



HOLY TRINITY BRUSSELS

St Stephen
26 December 2021

Our readings this week

Worship this week

Sunday 26 December, 2021

10:30 Holy Communion

Leading: Paul Vrolijk
Preaching: Annie Bolger

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

14:00 Holy Communion

Leading: John Wilkinson
Preaching: Jean-Bosco
Turahirwa

[YouTube](#)

Friday 31 December, 2021

23:00 Watchnight Service

Annie Bolger

2 Chronicles 24:20-22 The way of the world is one of wandering. In this case, the death of an old and respected high priest, who had inspired and guided the king and people, is followed by loss of direction. When the new high priest speaks out against corruption, he is undermined and killed, along with his son. But the son's dying words remind us all that, however high we be, we must account for our actions before God.

Psalms 119 161-168 Everyone faces choices as to the path they follow in life. Those who put their trust in God and his word find great peace there. Although they may be persecuted for their faith, it is to God that they look for salvation. For them, it is a choice between truth and falsehood. They tremble in awe before God's word, rather than trembling in fear at the threats of human opponents.

Acts 7:51-end People do not like being confronted with the truth, if they feel that it condemns them. By his words, Stephen provoked the fury of the mob. But it was the vision of Christ in glory, rather than the mob, that moved him. His death seemed like a terrible defeat for the young church. But Acts shows us how that moment of crisis led to a transformation of the preaching of the gospel. This was not to be a defeat, but a turning point.

Matthew 10:17-22 From his first instructions to his disciples, Jesus warned that the preaching of the gospel would provoke furious opposition. Yet he urges the disciples to be fearless and to trust God for guidance. His own preaching showed both the opposition that the gospel meets and the faith that confronts evil. We can expect no better than our Lord. But God vindicated him.

Pointers for prayer

- As we celebrate Christmas, Christ's church is reminded that its calling is to proclaim a gospel that is not about tinsel, but about truth and justice.
- Does my own life show the Christmas message of fearlessness and reconciliation with God?
- Pray for the many persecuted Christians in the world, to know God's vindication.

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

***The flowers today are offered by two members of the congregation
to the Glory of God and in celebration of the Incarnation
of our Lord Jesus Christ***

Welcome to Holy Trinity!

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.

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. If you need any help, please email 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.

Watchnight Service | 31 December at 23:00

You are invited to welcome the New Year with praise and prayer. This service will take place in person and we ask you to register here: <https://holytrinitybrussels.churchsuite.com/events/h2ly7dfz>. Together we give thanks for God's faithfulness throughout this past year, and we commit our lives and the life of the church to God for 2022.

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.

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.

*Gift account for pledges
and donations:*

*The Friends of Holy Trinity
Brussels asbl*

IBAN: BE67 1030 7048 2187

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.
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)

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 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 or, email 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

Facebook: www.facebook.com/HolyTrinityBrussels

Instagram: @holylrinitybrussels

Phone: 02 511 71 83

Email: 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 by 9:00 Wednesday

Senior Chaplain & Canon Chancellor: The Revd Canon Dr Paul Vrolijk paul.vrolijk@holylrinity.be

Canon Pastor: The Revd Canon John Wilkinson john.wilkinson@holylrinity.be

Associate Chaplain: The Revd Dr Catriona Laing catriona.laing@holylrinity.be

Assistant Curates: The Revd Jean Bosco Turahirwa jean.bosco.turahirwa@holylrinity.be

and The Revd Annie Bolger 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

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

Children's & Youth Worker: Ms Anna Zödi anna.zodi@holylrinity.be

Precentor/Music Director: Dr David Mitchell 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