



August 11 2019
Trinity 8

Holy Trinity Brussels Newsletter

Today's Services and preachers

- 9:00 – Holy Communion: Fiona Simon
- 10:30 – Holy Communion: Fiona Simon
- 14:00 - Holy Communion: John Wilkinson
- 18:00 - Service of the Word: John Wilkinson

Our readings this week

Genesis 15:1-6 God promises Abraham (using his original name, Abram) that he will be his shield and his reward. The shield Abraham has just experienced, and the reward recalls Abraham's refusal of earthly loot. But of what use will this be to a childless man? In answer, God shows Abraham a vision of a family more numerous than his dreams. Abraham believes God, who counts this faith as righteousness, demonstrating why faith is to become the pillar of our Christian salvation.

Psalms 33 Faithfulness, righteousness, justice and steadfast love are among the qualities of our God. How these contrast with insecure human plans! A word from God and his will comes to pass. This is the God who looks on all humanity. Before him, human plans are nothing. But he loves his people. That is why we rejoice to build our hope on him and why we place our faith in him as our help and shield.

Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16 We cannot exaggerate the importance of faith. It was his willingness to trust his future to God, sure of his providence, that marked Abraham's readiness to abandon his home and origins. That trust endured, even while there was no sign of Abraham's hopes being fulfilled and that faith empowered him to fulfill his hope beyond human capacity. With the eye of faith, we see God, working beyond human possibility.

Luke 12:32-40 If we will trust God's promise of his kingdom to his people, we will gain a radically new perspective on material possessions. For while material gifts perish, God's promise endures and with it our hope. We are Jesus' "little flock". Few in numbers, weak in worldly power, we nonetheless hold to the promise of all that matters. We must be vigilant, not distracted by worldly care, ready to welcome him when he comes.

Pointers for prayer

- Pray that God may strengthen all our tentative steps of faith. Who are the others for whose faith I might pray?
- Exactly what are my hopes and dreams? How long are they likely to endure?
- Rejoice in the God who alone is to be trusted and who loves us through and through.

Would you like to reflect more with us on these passages? Listen to today's sermon and others at www.holytrinity.be/sermons

Our Life Together

Welcome to Holy Trinity. If you are interested in knowing more about the life of Holy Trinity, please fill out a welcome card available on the pews and hand it to one of the team. After the 10:30 and 14:00 services, coffee and tea are served downstairs; and after the 18:00 at the back of the church. Do join us and introduce yourself if you are new or visiting Brussels.

Look around you! At the end of the service please greet the people sitting near you. If you do not know them introduce yourself. If you think they are new ask them to fill in a Welcome Card, there should be one at the end of the pew. Why not walk down to coffee together? (Completed cards can be given to a member of the clergy or the person standing near the Welcome Table).

The Church Office **will be closed for a week's holiday** between Monday 12 and Friday 16 August. It will still be possible to reach a member of the clergy in case of emergency.

Sunday school is now on holiday! For the next few weeks our volunteers will be taking an extremely well-deserved break. Everything will resume again in September, starting with an all age worship service to kick off the academic year on 1 September. The crèche will still be available (but unstaffed) to parents who would like to make use of it.

We've prepared a special **Children's Worship Bulletin** full of fun activities for our younger members – do make sure to take one for every child in the family. There are pencils and felt tip pens available at the back of the church.

New Shoeboxes required for all children in the Godly Play programme next term. If you have one (or more!) box to donate, please email jeremy.heuslein@holytrinity.be or bring them to a service and stack them in the front hallway of the CLJ. Thank you!

Benedictine spirituality this summer? Would you like to learn more about Benedictine spirituality and the ancient rule of St Benedict? The Monastery of St Remacle in Stavelot (East Belgium) is a place of worship and hospitality where everyone can experience the monastic life. Over the week-end of 16, 17, 18 August you can get a taste.... Sunday 18 August at evensong/ vespers there is a celebration (in French) at which our (Council) member of HTB **Birte Marianne Day** is to become an oblate OSB (as an Anglican). You are cordially invited to the service followed by a meal. Even if you cannot attend, please pray for the monks and for the prayerful life they try to live. For further information birteday@gmail.com or : www.wavreumont.be

Prayer Ministry Training: Saturday 31 August from 10:00-15:00. There will be a course run at HTB for anyone involved or interested in learning what is involved in the ministry of praying with people after the 10:30 and 18:00 services. For further details please contact Fiona on fiona.simon@holytrinity.be.

Bass guitarist hunt – Is there anybody in the congregation who plays the bass guitar a little and could be part of the music band during all age worship? Please contact Fiona on Fiona.simon@hoyltrinity if you can help.

Home Group Re-launch. Home groups are a great way of connecting together with a small number of people to offer one another friendship and support as we live out our Christian life and faith. They are places where you can learn, worship and grow together.

This September we are creating 4+ new homegroups to augment the ones already meeting, in the hope that everyone who would like to join a group can find one which is suitable for them. We hope to add another daytime group, a French speaking group, and groups in new locations. Now is the time to think about joining – and there will be the opportunity to meet the group leaders and sign up in September. If you have been thinking that you may like to start a group yourself (and have not yet spoken to Fiona), please do get in touch and be part of the leaders training and commissioning that she is organizing.

Fiona.simon@holytrinity.be

Holy Trinity Community Kitchen Project. A core team has now been formed to manage and develop this exciting project which we hope to launch on 9 September. The community kitchen will be open to anyone to participate on Monday and Saturday mornings. Together we will prepare food to supply projects around Brussels that provide meals for those in need and to build up a supply of dishes that we can freeze and that will be available to anyone in need in our congregation or known to us. Anyone interested in giving some time to cook or support the community kitchen should contact Gayl (gaylr@skynet.be) or Fiona fiona.simon@holytrinity.be for further details.

The Treasurer thanks all those who put **coins in the collection** as their offering to the church. However, he asks that only Euro denominated coins (including cents) be offered. Foreign coins not only block our coin counting machine, but they are not accepted by the bank and therefore have no value for us. He thanks everyone for their co-operation.

The Treasurer is pleased to report that at the end of July congregational giving by monthly standing order was ahead of the same period last year and he wishes to thank all those who have started pledging or have increased their pledges this year. However total giving is still behind last year as plate collections are much lower than they used to be. He continues to recommend a monthly standing order to Holy Trinity Gift account BE14 3100 3441 5383 and the use of the payconiq app to make your offering. The payconiq app can be downloaded to your mobile phone and linked to your bank account. Once this is done your offering can be made by scanning the QR code on the back page of the newsletter or by searching for "Holy Trinity Offering". For further info just email the Treasurer: treasurer@holytrinity.be

Back to school campaign: The Protestant Social Centre, one of our mission partners, is collecting school materials in good condition (stationery, glue, school bags, etc.) to help the families they support with the burden of equipping children for the new school year. A box will be available at the back of church until Sunday 25 August for your material contributions. For information on more ways to help the PSC please contact: Jairo (aresjairo@yahoo.com) or Sally (sally.gill.steel@gmail.com).

Financial Support – Wazim is seeking financial help in order for him to complete his final year studies in Biblical languages and Exegesis, to enable his work as a Bible Translator. Further details available on the notice board. Donations can be made through the church and labelled 'Wazim'.

Prayer & Presence – The church will be open on Tuesday evenings from 17:30 to 19:00 for anyone who may like to come and talk to/pray with one of the clergy or pastoral team or anyone simply wanting a quiet space to come and pray.

The Prayer Chain welcomes requests for prayer for any situation with complete confidentiality. Please contact Janine Vrolijk on janine.vrolijk@gmail.com

Accommodation Wanted Katalin Mayering, a former HTB member, asks for your help on someone's behalf. "A dear friend's 20-year-old protestant, churchgoer daughter (a Hungarian from Ukraine) won a 1-month traineeship at the European Parliament. She's looking for a room to rent in Brussels for October. Her total budget for the month is 1000EUR which is tight so I would like to ask HTB for help". If you have a room or know of something, please contact Katalin: k.mayering@gmail.com

Do you have a spare room, flat, or guest space that will go unused in the autumn? Our Outreach Worker Jeremy Heuslein's parents will be visiting and helping Natalie and Jeremy from 19 September-17 October, and we'd love to find somewhere for them to stay while they're here. If you might be able to offer a space for any of that time, please email Jeremy: jeremy.heuslein@holyltrinity.be, and thank you very much in advance.

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Website: <http://www.holytrinity.be>

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Office hours: Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday 9:15 to 12:30

Tuesday 9:15 to 16:00

Newsletter items: to admin@holyltrinity.be by 9:00 Tuesday

Senior Chaplain: The Venerable Dr Paul Vrolijk paul.vrolijk@holyltrinity.be

Associate Chaplains: The Revd Canon John Wilkinson john.wilkinson@holyltrinity.be

The Revd Canon Dr Jack McDonald and The Revd Fiona Simon fiona.simon@holyltrinity.be

Assistant Curate: The Revd Jean Bosco Turahirwa

National Anglican prison chaplains based at HTB: Mrs Grace West, The Revd Charles Kabera, Mr Eric Sibomana

Reader: Ms Heather Roy

Precentor/Music Director: Dr David Mitchell

Children, Youth & Discipleship Worker: Mrs Natalie Jones

Pastoral Assistant: Mrs Janet Sayers **Outreach Worker:** Mr Jeremy Heuslein

Gift account for pledges and donations to Holy Trinity Brussels:

IBAN: BE14 3100 3441 5383 BIC: BBRUBEBB

Payconiq: Look for the merchant called "Holy Trinity Offering" to make your donation or use the QR code.

Payments for Drongen, Chassepierre, Men's Retreat & other events:

IBAN: BE51 3635 2047 5162 BIC: BBRUBEBB

Also by *Payconiq:* Look for the merchant called "Holy Trinity Events" to make your payment.

Offering by *Payconiq* | You can scan this QR code with your *Payconiq* app to make an offering digitally.

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