

Christ the King 21 November 2021

Our readings this week

On the last Sunday of the church's year, the church celebrates Christ the King.

Daniel 7:9-10, 13-14 God, seated in the court of heaven, passes judgment on the nations. The whiteness of God's clothing suggests his holiness, the fire his unapproachable glory, while the hosts of heaven wait on his bidding. Yet the figure like a son of man can approach, and is empowered to vanquish the enemies of God and to rule on his behalf, replacing the evil empires of the world. This vision underpins the title by which Jesus refers to himself in the gospels.

Psalm 93 Robed in his majesty, his strength visible to all, his enemies overcome and his dominion firmly established, the Lord sits on his eternal throne. Even the seas, that terrifying symbol of the chaos driven back in creation, cannot match his might. He has established an eternal, stable order of holiness. This note of triumph does not invite us to relax. Rather, it reassures us that, as we move forward into a new church year, we can confidently face whatever lies ahead.

Revelation 1:4b-8 This short passage begins and ends with powerful reminders of the unchangeable permanence of God. Between them is contained a great doxology of praise to Jesus Christ. This doxology tells us much about the work of Jesus, but also about our own situation. The picture of Jesus echoes parts of Daniel, but there is much more too.

John 18:33-37 Confronted with the earthly power that can and will put him to death, Jesus confesses his kingship, but makes it clear that this is not to be understood in the earthly sense. He testifies to the truth and his kingdom embraces all those who listen to him.

Pointers for prayer

- Look back at the crises of the past year. Whatever they were, Christ is the triumphant king. Give him praise;
- Pray for those who are undergoing trouble of any sort. May they experience the power of Jesus; and may he defeat any dark powers they have encountered;
- The year to come will bring its challenges. Let us face it with confidence in our Saviour, the Lord who reigns.

Worship this week

Sunday 21 November, 2021

9:00 Holy Communion

Leading: John Wilkinson Preaching: John Wilkinson

10:30 Holy Communion Leading: Annie Bolger Preaching: John Wilkinson

Zoom; YouTube

14:00 Holy Communion Leading: Charles Kabera Preaching: Jean-Bosco Turahirwa

<u>YouTube</u>

18:00 Service of the Word Leadina: Matthias Rottiers

Preaching: Paul Vrolijk

Zoom; YouTube

Wednesday 24 November, 2021

12:30 Holy Communion

John Wilkinson

Sunday School groups now meet in church. Contact our Children's and Youth worker <u>Anna</u> <u>Zödi</u> for more details about children's and youth activities.

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.

Welcome to Holy Trinity!

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: <u>holytrinity.be/churchsuitecalendar</u>. If you need any help, please email <u>admin@holytrinity.be</u> 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.
- * 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.

At this morning's 10:30 service, we are baptizing baby **Lilith Macey Robbe**. We welcome her and her parents **Mercedes Carrington** and **Jeffrey Robbe** as she joins our Christian family.

Seniors Autumn tea party

We will hold an in-person tea party at the home of Pam Clements (Saturday, 27 November) from 15:00 to 16:30. You are welcome to come along! Please let admin@holytrinity.be or Pam Clements (pamclements@outlook.com / 0474 970 876) know if you would like to attend.

Our church cleaning day will take place on 27 November. If you would like to participate, please email admin@holytrinity.be

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).

The HTB mission committee will be meeting at the end of November to consider allocations for the end-of-year 2021 giving. If anyone from the congregation has suggestions for initiatives we could consider funding, please get in touch by 27 November by emailing mission@holytrinity.be. The priority areas of HTB mission are care for creation, care for people, spreading the gospel and support to the persecuted church. Flowers If you would like to sponsor the flowers that decorate the church each week, whether in memory of a loved one, celebration of a special event or thanksgiving for answered prayer, do sign up on the calendar in the lobby or contact Carol de Lusignan directly via email (carol.delusignan@skynet.be) The Flower Team would greatly appreciate this support of their ministry.

Gift account for pledges and donations: The Friends of Holy Trinity Brussels asbl IBAN: BE67 1030 7048 2187 (new bank account!)

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 <u>heather.roy@gmail.com.</u> Join us at the following links, from Monday to Friday:

•Morning Prayer – 9:00 (<u>Zoom link</u>; Meeting ID 828 0903 6058)

•Night Prayer/Compline – 21:00 (<u>Zoom link</u>; Meeting ID 898 3749 9334) 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 <u>here</u>.

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

If you would like to make St Nicolas special for a child or teenager in need, then please sign up to our 'Have a Heart' campaign which we are doing once again with Les Cailloux. The list of children and presents wished for is found <u>here</u>, together with a helpful list of links where the presents can be bought. All you need to do is to choose the child you wish to support and let <u>Geraldine Barry</u> know as quickly as possible, buy the gift and deliver it wrapped with the child's name on it to Holy Trinity by **Wednesday**, **1 December 2021** at the latest. Alternatively, if this is not possible for you but you would still like to contribute, you can make a bank transfer of 20€ to the following account: **BE67 1030 7048 2187 with** '**Have a Heart 2021**' as a reference. Any questions, please contact <u>Geraldine Barry</u> or Jane Brown.

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.

The office is overstocked with paper. If you would like to buy a pack for your home printer the price is €2.50 per pack of 500 sheets A4 white. Contact the Administrator <u>cathedraladmin@holytrinity.be</u>

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: <u>deanne.lehman@gmail.com</u> or on her mobile telephone: +32 473 84 99 32.

The Wider Church

<u>Godspace</u> is organising a quiet afternoon - 'An invitation to wait' on 27 November from 13:30 to 16:30 at St Anthony's Church Kraainem. For full details of the programme and how to sign up, <u>go here</u>.

Brussels International Singers are holding their Christmas Carols Concert on 17 December at 19:30. For all details, <u>download their poster</u>.

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 <u>www.fcjcentre.be</u> or, email <u>fcj@fcjcentre.be</u>, or tel.02 348 9561

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 <u>catriona.laing@holytrinity.be</u> 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@holvtrinity.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