



# Holy Trinity Brussels

## Newsletter

**Today's Services:** 9.00 Holy Communion Robert Innes  
10.30 Holy Communion Robert Innes  
14.00 Charles Kabera 19.00 Gary Wilton  
**Sunday School focus:** Ways of Praying

### Our readings this week

3 very different meetings with God each challenge us to review our commitment to God's work and the sincerity of our worship. Is this an issue for Lent?

**2 Kings 2: 1-12** Elisha is fiercely loyal to Elijah and is determined to stick with him to the end. But in the course of their journey together, Elisha comes to see that life, and God's work, must move on. By asking for a double-portion, he asked for the inheritance of the first-born son, showing his determination to continue the work that Elijah has begun.

**Psalms 50** God reminds Israel that he is God, far above them, and their relationship must respect that difference. Israel seems to think that they can gain control of God through their sacrifices. But God does not need their sacrifices. What he wants is their heartfelt obedience to the covenant. Then, on the day of trouble, he will deliver them - and will welcome their thank offerings.

**2 Corinthians 4: 3-6** Many people, dazzled by the attractions of material things, find the gospel obscure and full of difficulties. But once we have encountered Christ, it becomes very clear. It becomes a great source of inner light that guides our lives. Once we glimpse Christ's glory, we gain a perspective on everything else.

**Mark 9: 2-9** Jesus let his closest disciples experience a great moment of light, seeing him for who he really is, and hearing the voice of God. Peter does not want to let go of the moment. But by letting it go and setting out on the road to the cross, Jesus brought us salvation. Peter, like Elisha, came to understand this.

### Pointers for prayer

- The starting point in our prayers, as in our lives, must be to humble ourselves before God and his holiness
- God seeks our true commitment to his service. Clinging to familiar securities and even to the high moments can be an obstacle to moving on in faith. What does that involve for me?
- The way we live out our Christian commitment is of enormous importance in a world which struggles to see the truth of the gospel.

At tonight's 7 p.m. service Gary Wilton prepares us for Lent with a talk entitled "The Feast before the Fast"

## Our life together

**A warm welcome to Holy Trinity to visitors and regular church members alike.** Do join us for coffee, tea or something stronger in the hall downstairs after the service. This Wednesday is **Ash Wednesday** and Augustine Nwaekwe will preside at the traditional service of communion with imposition of ashes at 19.30.

**Lenten Meditations** The book should be available at the service on Ash Wednesday evening and at all services the following Sunday. From Ash Wednesday it will be posted daily on <http://holytrinitybrussels.blogspot.com/>

The **Spring Term Programme** is now available at the back of the church, please do take a copy.

**Pathfinders and CYFA** would like to thank everyone who bought their cakes, popcorn, cards and roses last Sunday. They raised €212 for their new table-tennis table, a splendid reward for their efforts.

**The Church's Annual Meeting will take place at noon on Sunday 22nd April.** We are now beginning the process of compiling a report on the year 2011. If you look after a group or aspect of congregational life at Holy Trinity whose activity you would like to see included in the annual report, please do send in a paragraph or so to the Council Secretary Laure Millerot [laure.dailloux@skynet.be](mailto:laure.dailloux@skynet.be) before 1st March.

**Dance yourself Dizzy...** Come and join us for a church wide social event on the evening of Saturday 10th March. It will be a chance to celebrate our wide Church community which we will share with our friends from St Martha and St Mary in Leuven. The evening will include Ceildh, Israeli and a few other types of dancing to try out and perhaps uncover hidden talents among our church community. We will also share good food with each other and celebrate all that it is good about our church! More info to follow or speak to Heather Roy, Deanna Witwer or Jack McDonald.

At 7 p.m. on Good Friday, 6 April, we will present **J.S. Bach's St Matthew Passion** in Holy Trinity. This Baroque masterpiece will be sung in German. Entry is free, but registration is required. Register online at [www.passiontoperform.eu](http://www.passiontoperform.eu). The work is long and demands concentration. It is not suitable for children under the age of nine.

**The chaplain, Robert Innes**, will be away on study leave at Ridley Hall theological college in Cambridge from Monday 20th February until Friday 2nd March.

**Study of Matthew's Gospel:** The Home Group that meets at the home of Guy and Ann Milton is studying Matthew's gospel. This week: chapters 8 and 9. The costs of believing and of not believing. An introduction and weekly study notes can be downloaded from our website at <http://www.holytrinity.be/content/study-matthew%E2%80%99s-gospel>. All are welcome to attend, on Thursdays 20.00-22.00 at the Miltons', 4 minutes walk from Roodebeek Metro. Newcomers please call 02 772 4704 or email: [ann.milton@belgacom.net](mailto:ann.milton@belgacom.net).

**The Prayer Chain** welcomes requests for prayer for any situation with complete confidentiality. Please pass your request to Mary-Jo Nimmons (call 02/640 50 18) or Anne Fieldsend (call 02 735 1997).

This year's **La Foresta weekend away** will take place from Friday 30th March to Sunday 1st April. Our main speaker this year will be the Revd. Philip Mounstephen, the chaplain of our sister church of St. Michael's in Paris. Philip has been ministering at St. Michael's for 5 years, and

before that he had a leadership role with the Church Pastoral Aid Society, working with churches across the UK and Ireland. Philip is a gifted and lively preacher and teacher who has much experience of the joys and challenges of life in a major European capital. La Foresta programmes and booking forms are now available at the back (in both English and French). Book and pay early (by March 5<sup>th</sup>) and save €10 per person!

**Homegroups** Holy Trinity offers several groups that meet in members homes during the week. These are a good way of building friendships and deepening faith. There is a list of homegroups in our termly programme. If you are interested please contact a group leader direct, or the Church Office.

**Holy Trinity Crosses** available to order – possibly the last chance you'll have to buy this delightful jewellery. Ideal Easter gift. Choose from silver (30€) or gold-plated (40€). Cash on delivery only. Speak to Paulina or e-mail her at [aumonier.anglican@scarlet.be](mailto:aumonier.anglican@scarlet.be).

We are urgently seeking **volunteers to act as sides men and women** at the 10.30 a.m. service. If you are interested please contact Nick Fern ([nickfern@skynet.be](mailto:nickfern@skynet.be)).

**World Day of Prayer.** The worship service, prepared this year by the women of Malaysia and entitled 'Let Justice prevail', will be held at the Christian Center, chaussée de Waterloo 47, 1640 Rhode St Genèse on Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> March at 10.30. All are welcome. For more information, please contact Celia Perry 0498689816, [celia\\_perry@hotmail.com](mailto:celia_perry@hotmail.com).

**Accommodation wanted.** Young woman (well, 30!) who worships regularly at Holy Trinity is looking for a room or space to rent within a flat or home for up to 6 months. Works at present in the European Parliament so fairly central accommodation would be preferable but would be happy to travel. Would be independent and quiet and would not want to impose in any way. Thank you in advance for any suggestions or ideas - contact [jane.holmespayne@europarl.europa.eu](mailto:jane.holmespayne@europarl.europa.eu)

**Please take care when entering or leaving Qpark** as a pedestrian as the barrier comes down hard if you are unfortunate enough to be in the way, as at least two of our members can testify. Use the pedestrian walkway at the side of the barrier.

Katharina von Schnurbein, a member of our 10.30 a.m. congregation has been appointed the **new Adviser of the European Commission for the dialogue with churches, religious associations as well as non-confessional organisations.** The dialogue offers a possibility for churches and other organisations of belief to make their voices heard in the European policy making process and discuss issues of European importance with the EU institutions. We are delighted that Katharina has been appointed to this pivotal role in between the worlds of politics and religion and pray for God's blessing on her in it.

### The Wider Church

The FCJ Centre 211 Avenue Winston Churchill 1180, Brussels, is holding a Lenten series of gatherings called "Journeying with Jesus" on Thursday evenings, 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 March: 19.30-21.00. For further information and other events, see web site [www.fcjcentre.be](http://www.fcjcentre.be) email [fcj@fcjcentre.be](mailto:fcj@fcjcentre.be) or telephone 0477 734551. Please leave a message and we will return your call.

**Bruce Kuhn** is performing **'The Cottonpatch Gospel'** - a one man show, putting Matthew's gospel into an American setting of 70 years ago - on Friday March 2nd, 8 pm, at de Kam in Wezebeek Oppem. 10 euros for adults, 5 euros for children. Some of you may remember his brilliant production of Luke's Gospel last year. For further information / reservations, telephone 02 767 9772, or email : [dunachie@telenet.be](mailto:dunachie@telenet.be). Find out more about his work on [http://www.brucekuhn.com/cotton\\_patch.html](http://www.brucekuhn.com/cotton_patch.html).

**'Joy is my name'** is the title of a fundraising concert for CHS to be given by Rebecca Woodmore ( soprano) and Heather Charlton (piano) at 7.00pm on Friday March 16th at Holy Trinity. The programme will consist of Schumann's *Fraueliebe-und-leben* with piano works by Clara Schumann and lullabies from around the world. Tickets are 15 euros. For reservations call: CHS 02 647 6780 or email: [chs@chsbelgium.org](mailto:chs@chsbelgium.org).

Book Launch: **'Retiring in Belgium, a Guide for Expats'** covers the practical, psychological and financial issues relevant to retirement. The BBCA is holding a launch event at Fulcra International Conference Suite, Ground Floor , Avenue de Tervuren 168, 1150 Brussels (metro Montgomery) on Tuesday 6 March from 18:00 to 20:00. Admission is free. Please register on the Fulcra website: <http://www.fulcra-international.com/events> . Discussion will be kicked off by Claudia Coory, who will share some of the challenges of planning for retirement, ways to address them, pitfalls to avoid and experiences she has had while helping individuals, couples and groups along the pre-retirement path. Several of the book's authors, known collectively as The BRATS (Peter Adye, JoAnn Broger, Merton Hale, David Humphreys, Ken and Maggie Inglis) will be at the launch and look forward to joining in the discussions. There will be an opportunity to buy the book during the evening. Otherwise for details of stockists please refer to the website of the Community Help Service ([www.chsbelgium.org](http://www.chsbelgium.org)) or the British Charitable Fund ([www.bcfund.be](http://www.bcfund.be)). All proceeds from the sale of the book will be shared between the CHS and the BCF.

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**Office hours:** Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday 9a.m. – 12 p.m. Tuesday 9 a.m. – 4 p.m.

**Newsletter items:** to [admin@holytrinity.be](mailto:admin@holytrinity.be) by 9 a.m. Tuesday

**Chaplain:** Canon Dr. Robert Innes. **Associate Chaplains:** Canon Dr. Gary Wilton and Canon Dr. Jack McDonald. **Assistant Chaplain:** The Revd. Augustine Nwaekwe. **Hon Assistant Chaplain:** The Revd. Prof. James Day. **Pastoral Assistant:** Mrs Janet Sayers. **Assistant** to Gary Wilton: James Christie Brown

**Gift account for pledges and donations to Holy Trinity Brussels** is 310-0344153-83.

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