

Serving Berlin's English-speaking Catholic Community since 1957



Catholic Community

Member of the English-Speaking Mission

Interfaith Community Center • Hüttenweg 46 • 14195 Berlin-Dahlem

Phone (030) 86203636 • Fax (030) 86203638

Email: allsaintsberlin@t-online.de / Website: www.all-saints-berlin.de

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.

October 18, 2015 Twenty-ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Readings (*Missalette* p 65 et seq.): Is 53:10-11 • Ps 33:4-5, 18-20, 22 • Heb 4:14-16 • Mk 10:35-45

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

Lector: Eddie McGreal • Eucharistic Ministers: Johannes Ploog, Beate Hausmann, Jenny Gebhardt •

Greeter: Buck Chisolm • Altar Servers: Benji Ademi, Conrad Chisolm •

Hospitality: Marianne Sihotang • Designated collection: Restoration of St. Hedwig's Cathedral

Jesus wanted to take his followers beyond the bare minimum of just getting into heaven

"Jesus of Nazareth came to earth to get us into heaven." Many of us would probably subscribe to that. But if we believe this, we have to deal with today's gospel passage (**Mark 10:17-30**). In it, a man asks Jesus a simple question: "What do I have to do to get into heaven?" Jesus responds just as simply: "Keep the commandments." Then the man answers, "All these I have observed from my youth." Now Jesus could simply have said: "Don't worry! You're going to go to heaven." Jesus seems to presume that good Jews were already getting into heaven without his help because they kept the commandments. But it's clear that Jesus wanted to take his followers beyond this bare minimum of just getting into heaven. The ministry of Jesus did not revolve around getting people into heaven so much as helping people experience the "kingdom of God" long before their physical death. Jesus wanted to make them aware of God working effectively in their everyday lives, which is the one experience the young man in the gospel lacks.

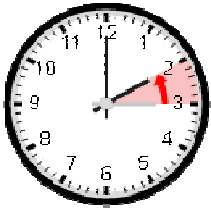
Jesus' goal is to help his followers focus on people and things they had barely noticed before Jesus came into their lives. But the young man in our gospel passage simply can't make people more important than his wealth – he is not open and not ready for a "change of his thinking". So he walks away – "sad". Jesus then uses the example of the camel and of the needle. We know that "camel" is not a correct translation, it should read "a strong thread" or something similar. But the image is clear – it is difficult to pass through the eye of the needle. Then the disciples to ask him: "Then who can be saved?" When they speak of "being saved", they are not referring to getting into heaven. No, the disciples are referring to being saved *right here and now* by entering God's present kingdom. Thankfully, Jesus assures them that God can make the impossible possible. God can help anyone to change and focus on the things and people important to God. Or as Ignatius of Loyola said: "See the world through the eyes of God".

The author of the book of Wisdom is certainly on the same path as Jesus (**Wisdom 7:7-11**). By "wisdom" this author means an ability to find patterns in the way God works in the world – or, with the words of Ignatius: "Discover God in all things". Nothing, not wealth, health, or good looks, should stop the readers of the book of Wisdom from engaging in such a quest. "All good things together came to me in the company of wisdom, and countless riches at her hands" is the last verse of our passage. Poverty with wisdom is much more rewarding than wealth without wisdom.

But nothing sums up Jesus' teaching better than today's passage from the letter to the Hebrews (**Hebrews 4:12-13**). The historical Jesus based his whole ministry on God's word. Jesus exercised no earthly power or authority. He simply delivered God's word. People either accepted or rejected it. Yet the word of God is "... living and effective, sharper than any two-edged sword, penetrating even between soul and spirit, joints and marrow, and able to discern reflections and thoughts of the heart." No matter how you grab hold of the word of God, it cuts you - for better or for worse. If we want to experience God working in our everyday life, Jesus tells us where to focus. But this focus he proposes could demand a complete change in our life's orientation. It is obvious that people who follow Jesus in this way will never be the majority of a community. And it is also obvious that there will be phases when someone is nearer to this ideal and phases when they are farther from it. And yet, everyone wants to get into heaven. But only a few are willing to pay the price of beginning heaven, of beginning the kingdom of God here on earth before they actually enter the so-called "pearly gates of heaven".

cf http://www.fosionline.com/pdf/roger/2012/karban_20121014_20121021.pdf

Fr. Wolfgang Felber SJ



Youth in Action today

**Summer daylight-saving time ends on October 25th.
Remember to move your clock back one hour!**



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!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Attendance on October 11: 133

Collection: Friends: €206.11, Cath. Schools: €41.92

Guided Scripture Study: "Six Weeks with the Bible" (Catholic Perspectives)



The program is offered after Sunday Mass (11:15 – ca. 12:00 h) over 12 sessions until May 2016. The first six sessions are entitled "**God Makes a Start**" and will focus on Genesis 1-11. The second series of six sessions is called "**Getting to Know Jesus**" and will focus on the Gospel of Mark. Grab a coffee and join us in the classroom. John Bibby is the facilitator.

Next scheduled sessions: **Nov 1st, Nov 22nd.**

Join one or more sessions – no need to attend all of them! Contact Jenny at: jgebhar@yahoo.de.

FAMILY MASS & ALL SAINTS FEAST DAY

Sunday, November 1st

Please bring a homemade baked good for hospitality as we celebrate the Solemnity of All Saints!



Youth in Action –today

Please join Fr. Schonecke after Mass from 11.15-11.45 in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel - for teens & preteens. The youth will decide on a community service project.
Put your faith in action through community service!

All Saints would like to wish the pilgrims from our community and from the Berlin area a safe trip and blessed stay in Rome next week.

Looking ahead to November & December

Nov. 1st: Family Mass and All Saints Feast Day
Nov. 8th: Youth in Action with Fr. Schonecke
Nov. 21st: All Saints Thanksgiving Potluck
Nov. 21st & 22nd: Parish Council election
Nov. 27th: Set-up of the Christmas tree
Dec. 6th: Christmas Caroling at Senior Residence

For all those travelling during the upcoming fall break. safe travels!

All Saints Church Council Elections - Call for Candidates!

There are six elected positions on the council. Candidates (16 yrs and older) should submit a brief, one-page (DIN A4) profile with a picture to Mike Hoth or Jenny Gebhardt. Profiles will be published. Deadline: today! Elections will take place on Saturday, Nov 21st (Thanksgiving Potluck) and on Sunday, Nov 22nd.

October 25th, 10 am Mass: Our Celebrant will be Fr. Wolfgang Felber SJ

Lector: Christian Doeringer • Eucharistic Ministers: Beate Hausmann, Heide Doblhofer • Greeter: Buck Chisolm • Altar Servers: N.N., N.N. • Hospitality: Vanessa & Thomas • Designated collection: MISSIO

www.bildungsspender.de/all-saints-berlin

Please **CONTINUE** to support **All Saints Community Life** through our fundraising site at no extra cost. It's easy! Shop at over 1500 online shops through this website & All Saints receives a DONATION for every transaction.

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: GENODE1PAX



Directions 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>)