

First Holy Communion

Preparation begins on

Sunday, 11 October 2009 at 10 a.m.
here at St Bernhard. Children should be
at least seven years of age (2nd graders).

Our programme requires the
cooperation of the parents!

The first parents meeting will take place
on **Monday, 5 October at 7 p.m.** at
St Bernhard.

On Wednesday, 11 November at 4:30
p.m. we will celebrate the feast of
St Martin with our traditional lantern
walk. Everybody is invited.

'St Martin of Tours' (317 – 397)

“St Martin came from a military family and obediently followed his father into the emperor’s legions, patrolling the frontiers. But when war broke out, St Martin saw, young as he was, that it was a war of aggression, an unjust war, and he resigned his commission.

He volunteered to walk in the vanguard carrying a cross, to be killed if need be, but he himself would not kill. The world was baffled by his behavior and still is: this episode is rarely portrayed. But we can all understand the story here. St Martin meets a naked beggar. He gives him all he can, which is half his uniform cloak.

That night, Christ appeared to him, wearing the half-cloak, saying, “My friend Martin gave me this.” St Martin was still a pagan at the time, but this incident led to

his conversion and his dramatic refusal of worldly values. We are shown here (see picture by El Greco) not the actual cutting of the cloak, but Martin’s moment of decision. It seemed a smallish thing, to be improperly dressed as an officer for the sake of charity, but it changed his life.”
(Sister Wendy’s Book of Saints)



English-speaking Roman Catholic Mission Archdiocese of Berlin

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Office hours: Monday through
Thursday 9 to 1 p.m.

***October / November
2009***

WORD OF THE PRIEST

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

“Openness to life is at the center of true development. When a society moves towards the denial or suppression of life, it ends up no longer finding the necessary motivation and energy to strive for man’s true good. If personal and social sensitivity towards the acceptance of a new life is lost, then other forms of acceptance that are valuable for society also wither away. The acceptance of life strengthens moral fibre and makes people capable of mutual help...”

These are words of Pope Benedict XVI in his new Encyclical Letter “Caritas in Veritate”. He discerns a certain anti-birth mentality in economically developed countries. Contraception is promoted in many places. Abortion is widely practiced and deprives a nation of many children. There is growing pressure from lobby groups in several countries in favour of the juridical recognition of euthanasia.

On the other hand there is the “pro-life” movement. There are couples, doctors, (even Sisters of Mother Teresa) who teach “Natural Family Planning”. There are people who dissuade mothers from aborting their children by showing them alternatives (giving children up for adoption). There are doctors, nurses and relatives who offer loving care to the dying in homes, hospitals and hospices.

Mother Teresa used to meditate on the mystery of the Visitation: Mary’s visit to Elisabeth. Two mothers of unborn children meet. Little John greets little Jesus, both “in utero” (in the womb). What a marvelous manifestation of the dignity of unborn human life!

Christians are encouraged to pray the Rosary in the month of October. Let us associate the Mystery of the Visitation with our respect for human life from the moment of conception.

Father Herbert Gilllessen

Liturgy October / November 2009

All Saints / St Bernhard’s / St Albert’s

OCTOBER

4	27th Sunday in Ordinary Time	10 a.m.	11 a.m.	12 noon
11	28th Sunday in Ordinary Time	10 a.m.	11 a.m.	12 noon
18	29th Sunday in Ordinary Time	10 a.m.	11 a.m.	12 noon
25	30th Sunday in Ordinary Time	10 a.m.	11 a.m.	12 noon

NOVEMBER

1	All Saints	10 a.m.	11 a.m.	12 noon
2	All Souls	---	7:00 p.m.	---
8	32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time	10 a.m.	11 a.m.	12 noon
15	33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time	10 a.m.	11 a.m.	12 noon
22	Our Lord Jesus Christ the King	10 a.m.	11 a.m.	12 noon
29	First Sunday of Advent	10 a.m.	11 a.m.	12 noon

Collections:

4/18 Oct	Our Mission
11 Oct	Catholic Schools
25 Oct	World Mission Sunday
1/22/29 Nov	Our Mission
2 Nov	Formation of priests in Central and Eastern Europe
8 Nov	Caritas
15 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 Gilllessen 3 months in advance.

English-speaking Roman Catholic Mission

at St Bernhard’s (Rectory)

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
Lehniner 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.