

HOLY TRINITY B R U S S E L S

Easter 4 21 April 2024

Our readings this week

Acts 4:5-12 Peter speaks without fear and the Holy Spirit speaks through him, to announce the gospel: lives are being transformed by Jesus who, as foreseen by scripture, was rejected and killed by men, but raised by God. Notice how an act of good threatens the privileges of the powerful.

Psalm 23 As we read this psalm, we learn how God cares for the everyday needs of his helpless people, accompanies them and protects them in danger. The shepherd is not just a protector of you and me. He is the generous host who lavishes great blessing on all those he calls into his fold. What greater blessing than to be everlastingly in his care?

1 John 3:16-24 God uses power by total self-giving love, that knows no limit in reaching out towards our needs. To follow him, and to do the same with our lives, is to be at rest, because we put first the thing that is most important: our service to our Lord. In turn, this serves others.

John 10:11-18 The picture of God as shepherd runs right through the Bible. Here Jesus takes it to himself. He loves his people so much that he will lay down his life for us. But we must beware of thinking that this love is just for me, possibly also for you. No, it is for all people. How can his voice reach them? Through us.

Pointers for prayer

- In all sorts of ways, we try to hang on to what we think is our power, whether it is at home or at work or elsewhere. Pray that we may let God in to the places where we most want to keep control;
- When Peter fearlessly spoke the truth, the Holy Spirit spoke through him. Pray for the message of the Church, that we may have the courage to speak, and that the Holy Spirit may use our words to advance the Kingdom of God;
- True love is something lived, not just talked about. It involves taking risks but promises great reward. Pray about the corners of our lives that we hold back from love.

Worship this week

Sunday, 21 April 2024

9:00 Holy Communion Leading & Preaching: Evelyn Sweerts

10:30 Holy Communion Leading: John Wilkinson Preaching: Evelyn Sweerts

Zoom; YouTube

14:00 Holy Communion FR/EN Leading: John Wilkinson Preaching: Charles Kabera

YouTube

18:00 Service of the Word Leading: Evelyn Sweerts Preaching: Philip Milton

Zoom; YouTube

Contact our Children & Youth Coordinator Philip Milton for more details about children's and youth activities.

Wednesday, 24 April 2024

12:30 Holy Communion Leading & Preaching: Annie Bolger

Welcome to Holy Trinity!

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

If you would like to sponsor the flowers that decorate the church each week, contact Carol (carol.delusignan@skynet.be)

The Prayer Chain

welcomes requests for prayer for any situation with complete confidentiality. Please contact Carole Ludlow on <u>celudlow@gmail.com</u> or Sister Julian on <u>birteday@gmail.com</u>.

Online Morning and Night Prayer

Did you know that members of Holy Trinity meet together for prayer online throughout the week? You can drop in on any day and join the prayers. The password is 'htb'.

Morning prayer: Monday to Friday, 9:00 <u>https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82</u> <u>809036058#success</u> Compline/Night prayer: Monday to Friday, 21:00 <u>https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89</u> <u>837499334#success</u> Coffee and tea are served after the 10:30, 14:00 and 18:00 services, the bar is also open after 10:30. Following the **9:00 service: On the first Sunday of each month, immediately after the service, we will be offering coffee and tea in Church House**. Come and say hello.

Today is Soapy Sunday! Please share the following items which we will pass along to the Salvation Army and the women's prison: women's sanitary items, nappies, new underwear for women, men and children (open packages are just fine), and **unopened** shower gel, shampoo, toothbrushes, toothpaste, men's razors and shave cream. We have a box for you to deposit them at the back of church. Thank you for your generosity!

Preparation for First Communion will be taking place this month during the 10:30 service. Please get in touch with Philip Milton if your child/teen is interested. <u>philip.milton@holytrinity.be</u>

Peace & Conflict Transformation Course we are delighted to invite you to the graduation and presentation of certificates next **Sunday 28 April 2024** at Holy Trinity. The ceremony will begin at 14:00, followed by a reception. Please let us know before **22 April** if you'd like to attend, by <u>signing up here</u>. Your presence and your support will be a great joy to us. A financial contribution would also be welcome to: Centre Pour la Paix et Transformation Conflits IBAN: BE35 5230 8145 6837. The first series of training sessions were reserved for members of Holy Trinity Brussels. The training is now also open to members of other churches and organisations. The next round of courses will start in October 2024. <u>Register here</u> or contact <u>admin@holytrinity.be</u>.

The Annual General Meeting of Holy Trinity will take place on **Thursday, 23 May** via Zoom, with a **Finance Meeting** the previous week on **15 May**. To participate and vote in the Annual Meeting you need to be on the 'Electoral Roll'. Most people in our congregation are on the Electoral Roll already. To confirm whether you are on the Electoral Roll, please contact Lieve Cordeel, our electoral roll officer on <u>finance@holytrinity.be</u>. If you want to be on the Electoral Roll and you are 16 years old or older and have been worshipping with us for more than 6 months, you can <u>fill in our online Form</u>. **Please note forms must be submitted at the latest two weeks before the AGM date, by 9 May.** A copy of the current Electoral Roll will be posted in the church lobby. Please take a minute to check if your name is there and your details are correct. For any issue with registration or filling in the online Form please contact Lieve.

Lectio Divina, a prayerful and reflective way of reading Scripture with others, will be offered by Sister Julian in Church House at 11:15am on the following dates: 17 April, 15 May, 5 June. Please mark your diaries and join us.

NEW! Wednesday evening Bible study at Church House

The Lent Bible Study Group is evolving! We will be re-launching it as a new home group very soon, meeting at Church House on Wednesday evenings from 7.30-9pm. Our first study is an exciting look at the Church and what we can learn about it from the Book of Acts. Exact start date and frequency of meetings to be confirmed in consultation with participants. If you would like to join us or would like to find out more, please contact <u>admin@holytrinity.be</u>.

*For requests and offers of accommodation or employment, Holy Trinity Brussels is not responsible for asking for appropriate checks and references, or for any contracts. These are the responsibility of all the parties involved.

Scan QR to join our official Whatsapp group



Please avoid taking photos or videos during services unless you have sought prior permission to do so. Thank you!

The majority of services and concerts taking place at Holy Trinity are being live streamed to YouTube via Zoom. We do our best not to record private individuals. Individuals taking part in the service and/or concert as choir members, musicians, serving team, etc., will be recorded. On some occasions photos are also taken by a member of the Holy Trinity ministry team for use on social media and the church website. If you wish to opt out, send an email to admin@holytrinity.be.

Two months ago, Dr Rowan Williams, former Archbishop of Canterbury gave a lecture on "**Doctrinal diversity and Christian communion**" at the Communautaire Internationale de Saint Dominique, Brussels. For those who missed it, <u>here is a link to the video.</u>

One of our Mission Partners **Songani Centre**, **Malawi** will be organising a Garden Party on 8 June from 14:00 to 17:00. For more info, see <u>poster</u> in lobby or contact Sue Bird <u>sue@mbedza.org</u>.

The Wider Church

Reclaiming your TIME, ENERGY and SOUL: in other words, Getting Your Life Back and sharing it with others. 2 sessions on self organisation and self-care. Offered by Paul Vrolijk, with Bernd Guenther SJ and <u>Sarah-Jane King</u> at the Chapel for Europe. There is a fee for this course. All details can be found here: <u>https://www.facebook.com/events/371287675822539/</u>. First session starts **Tuesday 23 April 2024.** There are 5 evenings. People can come to all or pick and choose.

Hidden Gems is running a community singing event in Brussels from **9-12 May 2024.** For full details on how to register and what it is about, see their <u>poster</u>, also pinned in the church lobby.

*Joe Shaw a 21-year-old Modern Languages student from Bristol, is looking for a three-week placement this summer in a French speaking country. If anyone can help, he can be contacted on josephshaw414@gmail.com.

Seeking Employment* many at Holy Trinity know Waseem Raza who worshipped in this church before continuing his studies in the Netherlands. Waseem is seeking employment. He is looking for a position to be an advocate for minority rights in persecuted countries and offers experience in Christian-Muslim interreligious dialogue. If you have any suggestions, please contact Waseem at <u>wraza@ctsem.edu</u>.

Creation Corner

Encouraging & empowering this community to become better stewards of the earth

Sights on Silver Campaign

We're all inspired by our Pathfinders group helping to lead Holy Trinity over the next several months in theological lifestyle reflections. The first month's challenge is "What we wear: Explore sustainable fashion choices and the impact of our clothing habits." Maybe begin this month by learning more about <u>fast fashion</u> and the irreparable harm done by the fashion industry to people and planet. What steps could each of us take in the next month to disrupt our participation in fast fashion?

The Pathfinders suggest a challenge like <u>Project 333</u>, choosing to wear what we already have, 33 items over 3 months. These kinds of challenges can shift our perspectives on consumerism, materialism, and the connection between our clothing choices and the well-being of those around us!

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

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Facebook: www.facebook.com/HolyTrinityBrussels

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Office hours: Monday & Wednesday 9h15 to 12h30 (presence) Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 9h15 to 14h30 (remote work)

Newsletter items: to <u>admin@holytrinity.be</u> by 9:00 Wednesday

Senior Chaplain & Canon Chancellor: vacant

Acting Senior Chaplain and Canon Pastor: The Revd Canon John Wilkinson john.wilkinson@holytrinity.be

Assistant Chaplain: The Revd Jean Bosco Turahirwa jean.bosco.turahirwa@holytrinity.be

Assistant Chaplain: The Revd Annie Bolger annie.bolger@holytrinity.be

Locum Chaplain: The Revd Evelyn Sweerts evelyn.sweerts@holytrinity.be

National Anglican prison chaplains based at HTB:

Mrs Grace West, The Revd Charles Kabera, Mr Eric Sibomana

MES Intern:

Readers: Ms Heather Roy; Mrs Ozichi Baron; Mr Jacob Quick; Mrs Grace West; Mr Arttu Makipaa; Mr Eric Sibomana

Youth Coordinator: Philip Milton philip.milton@holytrinity.be

Precentor/Music Director: Dr David Mitchell david.mitchell@holytrinity.be

Safeguarding officer: Geraldine Barry safeguarding@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 <u>secretary@anglican.be</u> Second Secretary: Ms Rebecca Breekveldt