

Serving Berlin's English-speaking Catholic Community since 1957



## *Catholic Community*

Member of the English-Speaking Mission

Youth Mass: 1<sup>st</sup> Friday 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

## October 6<sup>th</sup>, 2019, Twenty- Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

Readings (Missal no. 933) Hab 1:2-3; 2:2-4 • Ps 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9 • 2Tim 1:6-8, 13-14 • Luke 17:5-10

**Welcome to our 10:00 am Mass at All Saints. Our Celebrant today is Fr. Sylvester Ajunwa**

• Lector: Rachel Ruckeis • Eucharistic Ministers: Jennifer Evans, Johannes Ploog, Beate Hausmann •  
Greeter: NN • Altar Servers: Konrad Giersdorf, Oshin Michael •  
Hospitality: NN • Designated collection: All Saints

### ***Does Lazarus have less value than a dog? – God is concerned (G&P 930)***

Isn't today's gospel (Luke 16 19-31) frightening? The description of the afterlife is quite comfortable for Lazarus, but it is horrible for the other one, the rich person. We may not be among the very rich, but nevertheless we may fear that we might endure the same fate as the rich person in the gospel. Fear... - fear never brings freedom. Fear does not really incite us to change our lives.

Did Jesus really want to inspire fear by talking about the otherworldly reward or the otherworldly punishment? Was *talking about the afterlife* his objective? I do not think so: Jesus has the human being in mind, not a theory about the afterlife.

The first who comes to our mind is Lazarus. He has a name. The name means "God helps". His everyday life is ruled by illness and need and misery and hunger. He cannot even reach the "*the scraps that fell from the rich man's table*".

The rich person has no name. He does not even act in a malicious manner – he just does not notice Lazarus and his needs. The rich man is focused on his comfortable life. He has no eye and no ear to what happens around him. He has no eye and no ear for the human beings in his neighborhood.

And this is the point where Jesus starts his story: Lazarus **has** a name: "God helps", and God **is** concerned with Lazarus. With Lazarus who lies in front of the door, whose body is covered with sores, and who has less value than a dog. God is concerned with exactly this Lazarus, this "underdog".

And this is the message of today's gospel for me: **Do** see Lazarus! **Do** see him in spite of all our activities and business! **Do** see him in spite of all our prejudices, in spite of all our limitations! Our limitations show us that we cannot help every person who needs our help. But let us see them and not forget them in spite of our festivities and parties – festivities and parties are OK; they are not bad. Let us see the needs of others in spite of our love of life, our lust for life.

Let us become attentive – other persons need our attentiveness; maybe we ourselves need their attentiveness for ourselves, and we need to be attentive to our own needs. As Christians we have the possibility and invitation to be open for changes, we have the possibility to practice a helping community. A helping community believes that our attentiveness gives change a chance. Then we do experience God as the one who sees us with loving attentiveness just like he sees Lazarus.

**Fr. Wolfgang Felber, SJ**

# 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 September 29<sup>th</sup>: **68**

Collection: All Saints: **€100.77**



## All Saints Church Council Elections - Call for Candidates!

There is one open seat on the All Saints Council. We are in need of a volunteer to join the council for our monthly meeting and help to guide our activities at All Saints.

Interested then please see Buck Chisolm or Konrad Giersdorf.

## Special Halloween Hospitality

After Mass on October 27<sup>th</sup> we will have a special Hallows Eve Hospitality with suitable beverages and ghoulish treats!



Young children are welcome to knock on the door to the room full of ghosts, goblins and zombies and say "trick or treat" to win a sweet.

**But, only knock on the door if you are really brave!**

**Clip out and put on your fridge or family board!**

## **Mark your calendars:**

- November 3<sup>rd</sup> – **All Saints Council** meets after Mass
- November 23<sup>rd</sup> – **Thanksgiving Dinner** in the Fellowship Hall from 6 p.m. onward.
- November 29<sup>th</sup> – **Christmas Tree arrives.** Tree set up / decorated and church decorated with ivy beginning at 5:00 p.m.
- December 21<sup>st</sup> – **Annual Christmas Caroling** at Elder Folks Home starting at 3:00 p.m.
- Rehearsals for the **Children's Christmas Pageant** will be announced soon.



**Join the Choir...**  
**You'll Be Glad  
You Did!**

We are seeking several new volunteers to join our choir. If you feel the calling, please speak with Johannes Wrembek



## Did you know that All Saints is run entirely by volunteers?

**We pride ourselves that we are a self-supporting parish, but, new-helping hands are always appreciated! Please consider joining one of the volunteer groups that make the community work.**

Would you like to help with the offering and acting as an usher during Mass? Are you 16 years or older and think being a Lector is your cup of tea? Altar Servers are always welcomed! The choir is always looking for more members too! Finally, hosting the hospitality hour is a great way for your family to contribute together!

If you are interested, you can fill in a form located outside the office. We will be in touch to give you additional details and help you join in our volunteer efforts.

## **October 13<sup>th</sup>, 10 am Mass at All Saints. Our Celebrant today is Fr. Wolfgang Felber, SJ**

- Lector: Johannes Ploog • Eucharistic Ministers: Johannes Ploog, Beate Hausmann, Thomas Schmidt • Greeter: NN • Altar Servers: Konrad Giersdorf, Oshin Michael • Hospitality: NN • Designated collection: Renovation of St. Hedwig's Cathedral •

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