

**Quotations from the Homily of
Pope Benedict XVI in the Olympic
Stadium, Berlin**

Thursday, 22 September 2011

“In the parable of the vine, Jesus does not say: “You are the vine”, but: “I am the vine, you are the branches” (John 15:5). In other words: “As the branches are joined to the vine, so you belong to me! But inasmuch as you belong to me, you also belong to one another.”

This belonging to each other and to him is not some ideal, imaginary, symbolic relationship, but – I would almost want to say – a biological, life-transmitting state of belonging to Jesus Christ. Such is the Church, this communion of life with Jesus Christ and for one another, a communion that is rooted in baptism and is deepened and given more vitality in the Eucharist.

...Many people see only the outward form of the Church. This makes the Church appear as merely one of the many organizations within a democratic society, whose criteria and laws are then applied to the task of evaluating and dealing with such a complex entity as the “Church”.

If to this is added the sad experience that the Church contains both good and bad fish, wheat and darnel, and if only these negative aspects are taken into account, then the great and beautiful mystery of the Church is no longer seen.”

God’s most beautiful gift

“The Church, as the herald of God’s word and dispenser of the sacraments, joins us to Christ, the true vine. The Church as “fullness and completion of the Redeemer”, as Pius XII expressed it /.../ is to us a pledge of divine life and mediator of those fruits of which the parable of the vine speaks. Thus the Church is God’s most beautiful gift.

Therefore Saint Augustine could say: “as much as any man loves the Church, so much has he the Holy Spirit.””

(Pope Benedict XVI in Berlin)

First Holy Communion

**Preparation begins on
Sunday, 23 October 2011 at 10 a.m.
here at St Bernhard’s. Children should be at least seven years of age (2nd graders).**

Our programme requires the cooperation of the parents!



**English-speaking
Roman Catholic Mission
Archdiocese of Berlin**

Johann-Georg-Str. 8

10709 Berlin

Tel.: 813 20 26

Fax: 813 20 47

E-mail: alsda46@aol.com

www.English-Mission-Berlin.de

Pax-Bank Acc. No. 6000 843014

Bank ID number: 370 60193

Mission Priest:

Father Herbert Gillesen

Tel.: (030) 83 20 24 88

Assistant Priest:

Father Clemens Pfaff, M.Afr.

Tel.: 74 00 19 05

Secretary:

Sibylle Reed-Robie

Tel.: 813 20 26

Office hours: Monday through

Thursday 9 to 1 p.m.

**October / November
2011**

WORD OF THE PRIEST

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Before Pope Benedict XVI came to Germany he addressed his fellow countrymen by television on Saturday, 17 September 2011. At the end he turned to those who are not convinced that there is a God, or if he exists, that he cares about us.

In simple language he tried to answer these doubts. First he referred to the grandeur and rationality of the cosmos: "We can use the world through technology because it is made in a rational manner. In the great rationality of the world we can intuit the creator spirit from which it comes..."

A second argument in favour of God's existence is divine Revelation: "In the Word of sacred Scriptures we can hear the words of eternal life that do not come merely from men, but that come from him, and in them we hear his voice."

The third argument is the testimony of the saints: "We glimpse God too in encounters with persons who are touched by him. I am not thinking only of the great ones: from Paul to Francis of Assisi to Mother Teresa; but I am thinking of the many simple people of whom no one speaks. And yet, when we meet them, there emanates something of goodness, sincerity, joy, and we know that God is there and that he touches us too."

Finally the Pope invites his listeners to be "persons through whom the light of hope might enter the world, a light that comes from God and helps us to live."

May Jesus help us radiate his light and his love in the twilight of this world.

Father Herbert Gillessen

Liturgy October / November 2011

All Saints / St Bernhard's / St Albert's

OCTOBER

| | | | | |
|-----------|--|---------|---------|---------|
| 2 | 27th Sunday in Ordinary Time | 10 a.m. | 11 a.m. | 12 noon |
| 9 | 28th Sunday in Ordinary Time | 10 a.m. | 11 a.m. | 12 noon |
| 16 | 29th Sunday in Ordinary Time | 10 a.m. | 11 a.m. | 12 noon |
| 23 | 30th Sunday in Ordinary Time | 10 a.m. | 11 a.m. | 12 noon |
| 30 | 31st Sunday in Ordinary Time | 10 a.m. | 11 a.m. | 12 noon |

NOVEMBER

| | | | | |
|-----------|--|---------|---------|---------|
| 6 | 32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time | 10 a.m. | 11 a.m. | 12 noon |
| 13 | 33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time | 10 a.m. | 11 a.m. | 12 noon |
| 20 | Our Lord Jesus Christ the King | 10 a.m. | 11 a.m. | 12 noon |
| 27 | First Sunday of Advent | 10 a.m. | 11 a.m. | 12 noon |

Collections:

| | |
|----------------|-------------------------------|
| 2/9/16/30 Oct. | Our Mission |
| 23 Oct | World Mission Sunday (MISSIO) |
| 13/27 Nov | Our Mission |
| 6 Nov | Caritas |
| 20 Nov | Diaspora |

Information for the Mission in General

Our Mission offers pastoral care, religious education (children and adults: First Holy Communion, Confirmation), Baptisms and Weddings. Hospital and home visits can be arranged through the priest.

The priest is also available for the Sacrament of Reconciliation after Mass and by appointment. For Weddings, please contact Father Gillessen 3 months in advance.

English-speaking Roman Catholic Mission

at St Bernhard's
Königin-Luise-Str. 33
14195 Berlin (Dahlem)
(U3 Dahlem-Dorf,
Bus X83, X11)

at St Albert's the Great
Nestorstr. 10
10709 Berlin-Charlottenburg
(U-Bahnhof Adenauerplatz,
S-Bahnhof Halensee) M19, M29
Lehliner Platz

at All Saints
Hüttenweg 46
14195 Berlin
Bus 285, 115

at Heilig Geist (Filipino Community)
Bayernallee 28
14052 Berlin-Charlottenburg
(S-Bhf.Heerstr./U-Bhf. Neu-Westend)
Mass on Sundays at 3.30 p.m.

at St Michael's (Ghana Community)
Waldemarstr. 8-10
10999 Berlin
U-Bhf. Moritzplatz
Sunday at 1 p.m.