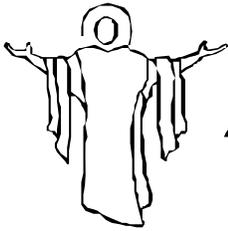


Serving Berlin's English-speaking Catholic Community since 1957



ALL SAINTS



Catholic Community

Member of the English-Speaking Mission

Mass: Fridays at 6 p.m. in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel

Sundays at 10 a.m. in the main Sanctuary

Interfaith Community Center • Hüttenweg 46 • 14195 Berlin-Dahlem

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Facebook: All Saints Catholic Community Berlin

Office Hours: Mondays and Thursdays 10:00-12:00

March 18th 2018 – Fifth Sunday of Lent (V)

Readings (Missal no. 821): Jer 31:31-34 • Ps 51:3-4, 12-13, 14-15 • Heb 5:7-9 • Jn 12:20-33

Welcome to our 10:00 a.m. Mass. Our Celebrant today is Fr. Wolfgang Schonecke, MAfr

Lector: Howard Eyth • Eucharistic Ministers: Thomas Schmidt, Heide Doblhofer, Jennifer Evans •

• Greeter: Buck Chisolm • Altar Servers: NN • Hospitality: Marianne Sihotang •

• Designated collection: MISEREOR •

For Jesus, there is no mandated period of “guilt-removing penance”

(4th Sunday of Lent B, G&P 818)

All our biblical authors are committed to changing the behavior patterns of their readers. But, as any parent can testify, there are different ways to accomplish this. Some parents will constantly point out how bad their children are, reminding them of the consequences of being such evil persons. Other parents will stress their children's basic goodness, pointing out how their occasional bad behavior runs counter to their generous, loving personality. Which method best accomplishes behavior modification?

In today's readings we find the two methods.

Our author of II Chronicles (36:14-23) sides with the first method: following classic Deuteronomistic theology, he points out how bad the Israelites are. And he reminds them of the consequences of being such an evil people, why the horrible 50-year Babylonian Exile happened, and he continues by describing how Israel was after the punishment done by Yahweh: 70 years of penance for the people of Israel. Only after this time of penance would Yahweh repent and move Cyrus to permit the Chosen People to return to the Promised Land.

According to this view of “God/human relations”, when people change their behavior toward God, God changes God's behavior toward them. You might call this a *Theology of guilt*. It is against this theology of guilt (in the First Testament) that we must understand the reform Jesus of Nazareth preached. Both today's Gospel (John 3:13-21) and the letters of St. Paul present us with a guiltless faith.

Paul states his belief in our passage from the letter to the community in Ephesus (2:4-10) in a few words: “*You were saved by faith in God, who treats us much better than we deserve. This is God's gift to you, and not anything you have done on your own. It isn't something you have earned, so there is nothing you can brag about.*”

Paul who had been brought up in the Jewish religion was amazed that Jesus preached grace - a free gift of life which kicked in even before people completed the “penance” imposed on them to remove their guilt. For Jesus, there is no mandated period of “guilt-removing penance”; there's simply an invitation to people still stuck in their guilt to do a 180 degree turn and accept the life God constantly offers. No matter who we think we are, or how guilty we judge ourselves, God's love never changes. God always sees our basic, loving goodness, no matter how blind we are to it.

Look at the Jesus-Nicodemus encounter: “*The Son of Man (must) be lifted up, so that everyone who believes in him may have eternal life.... For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him.*” For John, faith is not very complicated: we are only expected to accept “the light” God sends into our dark, guilt-filled world.

Many of us are raised and trained and acquainted with **Catechism spirituality**: we may find it “unchristian” to accept it when Paul says: “*You were saved by faith in God, who treats us much better than we deserve.*” **Christian biblical spirituality** stresses the basic goodness of the children of God, it points out how our occasional bad behavior runs counter to our generous, loving personality. This is something we can reflect upon during the Lenten season.

cf. <http://livingbeatitudes.blogspot.de/2009/03/>

Don't forget – on Palm Sunday (March 25th) we will begin the service in the Community Hall with the Blessing of the Palms and then form our procession to enter the church.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

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!

Attendance: March 11th: 82

Collection: All Saints: €394.38

Easter Triduum



The English-speaking Mission celebrates the Triduum as one large community, with All Saints, St. Bernard's, and St. Elisabeth's each hosting one of the liturgies.

Holy Thursday (29.03) - Mass of the Lord's Supper - St. Bernard's Church, 7 p.m. The faithful are invited to stay for a period of quiet adoration after the transfer of the Blessed Sacrament.

Good Friday (30.03) - Celebration of the Lord's Passion - All Saints Church - with distribution of Holy Communion, at 3 p.m., preceded by the Stations of the Cross at 2 p.m. Opportunity for individual confessions.

Holy Saturday (31.03) - Easter Vigil Mass - St. Elisabeth's Church, 9 p.m.

Easter Sunday (01.04) - Masses will be celebrated according to the usual Sunday schedule in each community.



Pray the Stations of the Cross on March 30th 2 p.m. at All Saints

The Stations of the Cross are a 14-step Catholic devotion that commemorates Jesus Christ's last day on Earth as a man.

The 14 devotions focus on specific events of His last day, beginning with His condemnation. The stations are commonly used as a mini pilgrimage as the individual moves from station to station. At each station, the individual recalls and meditates on a specific event from Christ's last day. Specific prayers are recited, then the individual moves to the next station until all 14 are complete.



ITS COMING - Daylight Savings Time begins on **March 25, 2018.**

Mark your calendar:

- March 21st - **Boy's Confirmation Class** meets at 6 p.m. at Family Chisolm's house.
- March 29th - **Setup for Good Friday** at 3 p.m. in the main church. Volunteers sought.
- March 30th - **Good Friday Liturgy** – 3 p.m. in the main church.
- April 1st - **Annual Easter Egg Hunt** following Easter Mass.
- April 11th – **Children's Liturgy of the Word** during Mass.
- April 15th - **Confirmation Mass** at 11 a.m. at St. Bernard's
- April 21st – **All Saints Youth/Family Event – Movie night.** 6:00 p.m. featuring *The Sandlot* please: RSVP vhansen980@hotmail.com
- April 22nd – **Children's Liturgy of the Word** during Mass.
- May 5th - **Spring Family Bazaar** from 8 a.m. until about 3 p.m. This is one of two annual fund-raising events for All Saints. Volunteers sought to help with this event. Please speak with Heide Doblhofer.
- May 5th – **All Saints Youth/Family Event** - Details to be announced.
- May 13th - **Spring All Saints Family BBQ** in the Fellowship Hall and Garden after Mass
- May 21st - **First Holy Communion Mass** at 11 a.m. at St. Bernard's
- June 9th – **All Saints Youth/Family Event** - Details to be announced.
- June 30th - **English Speaking Mission Day** – at St. Bernard's (Königin-Luise-Straße 33, 14195 Berlin) from 6:00 p.m. Please watch the bulletin and our website for additional information coming soon.

✓ Check for the latest "News" at the **All Saints website** (<http://www.all-saints-berlin.de/home.shtml>) or visit All Saints on Facebook: **All Saints Catholic Community Berlin**

March 25th, 10:00 a.m.: Mass: Celebrant Fr. Wolfgang Felber, SJ

Lectors: Helga Beck, Christine Tombarge • Eucharistic Ministers: Heide Doblhofer, Jennifer Evans, John Massey • Greeter: Buck Chisolm • Altar Servers: NN • Hospitality: Trinh Scott • Designated collection: Holy Land

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: GENODE33PAX