



Holy Trinity Brussels Newsletter

Today's Services – 9:00 - Holy Communion: Paul Vrolijk

10:30 – Holy Communion: Paul Vrolijk

14:00 – Holy Communion: Janine Vrolijk

18:00 - Joshua Peckett

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

Our readings this week

Acts 17 22-31 Paul is carefully respectful to the Athenians. He is clear that there is nothing that humans can add to what God has done. He speaks of God's role in creation, his care towards all humanity and the nature of our relationship with him; righteousness, repentance, judgement and resurrection. Paul offers our encounter with the resurrection of Christ as the ultimate proof of God's concern for us.

Psalms 66 God has done mighty works for his community. But the psalmist has also experienced God's personal, daily care. Although the road has not always been easy, either for the community as a whole or for the psalmist, the outturn has always been good. Seen from after, he recognises the difficult times as God refining his servant, extracting the impurities. Now God's road has led him to a place of abundance.

1 Peter 3 13-end This letter has much to say about how Christians should behave in a hostile world. Gentleness and respect towards others are to be the marks of our presentation of Christ: our behaviour should not offer any excuse to those who, in a hostile world, are only too keen to criticise the gospel. The passage gives a careful summary of how Christ, through the Easter events, has changed things for people of all time, and attains authority over every aspect of the created order.

John 14 15-21 Jesus assures us that God wants to be involved in a loving, lively, interactive and eternal relationship with us. In that relationship we encounter the three persons of the Trinity and become aware that relationship is part of the inner being of God. A relationship with God is his gift to those who are lovingly responsive to Jesus and his commandments. Others neither see nor know that Christian experience.

Pointers for prayer

- Pray to be gentle and respectful in our attitude to others
- Obedience is at the heart of our relationship with God. That obedience needs grace
- Give thanks to God for the work accomplished by Jesus in his death and resurrection
- Pray for all who have yet to realise what God has done for them.

The flowers today are offered to the Glory of God by Jennifer Le Jeune in memory of Charles.

Our Life Together

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

Janet Lukasi's husband, **Godfrey**, passed away last week, his funeral took place in the church on 13 May. Please keep Janet, their family and friends in your prayers as she travels to Uganda for the last memorials.

We shall be holding a **"Prayer and Praise"** service to mark the week **'Thy Kingdom Come'** on the evening of Wednesday 31 May at 19:00. Mark it in your diaries and watch for more news!

We're delighted to invite **all young people ages 4-16** to join us (and to bring your friends!) on 3 June for a day of learning, worship, and fun at Holy Trinity Brussels. **Pentecost Praise** is a free-of-charge, relaxed and exciting time that all our young people, as well as others from churches around Brussels, can enjoy together. Space is limited so make sure you register! Visit <https://sites.google.com/site/htbpentecostpraise/> or <https://www.facebook.com/events/288825994875359/> or just email pentecostpraise@gmail.com for more details. Don't forget to bring your entries for the 2018 poster competition with you!

Following the service on 9th May, there will be another service of **Choral Evensong** on **Tuesday 6th June at 19.30**. One of the glories of the Anglican tradition, Choral Evensong, lasts about 45 minutes and is a reflective service of readings, hymns, and choral items. Do come along and invite your friends.

Calling all revisers! Need a quiet space to study for exams, maybe with someone who could help with questions? Look no further than Church House and the new 'Homework Club'. Running from 14 May to 11 June on Sunday afternoons from 14:00 to 17:00, CYFA invites you to come and study, eat some snacks and relieve some of the stress. For any questions or **if you would like to volunteer to be a study helper in a specific subject**, please email Jeremy at jeremy.heuslein@holytrinity.be.

The Treasurer tells us that our giving this year is averaging €5,800 per week which is less than last year by about €400 per week. Our costs are up by an average of about €250 per week, leaving a shortfall of about €650 per week.

Fr Krystian Sowa SJ, Director of the Chapel for Europe is pleased to invite you to two upcoming Conferences. Firstly: **Catholicity, Universality and the Crisis of the European Union**, with keynote speaker: Prof. José Casanova (Georgetown University), which will take place on Monday 22 May at 19:00, Michael Kuhn, Deputy Secretary General of Comece will also speak. Secondly: **Reflecting on a vision of Europe - Contribution of the Christian churches**, on Wednesday 31 May at 19:00 to commemorate the 60th anniversary of the Treaties of Rome. Keynote speaker: Sylvie Goulard (MEP). Panel: Mgr. Jean Kockerols - Catholic Church, Archdiocese Mechelen-Brussels and Rev. Laurence Flachon - United Protestant Church of Belgium, Église Bruxelles-Musée. The conferences will be held in English and moderated by Martin Maier SJ, Secretary for European Affairs – JESC. There are detailed posters in the lobby.

Music for a Summer's Evening. On Friday 2 June at 19:00 the Ipswich Choral Society under the direction of Robin Walker is giving a concert in Holy Trinity featuring

two works by Stevie Wishart: the Belgian première of “Summer” and “Magnificat” (from Vespers for St Hildegard). Tickets cost €10 each to include a drink and a pre-concert talk, and are available from www.ipswichchoralsociety.eventbrite.com. There is a poster about this in the lobby.

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.

Our **Canon Pastor, John Wilkinson**, will be taking a well-deserved sabbatical from September to November this year. He will be temporarily replaced by **Chris Martin**, whom many of you will remember served in a locum capacity here about three years ago. We shall need to find him somewhere to live, so if anyone knows they will have an empty property and would like a responsible house-sitter for this period please let the Church Office know.

Exodus Vision organization Belgium (ASBL) Frieda Mukanyangezi, who often goes herself to God's mission in Malawi would like to invite everyone to come and join her this summer. There is much that can be done in the refugee camp by young people and ladies who are willing to go. The mission trip is scheduled from June 17 through July 3. <http://www.exodusvision.com>

The Wider Church

The FCJ Centre of Spirituality 211 Ave. Winston Churchill, 1180, Brussels is organising the following event: Friday 2 June (20:00) – Sunday 4 June (16:00): **Individually guided retreat.** Venue: La Pairelle SJ Namur (early booking recommended). For further information, visit www.fcjcentre.be or, email fcj@fcjcentre.be, (GSM 0477 734551).

Practical Brexit. The Brussels British Community Association (BBCA) in conjunction with the British Chamber of Commerce in Belgium and supported by ING is holding a meeting focussed on issues arising from BREXIT. The primary goal of the meeting will be to enable individuals rather than companies or organisations to obtain some guidance on the aspects arising out of BREXIT that may be causing them concern. The meeting will be held on Tuesday May 23rd at 18:00 at the ING Auditorium, Avenue Marnixlaan 24, 1000 Brussels. The format to be followed will be to have a panel of speakers with each giving a short synopsis on one specific area. After they have all spoken the floor will be open to everyone to pose questions for the panel to discuss. Tom Parker will be the facilitator of the meeting. To find out more and to register for this interesting meeting please use this link: <http://www.britishinbrussels.com/events/practical-brexit/>

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Tuesday 9h15 to 16h

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

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

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