



HOLY TRINITY

BRUSSELS

Lent 1
26 February 2023

Our readings this week

Our Lent readings have a penitential theme. They show how the first Adam failed, but Jesus, the second Adam, triumphs. Paul saw why that mattered.

Genesis 2 15-17; 3 1-7 The story of Adam and Eve reminds us how human wilfulness loses the riches of God's gifts. Whether that wilfulness is a sign of a character that is fatally flawed, or of human immaturity, (more than one view is possible) we notice how sin leads to a loss of freedom and to the undermining of relationships - in particular estrangement from God and the emergence of mistrust between men and women. Sin, whatever people may say, destroys life.

Psalms 32 The psalmist tells the story of the other readings in a different way. The life that has experienced forgiveness is truly blessed, for unacknowledged sin is a crushing burden. But he has learned from experience that the sin declared becomes the sin forgiven. Relationship with God is rediscovered, for only human sin stood in its way. Trust finds itself surrounded by love, with true cause to rejoice and to be glad.

Romans 5 12-19 If sin brought death to humanity, God's generosity in Jesus reaches far beyond that loss. His gift of overflowing grace brings us life: indeed, life in which we reign. It is before such a loving gift, which deals unilaterally with all the problems caused by human failure, that we are called to penitence.

Matthew 4 1-11 It is often in the desert times that temptation takes us. Only three verses after the voice from heaven said This is my Son, the tempter says If you are the Son... With the help of scripture, properly used, Jesus triumphs. His faith puts God at the centre, trusts him rather than testing him, making him the complete focus of his worship.

Points for prayer

- When we feel we are in the desert, we must be prepared to fight temptation;
- Whatever burdens I carry should be laid openly before God;
- Pray that all those who feel God's hand heavy upon them will find the joy of forgiveness.
- Give thanks to God for his overflowing grace in Jesus.

Worship this week

Sunday 26, February 2023

9:00 Holy Communion
Leading & Preaching:
Paul Vrolijk

10:30 Holy Communion
Leading: Eric Sibomana
Preaching: Paul Vrolijk

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

14:00 Holy Communion
Leading: Jean-Bosco Turahirwa
Preaching: Teus Vermeer

[YouTube](#)

18:00 Service of the Word
Leading: Annie Bolger
Preaching: John Wilkinson

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

Wednesday, 1 March 2023

12:30 Holy Communion
Leading & Preaching:
Annie Bolger

[Our Service programme for the month](#)

Welcome to Holy Trinity!

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We will be holding a **'Preparation for Holy Communion'** course for children during Lent. If you would like to register your child, please go [here](#).

Lent booklets The meditations for Lent written by members of our community are now available on the church website https://www.holytrinity.be/len-and-easter_. You can read them daily or download as a book. They are posted daily on <https://meditationswrittenbymembersofholylrinityprocathedral.wordpress.com/> and the Holy Trinity Brussels Facebook page.

Gift account for **pledges and donations:**

The Friends of Holy Trinity
Brussels asbl

IBAN: BE67 1030 7048 2187

This year's **Bishop's Lent appeal** is to support the Anglican community of St Augustine's in Rabat, Morocco. Read all about it in [Bishop David's letter](#). Contributions can be made via Holy Trinity from our donation station or to **The Friends of Holy Trinity IBAN: BE67 1030 7048 2187 with reference 'bishop's lent appeal'**. All funds will then be transferred to the Diocesan account in the UK.

Lent Lectio Divina group We will offer a Lectio Divina (prayerful Scripture reading) group during Lent. Join us on **Wednesdays at 11:15 at Church House**. It is entirely possible to stay afterward for the midweek service at 12:30 and for Lent soup if you so desire. Contact Annie for more details (annie.bolger@holylrinity.be).

Donations to the
Community Kitchen
@HTB ASBL Gift Account
IBAN BE92 3631 1846 4423
BIC code: BBRUBEBB

Lent Soup Join us for the midweek service on **Wednesdays at 12:30** and stay afterward for a simple lunch of soup and bread. Donations will be collected to support the Community Kitchen. Contact Annie for more details (annie.bolger@holylrinity.be).

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.

A conversation with Dr Vinoth Ramachandra - 1 March 2023 at 19:00 in church The HTB book club is currently reading the book *Subverting Global Myths: Theology and the Public Issues that Shape Our World* by the Sri Lankan author Vinoth Ramachandra. Dr Ramachandra will be in Brussels on Wednesday 1st March and we are looking forward to a conversation with him in church at 19:00. Vinoth currently serves on the IFES Senior Leadership Team as Secretary for Dialogue & Social Engagement. For more details please see: <https://vinothramachandra.wordpress.com/about/>. You are warmly invited for an engaging evening. In case you are unable to make it in person, you can log on to zoom (Join Zoom Meeting <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84586598626?pwd=dWUwcnA2RlZ2dUFjQ3lyMzZDSlljQT09> Meeting ID: 845 8659 8626 Passcode: 487449 If you have any questions, please email admin@holylrinity.be

We will be holding a **Bring and Share lunch** on **12 March** when we will have Canon Richard Bromley, Mission Director of ICS with us. This will take place down in the Walker Hall between 12:30 and 14:00. Please bring a dish to share. Water and juice will be provided.

Seniors' Spring tea party

We will hold an in-person tea party at the home of Pam Clements at 31 Avenue Leopold III, 1970 Wezembeek-Oppem on **Thursday, 23 March** from **15:00 to 17:30**. You are welcome to come along! Please let admin@holylrinity.be or Pam Clements (pamclements@outlook.com / 0474 970 876) know if you would like to attend.

**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!

Bishop Robert will be with us on **Sunday 7 May (afternoon)** for a **Confirmation Service**. If you would like to think about being confirmed or would like to know more about what it means, please have a word with one of our clergy, [register online](#) or email admin@holymtrinity.be

A note from the Treasurer. It's probably surprising to learn that it costs over €1,000 per day to run Holy Trinity. The majority of our income comes from the gifts and donations made to The Friends of Holy Trinity via our bank account BE67 1030 7048 2187. This is the most cost-effective way to give to the church as each transaction costs typically 4 cents. This means that the church receives €99.96 for each donation of €100. It would still be reasonable at €99.93 by Payconiq but SumUp would give us €98, Stripe €96 and Givt €93 for each €100 donated. Cash would be expected to net €99.70 for each €100 donated due to the time required to count and bank the cash and the risk of loss or theft. Therefore, we encourage standing orders via the bank. **The budget for this year shows a shortfall of €27,500 in income to meet the expected expenses.** Therefore, I am asking everyone to prayerfully consider their giving to see if there is room to increase the amount given to the church despite the increase in costs that we all face in our daily lives.

Key card amnesty. We are running out of key cards. They are expensive to obtain, and it takes time as they have to be programmed for us. If you hold a key card that you no longer really need please return it to the office. With thanks in advance, your Administrator.

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@holymtrinity.be to learn more.

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.

The Wider Church

The Mark Drama Extravaganza is a 90-minute play based on the gospel of Mark. It's an innovative way of experiencing the Gospel of Mark and communicating it to others; performed as theatre-in-the-round with minimal props. You can read more about it here - <https://themarkdrama.com> The **Extravaganza will take place from March 12th until March 17th; in FR/EN/NL.** If you are interested to join the experience whether it be by promoting it, helping with logistics, hosting a few students from the USA, or even acting in it, please do contact Eric Sibomana on prisons@anglican.be

Godspace is offering a day-retreat in English – time away for inner reflection. A few hours of prayer, reflection, and time to be still. This will be held **on 1st April from 10:00 to 15:30** at Les Fraternites du Bon Pasteur, Rue au Bois 365 B, 1150 Brussels **Price: 15 eur per person** Sign up via <https://stpaulstervuren.churchsuite.com/events/irifexe7j> Booking opens 1st March. For more details contact Sonja Stark on Sonja.starkbe@gmail.com

**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 **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 /Teus Vermeer teus.vermeer@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