



HOLY TRINITY

BRUSSELS

Advent 4
18 December 2022

Our readings this week

Worship this week

Sunday 18, December 2022

9:00 Holy Communion

Leading & Preaching:
Annie Bolger

10:30 Holy Communion

Leading: John Wilkinson
Preaching: Annie Bolger

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

16:00 Carol Service

Leading: John Wilkinson
Preaching: Paul Vrolijk

[YouTube](#)

19:00 Carol Service

Leading: John Wilkinson
Preaching: Paul Vrolijk

[YouTube](#)

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

Wednesday 21, December 2022

12:30 Holy Communion

Preaching & Leading:
Annie Bolger

**19:30 Carol Service at St Michel
& St Gudule**

Leading: John Wilkinson
Preaching: Paul Vrolijk

After recalling our need for preparation, our Advent readings turn to God's intervention, which takes place in a way that is quite unexpected.

Isaiah 7:10-16 Isaiah pleads with Israel to stand firm in their faith. While Ahaz looks for an army, God directs Israel's hope towards a child, whose name discloses his significance – Immanuel, which means God with us. We can read more about Immanuel and his rule in 8:8, 9:1-7; and 11:1-10. The prophecy may have been addressing the immediate situation of Israel, but Christians see its ultimate fulfillment in Jesus.

Psalms 80 In the face of God's anger, the psalmist cries out for his loving presence, for the awareness that his face shines upon them. Israel with God is like a flourishing vine, but without him, they are like an abandoned vineyard. The psalm prays that God may restore Israel through the man whom he has provided. Christians believe that, in Jesus, God has answered this cry.

Romans 1:1-7 Paul sees Jesus as the king to whom prophecy had pointed. Further, the resurrection declares Jesus' authority so strongly that Paul can speak in the same breath of God as Father and of Jesus as Lord. He is not just a great earthly king, he is the everlasting ruler. That king now calls all nations and people to obedience. Of course, that includes us.

Matthew 1:18-end Matthew tells us how Jesus is the Messiah, God's chosen one. He is of the people of the promise and of the line of David. Matthew sees in the circumstances of Jesus' birth a fulfillment of Isaiah's prophecy. Jesus is both born of God and also born into a family of the line of David. God has come among us. The one who will save Israel begins by sharing to the full in our human vulnerability.

Pointers for prayer

- When God's people cry to him in their trouble, he hears. God is with us. We have hope;
- Could it be that God's gift to us in Bethlehem surpasses even the rich visions of the prophets?
- Our Christmas presents from God are grace and peace. Our lives should thank him for these gifts.

[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](#).

Gift account for **pledges and donations:**

The Friends of Holy Trinity
Brussels asbl

IBAN: BE67 1030 7048 2187

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@holyltrinity.be.

Advent Home Group - meets for the fourth and final time this week on Tuesday evening at 19:30 in Schaerbeek. Join us for a conversation about Advent wonder, with a look at the poetry of the Advent Antiphons. Contact Annie for further details: annie.bolger@holyltrinity.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](https://www.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.

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@holyltrinity.be).

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.

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

If you are new or visiting us for the first time, and would like to stay in touch, please [sign up here](#) to receive our weekly newsletter.

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!

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.

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

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Facebook: www.facebook.com/HolyTrinityBrussels

Instagram: @holytrinitybrussels

Phone: 02 511 71 83 **Email:** admin@holytrinity.be **Whatsapp:** +32 460 950449

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