



September 22 2019

Trinity 14

Holy Trinity Brussels Newsletter

Today's Services and preachers

9:00 - Holy Communion: Paul Vrolijk

10:30 - Holy Communion: Paul Vrolijk

14:00 - Holy Communion: John Wilkinson

18:00 - Service of the Word: Fiona Simon - sermon series "Who on earth am I?" continues with "What people think of me – perceptions and projections"

Every Wednesday lunchtime, there is a service of Holy Communion in the church at 12:30

Our readings this week

Amos 8:4-7 The prophet has a message for those who are so caught up in the business of making money that they have lost all perspective. He points to those who find business is so pressing that they grudge even the briefest pause; those whose greed makes them rankly dishonest; and those who for material gain destroy the lives of others. God has taken note and will not forget what they have done.

Psalms 113 the Lord, seated on high, all-seeing and all-knowing, reaches out to the poor man as he scratches for a living, setting him on a par with princes and to the barren woman giving her a home and family. The Lord's reversal is in sharp contrast with the self-centred ambitions of the money-grubber denounced in Amos' prophecy. Who indeed is like the Lord? He deserves the continuous praise of the whole earth.

I Timothy 2:1-7 It is easy for Christians to become so preoccupied with their own needs that they forget that they are part of a world for which Jesus has given himself. Christians should be in prayer for everyone. Whether or not we like those in high political office, we should pray for them. Praying for others will have consequences for us all.

Luke 16:1-13 This point of this story of Jesus is not easy to grasp. Perhaps we do best to look at its context. Jesus is being eagerly listened to by social outcasts, but the religious seem only able to find fault. Then the story seems to say: look, you know how to be worldly-wise when it comes to your business manoeuvres; how come you are not smart when it comes to the things of God? Then he reminds them: you cannot serve God and wealth. Which is more important to them?

Pointers for prayer

- Think over the importance that we attach to our material well-being and the importance that we attach to God. Should we change the balance?
- Take time to pray for those people in authority that you find least appealing;
- Give thanks that, high above the deceptions, trickeries and injustices of this world is an all-seeing God, who is righteous

The flowers today are offered to the Glory of God and in Thanksgiving

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.

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. We have lots of new groups being started this term, details on the board in the foyer and on our website www.holytrinity.be

The Season of Creation, or 'Creationtide' (1 Sept - 4 Oct) is a time for prayer, reflection and action.

A Creationtide prayer – O Father, we marvel at the beauty of your creation, from its magnificent landscapes and wonderful wildlife, to the perfect detail on each leaf. Inspire us this week to look more closely, even in the city, at the nature around us, and to contemplate bolder steps to protect the world you made and love. Amen.

Climate conversations - Climate crisis and environment issues are on the minds of many HTB members, but sometimes it's hard to know where to start to make changes in our daily lives in order to 'tread more lightly' on the planet. After next week's morning service (Harvest Festival) there will be chance to discuss - if you have questions you would like answered, or practical tips to share about living in a more planet-friendly way, come and **join the Climate Conversation after the morning service, Sept 29th.**

Christian Climate Action is a movement of Christians seeking to take meaningful action in the face of climate change. We now have a Belgian group - visit our facebook page (@ChristianClimateActionBelgium), website www.christianclimateaction.be or talk to Floris, Ruth, Jeremy, Mags, Mano, Zelig for more info. Join us!

Next Sunday, September 29 will be our Harvest Thanksgiving Sunday. Please bring along gifts of tinned and other non-perishable foods which will be distributed to local projects which we support in Brussels.

For those that missed out the last time! **Life Course - Resilience: Wednesday 9th October at 19:30-21:30 in Church House.** Speaker: Paul Vrolijk. A practical workshop. Looking at Resilience from a spiritual, physical, mental and emotional angle. All are welcome. Please invite others too.

Giving to Holy Trinity We welcome your financial support to enable the work and ministry at Holy Trinity to continue. The Treasurer recommends a monthly standing order to the Gift account BE14 3100 3441 5383 but there are other ways of giving via Payconiq or by cash. For cash, the Treasurer prefers Euro notes but foreign notes are accepted. For coins please only offer Euros, including Eurocents, as foreign coins not only block our counting machine, they are not accepted by the bank. For information about Payconiq please email the Treasurer: treasurer@holytrinity.be.

We're introducing an innovation today! For those who send their gifts to Holy Trinity by bank transfer or payconiq there will be cards available as you enter church for you to put in the collection bag as it comes around. This way everyone will be seen to be putting

something into the bag rather than just letting it pass by. Furthermore when the collection is blessed, all contributions will be blessed.

New carpet in church? Some people think that the time has come to change the carpet in church. Its 20 years old and quite stained and worn in places. A new carpet would cost €20,000 so we are wondering what the general feeling is about a new carpet. Please let us know your opinion: admin@holytrinity.be

Bishop Robert will be with us on **Sunday 9th February** 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 the clergy.

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.

Can you provide accommodation for delegates attending a Serve the City conference in Brussels Thursday **24th Oct -Sunday 27th October**? Delegates will be coming to Brussels from across Europe and beyond. Please email marie@servethecity.be if you are able to help.

The Wider Church

Operation Mobilisation (OM) Belgium needs your help! They are looking for someone to serve food at their hospitality center which welcomes conferences from OM and other organizations around the year. You can minister to OMers and other groups by keeping bellies full with delicious food. They are searching for someone with experience to help them plan and prepare meals for groups and individuals at their 60 bed conference centre. Please contact info.be@om.org for more details.

BBCA and the UK in Belgium British Embassy Brussels is organising a Brexit Briefing on the evening of Monday 23 September in Brussels. The venue will be the auditorium at the ING Marnix Building, on Rue du Trone (nearest metro Trone). Register soon to secure your place. The event will be the latest in their series of briefings for British citizens in Belgium and their first with the new UK Ambassador Martin Shearman. Doors open at 18:00 with the event starting from 18:30. Prior registration is mandatory via the following link:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfMc3IDoGN2zHEcvuAM8JazpI8vtNKI7qRlceAxyFouk6C1Q/viewform>

The **FCJ Centre of Spirituality** 211 Ave. Winston Churchill, 1180, Brussels announces the following events: 1) **Wednesdays from 4 September** 10.30-12.00 and every second **Tuesday 19.15- 20.30** Stepping out in Faith – Opening our hearts to God's Word. 2) **Saturday 28 September** 10.30-15.30 The power of the prayer of Gratitude. 3) **Sunday 20 October** 14.30-17.00 A New Cosmology –Light for the Journey. 4) **Saturday 16 Nov.** 10.00- 16.30 Couples retreat. Theme: Listening...to myself, to my partner, to God. Anchored in hope in the ocean of God's love For further information, visit www.fcjcentre.be or, email fcj@fcjcentre.be, (GSM 0477 734551 or 02 348 9561).

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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@holytrinity.be by 9:00 Tuesday

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

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

The Revd Fiona Simon fiona.simon@holytrinity.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

Intern: Mr George O'Mahony

Central Committee of the Anglican Church in Belgium (based at HTB)

Chaplain-President: The Revd Canon Prof Jack McDonald **Secretary:** The Revd Jo Jan Vandenneede

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.

Like God, *Payconiq* is around 24/7.

