

## Christmas 2 2 January 2022

#### Worship this week

#### Sunday 2 January, 2022

- 9:00 Holy Communion Leading & Preaching: Jean-Bosco Turahirwa
- **10:30 Holy Communion** Leadina: Jean-Bosco

Turahirwa Preaching: Heather Roy

#### Zoom; YouTube

#### 14:00 Holy Communion

Leading: Jean-Bosco Turahirwa Preaching: Charles Kabera

#### <u>YouTube</u>

#### 18:00 Holy Communion

Leading: Annie Bolger Preaching: Heather Roy

#### Zoom; YouTube

#### Wednesday 5 January, 2022

12:30 Holy Communion John Wilkinson

#### Thursday 6 January, 2022

19:30 Epiphany Holy Communion Leading: John Wilkinson Preaching: Annie Bolger

Sunday School groups 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.

## Our readings this week

Jeremiah 31:7-14 Praise is in order in the Christmas season, as we reflect on the ways in which God has moved to rescue his people. Jeremiah looks forward to the time when God will gather his scattered people into the security of their common home. This gathering is experienced as God's love in action. The common longing for family reunion at Christmas gives a taste of that hope for which God promises loving fulfilment.

**Psalm 147:13-21** God blesses the race he has created when he provides them with security, family, sustenance. If he brings them winter challenges, he also provides the means to overcome them. Yet to his own people the greatest of the gifts he has given is to reveal his word to them. The gospel reminds us that the Word of God is not just dead letters on a page.

**Ephesians 1:3-14** This extraordinary outpouring, written as one sentence, follows an Old Testament pattern known from its opening words, 'Blessed be God, who has...' It is a thanksgiving to God the Father for the gift of his Son, who has been the means through which we have received so many and such wonderful blessings. English is less tolerant of long sentences than Greek, so we have it broken up. It repays searching for the many reasons it sets out for us to bless God.

John 1:1-18 This prologue contains the main themes that will be developed across John's gospel. Its starting point is with Jesus Christ as the word that expresses the thought of God the Father, the alwaysexisting mediator of life, the source of light to the world which was created through him, in which he is present yet unrecognised. The events that we celebrate at Christmas break into the silence, disclosing God's eternal love for his creation.

#### Pointers for prayer

- When better than the Christmas season to reflect on the many blessings God has given us and to give him thanks
- The Father's gifts are mediated to us through Jesus Christ. What gifts of God could we mediate to those in need?
- Pray for all those for whom God's blessings seem a forlorn hope.

### 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 <u>celudlow@gmail.com</u>.

# Welcome to Holy Trinity!

The Covid situation in Brussels remains serious. Following the announcement by the Belgian government recently, 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: <u>holytrinity.be/churchsuite-calendar</u>. If you need any help, please email <u>admin@holytrinity.be</u> or call us.

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.

### Sunday School classes will resume from the 9<sup>th</sup> January on church premises.

## Epiphany Service | 6 January at 19:30

Please join us for a Service of Holy Communion to celebrate Epiphany. This service will take place in person. Please register here: <u>https://holytrinitybrussels.churchsuite.com/events/bphcmeua</u>

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.

## 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.

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Gift account for pledges and donations: The Friends of Holy Trinity Brussels asbl IBAN: BE67 1030 7048 2187

## **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 or, email fcj@fcjcentre.be, or tel. 02 348 9561.

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)

## 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@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