

Areas of cooperation and witness between Jews and Christians

The “Ten Commandments” require that we recognize the one Lord against the temptation to construct other idols, to make golden calves. In our world there are many who do not know God or who consider him superfluous, without relevance for their lives; hence other new gods have been fabricated to whom man bows down. Reawakening in our society openness to the transcendent dimension, witnessing to the one God, is a precious service which Jews and Christians can and must offer together.

The “Ten Commandments” call us to respect life and to protect it against every injustice and abuse, recognizing the worth of each human person, created in the image and likeness of God. How often, in every part of the world, near and far, are the dignity, the freedom and the rights of human beings trampled upon! Bearing witness together to the supreme value of life against all selfishness is an important contribution to a new world, where

justice and peace reign, a world marked by that “Shalom” which the lawgivers, the prophets and the sages of Israel longed to see.

The “Ten Commandments” call us to preserve and to promote the sanctity of the family, in which the personal and reciprocal, faithful and definitive “Yes” of man and woman makes room for the future, for the authentic humanity of each, and makes them open, at the same time, to the gift of new life. To witness that the family continues to be the essential cell of society and the basic environment in which human virtues are learned and practiced is a precious service offered in the construction of a world with a more human face.

*(Pope Benedict XVI, Synagogue of Rome,
17 January 2010)*

Collections:

7/14 March	Our Mission
21 March	MISEREOR
28 March	Holy Land Collection
2/4/5/18 April	Our Mission
11 April	DIASPORA
25 April	Catholic Daycare Centers



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March/April 2010

Word of the Priest

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

“The singular and deeply disturbing drama of the Shoah represents, as it were, the most extreme point on the path of hatred that begins when man forgets his Creator and places himself at the center of the universe. As I noted during my visit of 28 May 2006 to the Auschwitz Concentration camp, which is still profoundly impressed upon my memory, “the rulers of the Third Reich wanted to crush the entire Jewish people”, and, essentially, “by wiping out this people, they intended to kill the God who called Abraham, who spoke on Sinai and laid down principles to serve as a guide for mankind, principles that remain eternally valid.””

These are words of Pope Benedict XVI during his visit to the Synagogue of Rome on Sunday, 17 January 2010. So it was not just their Jewish contemporaries whom the Nazis wanted to eliminate, but also their God – who is also the God of the Christians. This God is transcendent, infinite, eternal – and yet he intervened in the history of mankind by calling Abraham to serve him. This God has revealed himself to Moses and asked him to liberate the chosen people out of slavery. This God has given us the Ten Commandments, which teach us the true humanity of man. What a marvelous common ethical heritage Jews and Christians possess!

Of course, there are still major religious differences between us, mainly concerning the person of Jesus, whom we acknowledge as Messiah and Son of the living God. But the Catholic Church respects the Jews as our “elder brothers” and on Good Friday prays for them:

“Almighty and eternal God,
long ago you gave your promise to
Abraham and his posterity.
Listen to your Church as we pray
that the people you first made your own
may arrive at the fullness of redemption.”

Father Herbert Gillessen

Liturgy March / April 2010

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

MARCH

- | | | | | |
|-----------|---|---------|------------|---------|
| 7 | Third Sunday of Lent | 10 a.m. | 11 a.m. | 12 noon |
| 14 | Fourth Sunday of Lent (Laetare Sunday) | 10 a.m. | 11 a.m. | 12 noon |
| 21 | Fifth Sunday of Lent | 10 a.m. | 11 a.m. | 12 noon |
| 28 | Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion
(Procession of Palms) | 10 a.m. | 10:45 a.m. | 12 noon |

APRIL

- | | | | | |
|-----------|---|---------|---------|---------|
| 1 | Holy Thursday: Mass of the Lord's Supper | --- | 8 p.m. | --- |
| 2 | Good Friday of the Lord's Passion | 3 p.m. | --- | --- |
| 3 | Easter Vigil | --- | --- | 8 p.m. |
| 4 | Easter Sunday: The Resurrection of the Lord | 10 a.m. | 11 a.m. | 12 noon |
| 5 | Easter Monday | --- | 11 a.m. | --- |
| 11 | Second Sunday of Easter: Divine Mercy Sunday | 10 a.m. | 11 a.m. | 12 noon |
| 18 | Third Sunday of Easter | 10 a.m. | 11 a.m. | 12 noon |
| 25 | Fourth Sunday of Easter | 10 a.m. | 11 a.m. | 12 noon |

Information for the Mission in General

Our Mission offers pastoral care, religious education (children and adults: First Holy Communion, Confirmation). Baptisms, 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 (Rector)

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Bus X83, X11)

at St Albert the Great

Nestorstr. 10
14052 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

Ghana Community
Waldemarstr. 8-10
10999 Berlin
U-Bhf Moritzplatz
Sunday at 1 p.m.