



HOLY TRINITY

BRUSSELS

Advent 3
11 December 2022

Our readings this week

Worship this week

Sunday 11, December 2022

9:00 Holy Communion

Leading & Preaching:
Paul Vrolijk

10:30 Holy Communion

Leading: Paul Vrolijk/Jairo Ares
Preaching: Paul Vrolijk

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

14:00 Holy Communion

Leading: John Wilkinson
Preaching: Jean-Bosco Turahirwa

[YouTube](#)

18:00 Christmas Light

A contemporary Carol Service

[YouTube](#)

Contact our Interim Youth Coordinator [Philip Milton](#) for more details about children's and youth activities.

Wednesday 14, December 2022

12:30 Holy Communion

Preaching & Leading:
Annie Bolger

Isaiah 35:1-10 The prophecy points to a time when normal values will be stood on their heads by God's decisive action for his people as he comes in judgment. Judgment is a time when wrong will be set right, when the fullness of creation will be established, when God's people shall be joyfully conducted into his eternal presence. What a joyful vision this is, for those who love him.

Magnificat Mary sees through the scandal of her pregnancy to the time when she will be universally blessed. This blessing will come to all who humbly fear God, for he sees into our minds and honours those hungry for his presence. Those who have no room for God - the proud, the rich and the powerful - will be swept away as God remembers his people. This remembrance looks back; but it also looks forward. So does the Eucharist, where the whole company of God's people joins to praise him.

James 5:7-10 Patience is a key Christian virtue. For James, it is like the patience of the farmer, waiting from seedtime to harvest. It was not the short time until fulfillment, or the ease of their lives, that gave hope to the prophets. It was the certainty that the Lord would deliver his promises. So it should be for us.

Matthew 11:2-11 Jesus' message to John the Baptist points to the reversal of the earthly order - to the kingdom of God breaking in. It is the vision of that new order that inspired the prophets up to and including John. It is a new order that exceeds even the most optimistic vision. There is a pressing message for us: are we on the side of the new order, or are we too stuck with the old? There is the call for repentance.

Pointers for prayer

- pray for hope for those left hopeless by the world and for patience to stay the course;
- are we for the emerging kingdom of God, or on the side of the world?
- Meditate on 7 titles of the Messiah in Isaiah's prophecies: Wisdom; Lord; Root of Jesse; Key of David; Rising sun; King of the nations; God with us.

[Our Service programme for the month](#)

Welcome to Holy Trinity!

Details of **Holy Trinity's programme for the Advent & Christmas period** can be found on our website over [here](#).

Last week Thursday, our beloved sister and dear friend Rie Arthern (Maria van Rijssel) passed away at the age of 99. We thank the Lord for her deep faith, love and friendship. Rie was an amazing, generous human being, who treasured her independence. She and her husband Peter, who passed away several years ago, arrived at Holy Trinity Brussels in the seventies. Rie's passing is the end of an era. Please pray for Philip, her adopted son, who lives in the UK, and for all who mourn her loss. **Her funeral will take place on Friday, 30 December at 13:00 in the parish church in Bonlez**, near to where Rie lived for many years. A thanksgiving service will take place mid-January near Philip's place in the UK.

Advent Meditations The meditations, one for each day of Advent and for the festival day of Christmas too are available 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. For those who'd like a copy, please request one from admin@holytrinity.be.

Advent Home Group Places still available, feel free to join! We meet on Tuesday evenings at 19:30 in Schaerbeek. Contact Annie for further details: annie.bolger@holytrinity.be

Advent Prayers Across Europe for Ukraine Wednesday 7, 14 and 21 December 2022 18:30 CET (17:30 GMT) We look forward to welcoming you via YouTube (visit youtube.com and search 'Diocese in Europe')

This year, **Bishop Robert's Advent Appeal** is for the construction of a toilet block for the **Bishop Hannington School, Mumias, Kenya**. Read his letter [here](#) and get details on how to make a contribution. Contributions can also be made to The Friends of Holy Trinity Brussels asbl IBAN: BE67 1030 7048 2187 with reference 'Bishop's advent appeal 2022', and we could pass on the donations to the Diocesan office.

'**Christmas Light: They Sang**' is a contemporary Carol Service led by the evening congregation to which all are welcome. **The service is today at 18:00**. It will be based around the four songs in Luke's account of the Nativity and infancy of Jesus, based on the course 'They Sang' by Amy Scott Robinson, and will include Christmas songs and carols, old and new.

Holy Trinity is once again a drop off point for the Samaritans' annual **Shoebox Appeal**. It's an opportunity to donate ten items of food and beverages (non-alcoholic, non-perishable, easy to open and ready to eat) alongside a seasonal greeting card. Last year, over 27,000 shoeboxes were collected and sent out to charitable organisations in the city. The collection point is located in the church lobby. You can drop it off any time the church is open, in the run up to Christmas. Please visit <https://www.shoe-box.be/en> for more information. Thanks! Guido, MES Intern (guido.bowen@holytrinity.be).

A short video on how the HTB Donation Station works can be found here: <https://youtu.be/OrwzqZ-WJA>

Gift account for **pledges and donations:**

The Friends of Holy Trinity
Brussels asbl

IBAN: BE67 1030 7048 2187

Donations to the
Community Kitchen

@HTB ASBL Gift Account
IBAN BE92 3631 1846 4423
BIC code: BBRUBEBB

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.

**Online Morning and
Night Prayer**

On weekday mornings at 9:00 some of us from the various congregations join together to pray. We use the app found at <https://www.chpublishing.co.uk/apps/time-to-pray> Everyday the congregation is different, you may know the people you may not but we join together as children of God. The service lasts about 15 minutes. The zoom link is <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82809036058#success> and the password htb.

On weekday evenings at 21:00 some of us from the various congregations join together to pray. We use the app found at <https://www.churchofengland.org/prayer-and-worship/join-us-service-daily-prayer>. Everyday the congregation is different, you may know the people, you may not but we join together as children of God. The service lasts about 20 minutes. The zoom link is <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89837499334#success> and the password htb.

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

Thank you!

The Holly and the Ivy...were traditionally used for decorating churches at Christmas! If you have these, or any other ever-green greenery (particularly pine/fir) in your garden and could spare some, the Flower Team would love to hear from you and could collect it if necessary. Please contact Carol de Lusignan (carol.delusignan@skynet.be 0494 27 46 57) if you can help.

Reducing our Carbon footprint Brussels Region is bringing in legislation to reduce waste from catering activities. For more info [please read their brochure](#) which is also pinned in church lobby. This means that we will need to serve drinks in reusable cups from 1st January 2023. You can help by bringing your own 'keep-cup' to church each week – this will mean less washing up for the coffee team! To know more, please speak to our churchwardens Jane and Philippa or Zélie of the Environment Committee.

Help with church website Do you have experience with website support? Holy Trinity is looking for a volunteer to help with the church website. Please email annie.bolger@holyltrinity.be to learn more.

Ministries Fayre The new date will be in **January, the 29th**.

Can you join a Team? ... We need **Service hosts, Coffee team and Crèche helpers** for the 10:30 service. If you would like to volunteer for these, and other church activities, feel welcome to [register here](#).

The Wider Church

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

Wednesdays (weekly): 10.30-11.45 and 19.30-20.45 (ZOOM)

Scripture Prayer: Lectio Divina

Many at Holy Trinity will miss Margaret and Joan's ministry and that of the house. Please pray for them as they bring this ministry to a close.

For further information, visit www.fcjcentre.be or, email fcj@fcjcentre.be, or tel.02 348 9561.

A Christmas Gospel concert **“Sisters and Brothers”** will be held on the **16th and 17th December** in the W:Hall on Avenue Charles Thielemans in Woluwe Saint Pierre. For more details on ticket reservations see [poster](#) in church lobby.

**The Pro-Cathedral of Holy Trinity Brussels
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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 Chaplain: The Revd Jean Bosco Turahirwa jean.bosco.turahirwa@holytrinity.be

Assistant Curate: 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: Guido Bowen guido.bowen@holytrinity.be

Readers: Ms Heather Roy; Mrs Ozichi Baron; Mr Jacob Quick; Mrs Grace West; Mr Arttu Makipaa

Interim Youth Coordinator: Philip Milton philip.milton@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 General: The Revd Canon Stephen Murray secretary@anglican.be

Second Secretary: Mr Charles Melebeck