



March 19 2017

Lent 3

Holy Trinity Brussels Newsletter

Today's Services - 9.00 - Holy Communion: Paul Vrolijk

10.30 - Holy Communion: The Most Rev. Dr. Joris Vercammen

14.00 - Holy Communion: Grace West

18.00 –Heather Roy– ‘Dethroning Mammon’ 4

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

Our readings this week

Nowhere is water more important than in hot, dusty lands. Small wonder that it provides the Bible with a regular picture for the Holy Spirit.

Exodus 17 1-7 God's provision in the wilderness of water from the rock is one of his mighty acts. Constant grumbling by the Israelites marks that time, too. They do not seem able to remember what God has already done for them, or to trust his providence. "Is God among us or not?" Yes, he is, meeting the needs of those who trust his providence.

Psalms 95 The water flowed from the rock at Horeb, and it is to God, the rock of Israel's salvation, that his people should address their praise, with all the joy and inspiration that the Spirit gives us. But mention of the rock recalls Israel's unbelief in the wilderness, which delayed their entry into the Promised Land. If we are to obtain God's rest, we must be ready to trust his providence.

Romans 5 1-11 God provides for his people. Time and again, that has been their experience. The fullest, most personal, way that he meets our needs is when Christ reconciles us to God without us having to do anything but accept the grace he offers. He does so at just the right time, when we are powerless. Then he pours his love into our hearts, by his Spirit.

John 4 5-42 The Samaritan woman wants to talk, but without the discussion coming too close. The water that Jesus offers is attractive, if it can satisfy her thirst forever. No more need to draw water in the noonday heat! But first she must first face up to herself. When she does, many others believe too. There are many with a thirst that they long to have satisfied – now, as then.

Pointers for prayer

- Is there something bothering me that I have not brought to God?
- Often it is hard to face ourselves. If we do, Jesus will help us in his loving way;
- It is when we feel powerless that we are most open to God's grace and love;

Our Life Together

Don't forget: Next Sunday 26 March the clocks go FORWARD 1 hour!

Welcome to Holy Trinity. Coffee and tea are served downstairs after the 10.30 service, the bar is also open. Do come down and join us for this time of fellowship, and introduce yourself if you are new to or visiting Brussels.

On 22 March, the **first anniversary of the Brussels terrorist attacks**, Holy Trinity Church will be open for reflection and prayer from 9.00 to 12.30 and from 18.00 to 18.45. There will be a service of Holy Communion at 12.30 wherein Bishop Robert will be presiding and a short prayer service at 18.45. There is also a service of prayer at 18.00 at the Cathédrale de St Michel et Gudule.

On Saturday 25 March Holy Trinity will be hosting the spring meeting of the **Anglican Council of Belgium (ACB)**. The ACB brings together representatives of all the Anglican chaplaincies in Belgium to share, discuss and enjoy fellowship. This meeting will focus on social outreach and will include talks from the Belgian leadership of the Salvation Army and a visit to Maison Josefa, a residence close to Holy Trinity that supports refugees and migrants. We will also have Holy Communion together to which all are welcome, to celebrate the Annunciation. The day is open to members of Holy Trinity to attend if they wish. We will start at 10 am with coffee and conclude around 3 pm. The Holy Communion service will be at 12 pm and will be followed by lunch for which we ask a small donation. If you would like to attend any part of the meeting, please register with Heather Roy at heather.roy@gmail.com. Please note, if only planning to attend the communion service you do not need to register in advance.

Our annual church weekend at La Foresta: 12-14 May 2017 **“Mission on Monday: Building Faith on the Frontline”**. We are delighted to have a team from St Andrew's Histon (UK) with us to lead our La Foresta church weekend this year. Revd Canon James Blandford-Baker writes: *How can we grow as confident followers of Jesus on our 'frontlines', the places where we spend most of our time when we are not in church? What does it look like to participate in the mission and ministry of Jesus in our local communities, our places of work and our families? During our time together we'll be exploring these questions through studying the Bible, listening to the stories of others and thinking and praying together as the people of God.* Details of the team and registration information are now on the church website at this link: <http://holytrinity.be/2017/02/27/la-foresta-church-weekend-away-12-14-may-2017/> For the technophobic there are a few paper registration forms available.



This year, **Bishop Robert's Lent Appeal** will go to The Menedékház Foundation, Budapest, which helps homeless families to reintegrate into the workplace and society at large. There is more information here: <http://europe.anglican.org/news/news/post/1205-lent-lurks---be-ready-for-the-challenge> **If you are giving up something for Lent**, why not give any money you save to this appeal? Or perhaps you could make a special donation either in an envelope marked “Bishop's Lent Appeal 2017” in the Sunday offering or by making a bank transfer to the church account also marking it "Bishop's Lent Appeal 2017". Account of United Anglican Church number BE63 3101 0401 5008. *Thank you.*

Lent Meditation Book. Thank you to everybody who wrote. All the paper books have been distributed but they can be downloaded and printed at home from the church website or read from the website, the Holy Trinity Brussels Facebook page, the blog

<http://holytrinitybrussels.blogspot.be/> or goo.gl/8qNIFy or reading the QR code.



Following the 12.30 services throughout Lent a **simple lunch of bread and soup** will be served. We will ask for a small donation to cover costs and the surplus will go to a good cause.

Looking to make a change in Lent? During Lent we are encouraging people across the church to read this year's Lent book by the Archbishop of Canterbury. 'Dethroning Mammon: Making Money Serve Grace' is a critical and biblical look at our attitude to finance and the economy both corporately and personally. As we read it together during Lent it may inspire us to think about how we see money in our societies and our lives. If you plan to read the book and would like some opportunities to discuss it then we will be organising short sessions on 19 March, 30 March, and 12 April to share and discuss our impressions. For further information please contact Heather Roy (heather.roy@gmail.com) for details. **The first discussion group** will take place this afternoon at 16.30 in Church house...tea and cake provided! All are welcome, especially those reading the book, and we will be looking at the first couple of chapters so don't worry if you have not read the whole book yet! If you would like to come, please could you let Heather Roy know.

Connect and grow in one of our home groups all over the city, many of which are currently welcoming new members! All are welcome, whether only for Lent or as a new habit. A number of them will be also be studying the Lent book. Find more information at holytrinity.be/home-groups, or email Natalie (natalie.jones@holytrinity.be).

Save the Date: This year we shall celebrate Easter with a performance of the **St Matthew Passion** on Good Friday 14 April 2017 at 19h. There will be several rehearsals in the weeks leading up to the performance; if you are interested in participating please speak to David Mitchell.

The Holy Trinity AGM will be held on Sunday 23 April at noon after the 10.30 service. Anyone who has worshipped at Holy Trinity for more than six months is eligible to be placed on the Electoral roll so that they can vote at the meeting; to be placed on it, or to check that you are already there, please contact Carole Ludlow our Electoral Roll Officer celudlow@gmail.com.

Financial Update: Last year it cost, on average, €25,174 per month to keep this church running. Your giving contributed €24,170 per month on average. This year we expect costs to be 2-3% higher. Your giving in February was € 20,986 and has averaged € 23,517 per month so far this year.

Commune contacts: As part of our plans to continue to improve our welcome to newcomers, we would like to re-introduce the idea of commune contacts. The aim would be to have a network of people from the various communes who would be willing to welcome church newcomers living in their neighbourhood and help them feel at home at HTB. This could take the form of a chat over coffee or an invitation home to lunch, to help explain the life of our church, such as where local home groups meet, and help put them in touch with other members of the congregation. If you're interested, or would like more information, please talk to Richard Steel or contact him at richard.steel@skynet.be.

The Prayer Chain welcomes requests for prayer for any situation with complete confidentiality. Please contact Janine Vrolijk on Janine.vrolijk@gmail.com or Anne Fieldsend on annefieldsend@hotmail.com or 02 735 1997.

The Wider Church

The FCJ Centre of Spirituality 211 Ave. Winston Churchill, 1180, Brussels is organising the following events: Sundays 19, 26 March: 14.30-17.00: **Through Lent with the Beatitudes**. Monday 27 March: 19.00-22.00, **Mess'AJE Adult Faith Formation Programme: CHRIST AND CHRISTIAN MISSION** (stand-alone session so ALL WELCOME). Saturday 29 April: 10.30-14.30, **Pope Francis & his roots in Ignatian Spirituality**. Presenter: Martin Maier SJ (Jesuit European Social Centre) (Input, questions, group work/sharing). Tuesday 9 May: 19.30-21.00, **The future of the EU from a Christian Perspective**. Presenter: Martin Maier SJ (JESC) (Input followed by questions/discussion) For further information, visit www.fcjcentre.be or, email fcj@fcjcentre.be, (GSM 0477 734551).

Exodus Vision. Frieda Mukanyangezi is making one of her regular mission visits to Malawi in June. She would value both your prayerful and practical support, please contact her on friedamuk@yahoo.fr if you would like more details about the trip.

Address: The Pro-Cathedral of Holy Trinity

Rue Capitaine Crespel 29, B-1050 Brussels Website: <http://www.holytrinity.be>

Phone: 02/511.71.83 **Email:** admin@holytrinity.be

Office hours: Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday 9h15 to 12h30

Tuesday 9h15 to 16h

Newsletter items: to admin@holytrinity.be by 9h Tuesday

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

Associate Chaplains: Revd Canon John Wilkinson and Revd Canon Prof. Jack McDonald

Lay Minister: Mr David Fieldsend **Intern:** Joshua Peckett

Children, Youth & Discipleship Worker: Natalie Jones

Pastoral Assistant: Mrs Janet Sayers

Outreach Worker: Jeremy Heuslein

Gift account for pledges and donations to Holy Trinity Brussels:

IBAN: BE14 3100 3441 5383 BIC: BBRUBEBB

Also by *Payconiq*: Look for the merchant called "Offering" to make your donation.

Contributions to La Foresta and Chassepierre

IBAN: BE51 3635 2047 5162 BIC: BBRUBEBB

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

