



# HOLY TRINITY BRUSSELS

Advent 4  
19 December 2021

## Our readings this week

### Worship this week

#### Sunday 19 December, 2021

**9:00 Holy Communion**

Leading: Annie Bolger  
Preaching: Annie Bolger

**10:30 Holy Communion**

Leading: Jacob Quick  
Preaching: Annie Bolger

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

**16:00 Nine Lessons & Carols**

Leading: Paul Vrolijk  
Preaching: John Wilkinson

[YouTube](#)

**19:00 Nine Lessons & Carols**

Leading: Paul Vrolijk  
Preaching: John Wilkinson

[YouTube](#)

#### Tuesday 21 December, 2021

**19:30 Light in Darkness**

#### Wednesday 22 December, 2021

**12:30 Holy Communion**

Leader: Jean-Bosco  
Turahirwa  
Preacher: Teus Vermeer

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*Sunday School groups  
meet in church.*

*Contact our Children's  
and Youth worker [Anna  
Zödi](#) for more details  
about children's and  
youth activities.*

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**Micah 5:2-5a** Beyond the impending threat of exile, Micah sees God's salvation working out for his people. A new ruler will be born, not in David's great city, but in the town of David's birth, one who is new, yet whose origins are ancient. His rule will not be like that of an earthly tyrant. It will be a rule of security, a rule in the name of the Lord. His rule will bring peace.

**Psalms 80** Israel cries out to the God whom they have known as their shepherd, but whose anger they now feel. They long for the sense that his face is shining upon them again. With God, Israel flourishes, but without him, they are like an abandoned vineyard. *Come and save us!* is their cry of repentance and is the cry of all who are in trouble.

**Magnificat (Luke 1:46-55)** Mary's great poem of praise merits continued reflection. That is why we use it in Christian worship. Mary recognises that the God of mighty works is the God of reversals. Those content in their self-sufficiency find themselves humbled, while the lowly servant is exalted. He is the One who has never forgotten, nor will ever forget, his humble people down the ages.

**Luke 1:39-45** The gospel tells the story of the visit of Mary to Elizabeth. The two mothers-to-be, recipients of God's grace, instruments of his work, meet and rejoice. Elizabeth could see what ordinary people could not see: that Mary's child was of God. Mary, unlike Zechariah, believed the angel that had come to her and is blessed for it. Even the unborn child of Elizabeth, a child who is to do God's work, recognises something of the wonder that is in the making.

### Pointers for prayer

- God loves the humble, those who hunger for his good things, his servants. Am I secure in my own strength, or do I trust in God?
- Pray that when God does new things, we may be open enough to him to recognise and to receive his gifts;
- Pray for our rulers, for the rich, for those who exercise power, for those who are tempted to pride, to be open to the power of God.

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**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](mailto:gsunilj@gmail.com) if you would like to help, which services you are available for, and which dates. Thank you!

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

**Thank you!**

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**The Prayer Chain**

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

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## Welcome to Holy Trinity!

The Covid situation in Brussels remains serious. Following the announcement by the Belgian government last week, we 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](https://holytrinity.be/churchsuite-calendar). If you need any help, please email [admin@holytrinity.be](mailto:admin@holytrinity.be) or call us. With a busy December month, 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 6 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.

### Join us for our upcoming services:

- **21 December at 19:30 – 'Light in Darkness'**  
**Christmas Eve**
  - **24 December at 16:00 – Nativity Service**
  - **24 December at 22:00 – 'Midnight' Christmas Eve Holy Communion**  
**Christmas Day**
  - **25 December at 10:30 – Christmas Holy Communion**
  - **25 December at 14:00 – Christmas Holy Communion**
- Next Sunday – no 9:00 or 18:00 services!**
- **26 December at 10:30 – Holy Communion**
  - 26 December at 14:00 – Holy Communion**

**Community Kitchen Christmas Plans** We will be very busy over the Christmas period. In addition to our usual meals for the Red Cross Centre (500 portions each time) on 20, 21 and 22 December, we are planning some special Christmas meals:

- Christmas Meal for people in need at Holy Trinity on 24 December
- Christmas meal for Red Cross Centre (500 portions) on 26 December

If you will have any spare time over (or before) Christmas and would like to help, there will be plenty of opportunities. You could:

- bake Christmas cookies to distribute with our meals
- volunteer in the kitchen
- help serve the meal on 24 December
- help portion the meals for the Red Cross Centre
- donate money to cover our extra "Christmas" costs

Let us know – [community.kitchen@holytrinity.be](mailto:community.kitchen@holytrinity.be) Thanks!

**Advent meditations booklet** 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*

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*Gift account for pledges  
and donations:*

*The Friends of Holy Trinity  
Brussels asbl*

*IBAN: BE67 1030 7048 2187*

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### **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](mailto: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)

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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](#).

**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](mailto:jbrown19203@gmail.com) or 0471 06 07 11) or the church office ([admin@holytrinity.be](mailto: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](mailto:deanne.lehman@gmail.com) or on her mobile telephone: +32 473 84 99 32.

## **The Wider Church**

**FCJ Centre of Spirituality** 211 Ave. Winston Churchill, 1180, Brussels is holding the following: **Sunday 9 January 2022:** 14.30-16.30 'I will be with you....day after day after day, right up to the end of the age' (Zoom) (Mt. 28:20, Message Bible) **Wednesday 12 January 2022:** 10:30-12:00 and 19:30-21:00 Praying with Scripture 'Lectio Divina' (Zoom). For further information, visit [www.fcjcentre.be](http://www.fcjcentre.be) or, email [fcj@fcjcentre.be](mailto:fcj@fcjcentre.be), or tel. 02 348 9561.

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

**Website:** [www.holytrinity.be](http://www.holytrinity.be)

**Facebook:** [www.facebook.com/HolyTrinityBrussels](https://www.facebook.com/HolyTrinityBrussels)

**Instagram:** @holylrinitybrussels

**Phone:** 02 511 71 83

**Email:** [admin@holylrinity.be](mailto:admin@holylrinity.be)

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

**Newsletter items:** to [admin@holylrinity.be](mailto:admin@holylrinity.be) by 9:00 Wednesday

**Senior Chaplain & Canon Chancellor:** The Revd Canon Dr Paul Vrolijk [paul.vrolijk@holylrinity.be](mailto:paul.vrolijk@holylrinity.be)

**Canon Pastor:** The Revd Canon John Wilkinson [john.wilkinson@holylrinity.be](mailto:john.wilkinson@holylrinity.be)

**Associate Chaplain:** The Revd Dr Catriona Laing [catriona.laing@holylrinity.be](mailto:catriona.laing@holylrinity.be)

**Assistant Curates:** The Revd Jean Bosco Turahirwa [jean.bosco.turahirwa@holylrinity.be](mailto:jean.bosco.turahirwa@holylrinity.be)

and The Revd Annie Bolger [annie.bolger@holylrinity.be](mailto:annie.bolger@holylrinity.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@holylrinity.be](mailto:teus.vermeer@holylrinity.be)

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

**Children's & Youth Worker:** Ms Anna Zödi [anna.zodi@holylrinity.be](mailto:anna.zodi@holylrinity.be)

**Precentor/Music Director:** Dr David Mitchell [david.mitchell@holylrinity.be](mailto:david.mitchell@holylrinity.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