

Serving Berlin's English-speaking Catholic Community since 1957



Catholic Community

Member of the English-Speaking Mission

Youth Mass: **1st Friday** at 6 p.m. in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel

Sundays at 10 a.m. in the main Sanctuary

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

April 14th, 2019 – Palm Sunday of the passion of the Lord

Readings (Missal no. 823): Isa 50:4-7 • Ps 22:8-9, 17-18, 19-20, 23-24 • Phil 2:6-11 • Lk 22:14-23, 56

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

- Lector: Rachael Ruckeis, Matthias Waliszewski • Eucharistic Ministers: Thomas Schmidt, Heide Doblhofer, Jennifer Evans • Greeter: Anthony Kwasi Sessi • Altar Servers: Konrad Giersdorf, Timothy Pedussel •
- Hospitality: Jackie Anders • Designated collection: Collection for the Holy Land •

Reflections on the The Fifth Sunday of Lent

Our first reading today from the prophet Isaiah told the people that their past deeds were no longer called to mind by God or held against them. He will feed the people and give them water and they will sing his praises. The Lord had redeemed them and now all they have to do is to accept that redemption. The text has echoes of the Exodus journey. The Psalm is a reminder that the Lord has delivered his people from their bondage and redeemed them, and that even the heathens acknowledged this.

In the second reading St Paul tells the Philippians that perfection can be attained in this life if they are conformed to the life of Jesus Christ and are transformed in him. He speaks about knowing Jesus Christ but in this he doesn't just mean knowing stories about the life of Jesus, but knowing him in such a way that they take on his life as their own and share in that life. All that they have only has meaning in the context of the life of Jesus Christ. At the end of the passage Paul likens the life of the Christian to a race in which God will call the victors – those who have converted their way of life and have made an honest effort to live sinless lives – to enter the Kingdom of heaven which is the great prize and which lies in store for the faithful.

In our gospel text we see the scribes and Pharisees bringing a woman to Jesus who had been caught in adultery. Under Jewish Law the penalty for a married woman caught in adultery was death by stoning and the first to throw a stone were those who had witnessed the sin. However, under Roman rule such punishments could not be carried out and so the encounter is also a test of Jesus and whether he would opt for Jewish Law or Roman rule. Jesus turns the encounter into a teaching on sin and repentance and doesn't question whether or not the woman sinned. Instead, he says that only those who have sinned themselves can punish her, and slowly the men walk away because in their hearts they know that they have each sinned in some way. The Lord sends the woman away with the exhortation not to sin again. The passage is a reminder that we all sin and that none of us can stand in judgement on the actions of others but must help others to reform their lives which we do by practicing forgiveness just as the Lord did with the woman who was brought to him. The Kingdom belongs to God and it is he who decides who is worthy of it and he knows each of us better than we know our neighbor or ourselves. While we should give witness to our faith so as to lead others to God, we should have greater care for the salvation of our own souls and rooting out sin from our own lives than condemning others. Fulfilling the Law is important because it helps us along the path to freedom but it is useless if it is not backed up and grounded in a deep-rooted faith in God. Without faith, adherence to the Law is nothing but a hollow gesture and will not bring us true freedom promised by the Lord.

<http://www.carmelites.ie/readingsreflect.html>

Join the Easter Egg Hunt next Sunday – Sponsored by the Girl Scouts

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 on April 7th: 82

Collection: All Saints: €541.49 MISEREOR €50.00



Pray the Stations of the Cross on April 19th 2 p.m. at All Saints

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

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.



Hello High School All Sainter's – did you know that Justine Pedussel and Tom FitzPatrick are spear-heading a new Youth Group?

Why not join them and the other youth members at their next meeting?

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 (18.04) - *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 (19.04) - *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 (20.04) - *Easter Vigil Mass* - St. Elisabeth's Church, 9 p.m.

Easter Sunday (21.04) - Masses will be celebrated according to the usual Sunday schedule in each community.

Would you like to become more involved in our community activities?

From helping to host hospitality to teaching our young people; helping hands are always welcome!

Ask in the office or ask any member of the ASC and they will connect you with the head of the ministry that you are have an interest in. Thanks.



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. We have training planned for May 6th. Interested? Fill out a volunteer form (in the info rack outside the office) and drop it in our mailbox or give it to someone in the office.

Easter Sunday April 21st 10 am Mass at All Saints. Our Celebrant today is Fr. Wolfgang Felber, SJ

- Lector: Tom and Brendan Fitzpatrick • Eucharistic Ministers: Heide Doblhofer, Jennifer Evans, Johannes Ploog • Greeter: Anthony Kwasi Sessi • Altar Servers: Konrad Giersdorf, Oshin Michael • Hospitality: NN • Designated collection: All Saints •

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