



HOLY TRINITY

BRUSSELS

Advent I
28 November 2021

Our readings this week

Worship this week

Sunday 28 November, 2021

9:00 Holy Communion

Leading: Paul Vrolijk
Preaching: Ozzy Baron

10:30 Holy Communion

Leading: Paul Vrolijk
Preaching: Ozzy Baron

[Zoom](#); [YouTube](#)

14:00 Holy Communion

Leading: Jean-Bosco
Turahirwa
Preaching: Charles Kabera

[YouTube](#)

18:00 Service of the Word

Leading: Jacob Quick
Preaching: John Wilkinson

[Zoom](#); [YouTube](#)

Wednesday 1 December, 2021

12:30 Holy Communion

Paul Vrolijk

*Sunday School groups
now meet in church.
Contact our Children's
and Youth worker [Anna
Zödi](#) for more details
about children's and
youth activities.*

Advent is a time both to prepare for the celebration of Christ's coming at Christmas and to make ourselves ready, in reflection and renewed commitment, for his coming in judgement.

Jeremiah 33:14-16 The picture of a new shoot coming from the old withered stump inspires hope, the fulfilment of a promise that many had thought abandoned. This shoot is clearly a king in the line of David, who will establish justice and righteousness. Everyone will recognise that the source of the righteousness will be the Lord.

Psalms 25 This psalm can be read in three sections, beginning at verses 1, 8 and 15; as surging up to verse 11 and then ebbing, in a patient mirror of the first half; or as a progress through life, a sort of alphabet, that moves on, not back. Whichever we choose, the psalm speaks of the need for ever-deepening commitment to living for God.

1 Thessalonians 3:9-end Two "second comings" are mentioned here. Paul, who has heard how the church in Thessalonica withstood persecution, is anxious to return to them, to help bring their faith and practice to full maturity. Then they will be in good shape to withstand the problems that they will face before the second coming of Jesus. Nothing could be more important than to be ready for the return of Jesus.

Luke 21: 25-36 As Jesus prepares for his earthly judgement, he warns his disciples to be prepared both for the opposition that will strike them and for his coming again in judgement. The passage contains three very important messages for Christians: to hold up their heads against persecution, for beyond it lies the coming of Christ in judgement; to recognise trouble as signs of the end to come, just as spring shoots herald the summer; and to be alert and well-prepared to meet Christ.

Pointers for prayer

- Pray for those who have lost hope, that it may be reborn in the message of Christmas;
- How mature is my faith? What am I doing to deepen it?
- Pray for all Christians who face persecution to see through it to the reality of Christ's triumph.

Welcome to Holy Trinity!

To hold services in church, we need more hosts!

As we now have increased numbers at services of worship, we must keep everyone COVID-safe! Three volunteers are needed for each service to welcome and direct people, dispense hand sanitizer, maintain social distancing, etc. Training is available and a handy manual is prepared with clear instructions. Please let the office know or email Sunil (for 10:30 service only) at gsunilj@gmail.com if you would like to help, which services you are available for, and which dates. Thank you!

Please avoid taking photos or videos during the Service unless you have sought prior permission to do so.

Thank you!

The Prayer Chain

welcomes requests for prayer for any situation with complete confidentiality. Please contact Janine Vrolijk on janine.vrolijk@gmail.com or Carole Ludlow on celudlow@gmail.com.

The Covid situation in Brussels remains serious. Following the announcement by the Belgian government yesterday evening, I can report that for now nothing will change for us at Holy Trinity Brussels. However, we would like to ask you to remain diligent in booking for services through ChurchSuite or through the church calendar on our website: holytrinity.be/churchsuite-calendar. If you need any help, please email admin@holytrinity.be or call us. With a busy December month ahead of us, we would be very sorry if we had to turn people away at the door because we were full. Many thanks for your cooperation!

The following measures are in place to keep us COVID-safe in church:

- * Keep 1,5m distance at all times.
- * Use the alcohol gel when you enter church.
- * Masks are obligatory for everyone over 10 years of age.
- * Soft singing is allowed beneath masks.

'Hybrid worship' (following and participating in the service in church and online) will continue for Sunday services at 10:30, 14:00 and 18:00.

This year our **Bishop's Advent Appeal** is for European Climate Disaster Relief, focused on assisting agencies that are working in parts of Europe, as they bring support to those who are affected by man-made climate change. Full details on how to donate to the fund can be found [here](#).

Advent meditations booklet Advent starts on Sunday. Amongst the present buying and food preparation let us prepare our hearts and minds to celebrate the birth of our Saviour. The meditations, one for each day of Advent and for the festival day of Christmas too are posted daily online on the Holy Trinity [Facebook page](#) and on the [blog](#) or in pdf form on the church website for you to print at home. *David & Jane Brown*

Want to help make St Nicolas special? Please join our 'Have a Heart' campaign!

A warm thank-you to everyone who has responded to the campaign whether through buying a present or making a donation. Now, the challenge is to ensure your present is wrapped, clearly marked with the child's name on it, and delivered to Holy Trinity by **1 December!** If possible, please bring it with you if you are attending a Holy Trinity service this Sunday 28 November and drop the gift in the box at the back of church. If not, please deliver to Church House between 29 November – 1 December where the office will receive them between 0900-14h00. Should you have any further difficulties with the delivery, please contact [Geraldine Barry](#) or [Jane Brown](#).

*Gift account for pledges
and donations:*

*The Friends of Holy Trinity
Brussels asbl*

*IBAN: BE67 1030 7048 2187
([new bank account!](#))*

Holy Trinity is proud to serve as a collection point for the annual **Samaritans Shoebox Campaign**: "Because everyone deserves a Christmas present". We invite you to take part by bringing a filled box to the welcome table in the church foyer **between 4th-12th December** during the following hours:

Monday 9:00-12:00 and 14:00-19:00

Tuesday 9:00-12:00 and 19:00-21:00

Wednesday 9:00-12:00

Saturday 10:30-16:30

Sunday 9:00-19:00

The shoe boxes should contain around 10 food & drink items (non-alcoholic, non-perishable, easy to open and ready to eat) and a season's greetings card. Please wrap the box before leaving it at our designated collection point. Many thanks for your offering!

Living in Love and Faith How do questions about identity, sexuality, relationships and marriage fit within the bigger picture of the good news of Jesus Christ? What does it mean to live in love and faith together as a Church? When there are strongly held differences among us, we are tempted to form like-minded groups or factions. We can all play a part in seeking unity in our Church as well as in the wider community. This course in five video-based sessions, encourages us to find creative ways to grow and learn together in the love of Christ. If you would like to be involved in such a group course please contact Jane Brown (jbrown19203@gmail.com or 0471 06 07 11) or the church office (admin@holytrinity.be).

Paul will be taking a sabbatical leave of 3 months starting from 17 January. He hopes to use this time away for deep rest, prayer, retreat, study and some writing, especially on the topic of resilience.

Important notice about church key cards. The keycards that we use to gain access to church buildings are expensive and time consuming for the church to acquire as they have to be programmed by Chubb, the supplier of the door security system. Our stocks are running low and yet there are many keycards held by members of the church community which are not used. The Administrator is therefore asking that if you have a keycard in your possession but no longer need it, please return it to the office. The keycard could be dropped in the letter box or sent through the post to Holy Trinity, Rue Capitaine Crespel 29, 1050 Bruxelles. Thank you for helping us to restore our stock of keycards.

Accommodation wanted

for one quiet retiree. A studio flat or room with washing facilities and shared kitchen would suffice. Ready to pay fair rent.
Call Rita on 0470 11 77 63.

One of our parishioners, Deanne Lehman Barnard, is looking for a room to rent in a private home from February. She would prefer to find something near Holy Trinity or Place Luxembourg, but elsewhere is also welcome. She intends to stay in Brussels an average of 10-12 consecutive days/month, and needs only very limited access to a refrigerator/kitchen. If you have an available room, you can contact her at: deanne.lehman@gmail.com or on her mobile telephone: +32 473 84 99 32.

Morning and Night Prayer

Would you like to join others at HTB for prayer? Heather Roy is overseeing this ministry

and if you have any questions, please email her at heather.roy@gmail.com.

Join us at the following links, from Monday to Friday:

•Morning Prayer – 9:00

([Zoom link](#); Meeting ID 828 0903 6058)

•Night Prayer/Compline – 21:00 ([Zoom link](#); Meeting ID 898 3749 9334)

The Wider Church

On Wednesday 1st December at 20:00, **Christian Climate Action Belgium** invites you to join in our short online climate prayer session. This session concludes our year of prayer towards COP26 and gives us a chance to reflect on the COP outcomes with each other and with God. All welcome. Register to receive the zoom link [here](#).

FCJ Centre of Spirituality 211 Ave. Winston Churchill, 1180, Brussels offers the following:

SCRIPTURE PRAYER: Lectio Divina. All Welcome! (Zoom) Every Wednesday 10.30-12.00 and 19.30-21.00
Sunday 28 Nov. :14.30-16.30 (Zoom) **ADVENT 1:** Welcoming Christ: 'Make your home in me as I make mine in you' (Jn.15:4)

Sunday 5 Dec. 14.30-16.30 (Zoom) **ADVENT:** 'Waiting in Expectation with Mary' ...For further information, visit www.fcjcentre.be or, email fcj@fcjcentre.be, or tel.02 348 9561.

Portes Ouvertes is organising an '**evening for the persecuted church**' on **Friday 3 December 2021** at the International Baptist church of Brussels from 19:00 to 21:30. Full details can be [downloaded here](#).

Brussels International Singers are holding their Christmas Carols Concert on 17 December at 19:30. For all details, [download their poster](#).

The Pro-Cathedral of Holy Trinity Brussels
Rue Capitaine Crespel 29, B-1050 Brussels

Website: www.holytrinity.be

Facebook: www.facebook.com/HolyTrinityBrussels

Instagram: @holytrinitybrussels

Phone: 02 511 71 83

Email: admin@holytrinity.be

Office hours: Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday 9:15 to 12:30; Tuesday 9:15 to 16:00

Newsletter items: to admin@holytrinity.be by 9:00 Wednesday

Senior Chaplain & Canon Chancellor: The Revd Canon Dr Paul Vrolijk paul.vrolijk@holytrinity.be

Canon Pastor: The Revd Canon John Wilkinson john.wilkinson@holytrinity.be

Associate Chaplain: The Revd Dr Catriona Laing catriona.laing@holytrinity.be

Assistant Curates: The Revd Jean Bosco Turahirwa jean.bosco.turahirwa@holytrinity.be

and The Revd Annie Bolger annie.bolger@holytrinity.be

National Anglican prison chaplains based at HTB:

Mrs Grace West, The Revd Charles Kabera, Mr Eric Sibomana

MES Intern: Mr Teus Vermeer teus.vermeer@holytrinity.be

Readers: Ms Heather Roy; Mrs Ozichi Baron; Mr Jacob Quick

Children's & Youth Worker: Ms Anna Zödi anna.zodi@holytrinity.be

Precentor/Music Director: Dr David Mitchell david.mitchell@holytrinity.be

Central Committee of the Anglican Church in Belgium (based at HTB)

Chaplain-President: The Revd Canon Prof Jack McDonald

Secretary: The Revd Jo Jan Vandenheede