

Serving Berlin's English-speaking Catholic Community since 1957



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

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Facebook: All Saints Catholic Community Berlin

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

April 8th, 2018 – Sunday of Divine Mercy

Readings (Missal no. 828): Acts 4:32-35 • Ps 118:2-4, 13-15, 22-24 • Jn 5:1-6 • Jn 20:19-31

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

Lector: Jennifer Evans • Eucharistic Ministers: John & Glenda Massey, Johannes Ploog •

Greeter: Andreas Urechia • Altar Servers: Timothy Pedussel, Buck Chisolm • Hospitality: Beata McGreal •

Designated collection: All Saints

Homily on Easter Sunday 2018

On this Easter morning we have gathered to declare with joy, Christ is risen! Alleluia! The catechism of the Catholic Church says: The resurrection of Jesus is the crowning truth of our faith in Christ, a faith believed and lived as the central truth by the first Christian community: handed on as fundamental by tradition; established by the documents of the New Testament and preached as essential part of the Paschal mystery along with the cross: Christ is risen from the dead! Dying, he conquered death; to the dead, he has given life. (CCC. 489).

The mystery of Christ's resurrection is a real event, with manifestations that were historically verified.

One of those manifestations is the **Empty tomb**. In our Gospel reading this morning (John 20:1-9) Mary of Magdala saw his grave empty. The absence of Christ's body from the tomb may not be a direct proof of resurrection nonetheless it is an essential sign for all. Its discovery was the first step toward recognizing the very fact of the resurrection. There are many other manifestations which we will be hearing in the readings within the Eastertide.

To understand the full meaning of the resurrection we need to look back to the Old Testament. In fact, everything in the old covenant was but a pictorial prefiguring of what God was going to do in the resurrection of His son, Jesus.

The resurrection is a re-cast of the Genesis account of creation "coming into being". In the words of St. Paul, it is the resurrection of the last Adam (1 Cor. 15:45). Here God breathed his life-giving Spirit into man again (Gen.2:7). Mankind is recreated in spiritual regeneration, becoming a new creature (2 Cor. 5:11; Gal. 6:15).

Resurrection recaptures the Exodus story -- bringing mankind out of the land of slavery into the Promised Land. Mankind held in the bondage of sin and death is brought back to life in freedom and holiness. Christ's coming out of the grave corresponds to Moses and his people coming out of Egypt, wherein the resurrection becomes the liberating exodus of salvation history. The reading of the Exodus story is one of the principal readings at Easter Vigil's liturgy.

The resurrection restructures the Torah. With the resurrection the external codification of the Law becomes an internal dynamic of life -- the law written in the heart. This is foreshadowed in Jeremiah's prophesy. (Jer. 31:31-34)

In the New Testament, the resurrection of the Lord is the central story and the climax of all the Gospel narratives. Christianity is not a message of merely what has been (past) and will be (future), it is the message of what *is*, the vital dynamic of the risen Lord in our midst. It is the restoration of humanity whereby God functions once again in human history. It is the focal point of all human history. It is the transforming reality in light of which everything else must be interpreted. All meaningful human existence must be interpreted by this earth-shattering, death-defeating reality of Jesus' resurrection. He has risen as he promised and he lives in our midst. His presence, symbolized with the Paschal candle radiates in the world. We look up to his light to guide us. With his resurrection we are made "a new creation", because we died with him we have resurrected with him. This very fact is based on our baptism. That means you and I are "re-created beings" in Christ. We are the new creation. The old has passed away. Alleluia!

Fr. Sylvester Ajunwa

The April newsletter is available on the bookcase outside the office.



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: April 1st: 146

Collection: All Saints: €515.02



Youth and Family Night is April 21st, starting at 6:00 p.m. and featuring the movie The Sand Lot

To celebrate the season opener of American Little League Baseball Berlin we are showing the movie **The Sandlot**.

Price of admission is €1 per person. This will help to offset the cost of hotdogs, popcorn and soft drinks.

We ask that movie attendees help us straighten up the Fellowship Hall when we finish.

Families are welcome and we should be done by 8:00 p.m. Invite your friends!

Oh, we have a new speaker system. Very loud!

Please RSVP with Vanessa (vhansen980@hotmail.com) so we know how much food to prepare.

Child Protection Training in English

A course is being offered at St Bernard's on 16 June (10:30 to 17:00) for members of the ESM who may wish to teach or be a substitute teacher for our Youth Religious Ministry (FHC, CLOW & Confirmation). Seating is limited to 25 so if you would like to attend please email b.chisolm@gmx.de and we will reserve a seat for you.

Mark your calendar:

- 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 Sand Lot**. 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 6th – **Children's Liturgy of the Word** during Mass.
- May 13th - **Spring All Saints Family BBQ** in the Fellowship Hall and Garden after Mass.
- May 27th - **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 us on Facebook: **All Saints Catholic Community Berlin**



Altar Server Volunteers

Spring registration has begun for new Altar Servers. Whether you are brand new or coming from a parish where you were an experienced server please join our group.

Interested? Fill out a volunteer form (in the information rack outside the office) and drop it in our mailbox or give it to someone in the office. The date of training will be announced shortly.

April 15th, 10:00 a.m.: Mass: Celebrant Fr. Wolfgang Felber, SJ

Lector: Tom FitzPatrick • Eucharistic Ministers: Glenda Massey, Johannes Ploog, Beate Hausmann • Greeter: Andreas Urechia • Altar Servers: NN • Hospitality: Marianne Sihotang • Designated collection: Catholic Daycare Equipment

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