vhansen980@hotmail.com)). Events are open to everyone so bring a friend!

**December 3rd - "LIVING ADVENT CALENDAR"** - Join us for some holiday cheer as we host members from St. Otto and Herz Jesu in their daily pilgrimage of Advent caroling. We will have Gluhwein, cocoa, hot dogs and Christmas goodies. Meeting at All Saints at 5.45 pm. Service hour opportunity.

**December 6th - LIFT Interfaith Youth Group HANUKKAH PARTY!** - for ALL AGES. Join us for a showing of the movie Maccabee, play Hanukkah bingo, spin a dreidel, musical games and traditional foods at All Saints from 6.00 pm to 8.30 pm. Please bring finger food to share. Service hour opportunity.

**December 7th - ADVENT CAROLING** at Seniorenpflegeheim Bergstrasse! Help spread the seasonal joy to those in need. Meeting at the residence on Altmarkstr. 27 in Steglitz at 3.30 pm. Service hour opportunity.

**SERVICE HOUR OPPORTUNITY:** For all 3 events, we will need youth (7th grade and older) to assist us. Dec. 3 - 2 service hours, Dec. 6 - 3 service hours and Dec. 7 - 2 service hours.

### **Other Special Events**

- Sunday, December 14th - **Children's Liturgy during Mass**
- Sunday, December 21st - **Children's Liturgy during Mass**
- December 24th - **Children's Mass & Christmas Pageant at 3 pm**
- December 24th - **Midnight Mass starting at 9.30 pm with Christmas carols followed by a 10 pm Mass**

**Christmas Pageant Rehearsals** will take place after Mass - For more information regarding the Christmas Pageant, please contact Katherine at [kctdoeringer@gmail.com](mailto:kctdoeringer@gmail.com)

### **Other Announcements**

- We would like to invite the children and youth to participate in the **Annual Christmas Pageant** on Dec. 24<sup>th</sup> at 3 pm. We will need ushers, altar servers, lectors, singers, musicians & actors! Please contact Katharine ([kctdoeringer@gmail.com](mailto:kctdoeringer@gmail.com)) or Lynn ([brindanyc@aol.com](mailto:brindanyc@aol.com))
- Interested in becoming a **Cross Bearer or Altar Server?** Please fill out one of the green info forms available outside the church office and give it to Katherine or Buck after Mass.
- A **hospitality volunteer** is needed for **December 28th**. If you would like to help out, speak with Buck or Vanessa. We will be organizing our volunteers for the first quarter of next year shortly and would appreciate having you help out.

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!

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