

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](mailto:allsaintsberlin@t-online.de) / Website: [www.all-saints-berlin.de](http://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.

## **December 20th, 2015 Fourth Sunday of Advent**

**Readings (*Missalette* p 41 et seq.): Mic 5:1-4a • Ps 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19 • Heb 10:5-10 • Lk 1:39-45**

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

Lector: Eddie McGreal • Eucharistic Ministers: Jennifer Evans, Beate Hausmann, Heide Doblhofer •

Greeter: Buck Chisolm • Ushers: Nathan & Conlan McConvey • Altar Server: Benji Ademi, Shvitria Fernando •

Hospitality: Vanessa Hansen, Monique Luegger • Designated collection: All Saints

### **WHAT DO YOU SEEK: ONLY FUN OR REAL JOY?**

GAUDETE -the old Latin name "rejoice" given for the third Sunday of Advent- indicates the theme of today's reading: Joy. "Rejoice, daughter of Zion", sings prophet Zephaniah and St. Paul tells us: "I want you to be happy! For the Lord is near." God wants us to be happy and full of joy. But are we really happy? Just look at the faces in the U-Bahn on a Monday morning. How many people start the week with a smile?

Why do we experience so little joy? Maybe one reason is that we confuse two things: fun and joy. There are two major differences: Fun is momentary; joy is lasting. You had a fun party, but how do you feel the morning after? Gamblers feel a great kick when the slot machine pours a heap of coins into their lap but then they lose it all and go home with a sad heart. Joy is a gift of the Spirit: even when life gets rough, when you are disappointed or get sick, deep down in your heart there remains a sense of serenity and joy. It is like the ocean. The waves of our emotions may go up or down, but the waters below remain undisturbed.

Joy comes from within; fun depends on things and people around us. If I am successful or receive recognition from others I get excited. But the moment someone criticises me, I get depressed. Joy is a state of mind in which I experience myself, the people around me, indeed the whole of creation as a constant personal gift from God. Sometimes fun people just put up a façade. You see a well-known artist dance and sing in ecstasy before thousands of fans and a few weeks later you read that he or she tried to commit suicide. Behind the outer mask of fun and excitement there was a heart without the joy of life.

The society in which we live does not help us discover the source of real joy. We are constantly bombarded by advertisements telling us: buy our product and you will be happy. We buy it, we may even be excited about it for a moment, but in the end the heart remains empty. We enter a vicious circle: short-lived excitement followed by a sense of emptiness, which we desperately try to fill with more things. "Desolation, sadness and anguish come from a complacent and covetous heart and the feverish pursuit of frivolous pleasure", Pope Francis tells.

In his encyclical *Laudato Si* he also gives us hints as to how we can recapture a sense of real joy. He advises us to learn to marvel at the wonders of creation and to be attentive to the small things of daily life as when we were children. It recommends that we be fully present to the person with us now and accept each moment as a precious gift from God. We could start by saying grace before meals and so become aware that our daily bread is God's gift.

Will Christmas be a joyful feast for you? It won't depend on the amount of presents or Christmas cards received or on a wonderful Christmas meal. Joy will dawn when you share simple things with others and take time to reflect on how good God has been to you all along.

**Fr. Wolfgang Schonecke MAfr**

**Merry Christmas!  
Pageant fitting after Mass**



**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 December 13: 128

Collection: Friends: €202.79

### [www.bildungsspender.de/all-saints-berlin](http://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 made! **Consider using Bildungsspender for your Christmas shopping!**

The total amount transferred from Bildungsspender to All Saints for this year was **€1156.40!**

**THANK YOU** for sponsoring a **Christmas gift for one of the refugee children!** Their names and details are on each of the colorful paper ornaments hanging on the Christmas tree. All presents should be brought to the Christmas tree **today**.

**Bulletin editor and Webmaster wanted!** Please contact Tamás after Mass or at 0177/8110633 if you are interested.

We still need a **Hospitality volunteer for December 27<sup>th</sup>!** Please consider volunteering individually, as a family or with a friend! Please see Vanessa.

### CHRISTMAS MASS & PAGEANT Information



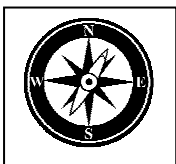
**TODAY** after Mass: Costume fitting

**DECEMBER 23<sup>rd</sup>:** Rehearsal at All Saints:  
2 pm - 4.00 pm.

**DECEMBER 24<sup>th</sup>:** CHRISTMAS MASS & PAGEANT begins  
at 3 pm. Please be at church by 2 pm.

For all those traveling over the Christmas holidays, Merry Christmas and Happy New Year 2017! Have a safe trip and see you in the New Year!

**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: GENODED1PAX**



#### 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>)

### December 24th, 3 pm: Children's Mass and Christmas Pageant: Fr. Wolfgang Felber SJ

Eucharistic Ministers: Jennifer Evans, Jenny Gebhardt, Konrad Giersdorf

Altar Servers: Nisha Wunder, Shvitria Fernando, Isabelle Gneist, Dylan Schmidt

Greeter: Buck Chisolm • Ushers: Aidan Brinda and Josuha Wunder

### December 24th, 9:30 pm: Christmas Carols

### December 24th, 10 pm Midnight Mass: Celebrant Fr. Wolfgang Schonecke MAfr

Lector: Christian Doeringer • Eucharistic Ministers: Johannes Ploog, Heide Doblhofer, Beate Hausmann •

Greeter: Buck Chisolm • Altar Server: Conrad Chisolm • Designated collection: Adveniat

### December 27th, 10 am Mass: Celebrant Fr. Wolfgang Felber SJ

Lector: Jennifer Attah • Eucharistic Ministers: Heide Doblhofer, Johannes Ploog, Jennifer Evans •

Greeter: Buck Chisolm • Altar Server: Conrad Chisolm •

Hospitality: N. N. • Designated collection: All Saints