

For your diaries

African Enterprise will be holding a **fundraising dinner** on Friday 12th February at 7.45 p.m. at the Christian Center, Chaussée de Waterloo 47, Rhode St Genese. The main speaker will be Harvey Thomas CBE (PR and presentation consultant). He now manages AE's administration in the UK and will share his testimony under the theme 'Love in Action'. Tickets are €25 per person available from Lynn Nwagbara on africanenterprisebelgium@telenet.be or 0479/28 16 51.

The Archdeaconry of North West Europe is holding a retreat on 19th–21st February at the Beziningscentrum Emmaus, Udenhoutseweg 15, 5268 CG Helvoirt in the Netherlands (<http://www.conferentieoord-emmaus.nl>). The event will be led by Reverend Kevin O'Brien, Chaplain to the Diocesan Bishop in Europe. Contact Mrs M.P. Jägers at maryon.jagers@planet.nl or call +31/30 63 71 780 for more information.

Please do note that Holy Trinity's **La Foresta** weekend away this year will be the last weekend of May, Friday 29th to Sunday 30th May. **Please write the dates in your diary now!** The main speaker will be Professor Ted van der Ende, who will be helping us to think about 'biblical travel stories'. We'll be thinking about our own travels, and the question of migration, in the light of the travelling we read about in scripture.

HOLY TRINITY Rue Capitaine Crespel 29, B-1050 Brussels

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Website: <http://www.htbrussels.com> Office hours: 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. Monday, Wednesday Thursday and Friday and from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Tuesday.

Newsletter items: to admin@holytrinity.be by 9 a.m. on Tuesday..

Chaplain: Canon Dr. Robert Innes. **Associate Chaplain:** Canon Dr. Gary Wilton, **Assistant Chaplain:** The Revd. Augustine Nwaekwe. **Hon. Assistant Chaplain:** The Revd. Prof. James Day. **Pastoral Assistant:** Mrs. Janet Sayers.

Gift account for pledges and gifts to HTB, the **Clergy and Friends of HTB** is 310-0344153-83. **IBAN:** BE14 3100 3441 5383 **BIC:** BBRUBEBB

Holy Trinity Newsletter

January 17th 2010 – Epiphany 2

Today's Services: 09.00 Holy Communion James Day; 10.30 Holy Communion James Day; 14.00 Holy Communion Augustine Nwaekwe; 19.00 Robert Innes

Our readings this week

Isaiah 62:1–5 Something new is happening in Jerusalem. So complete is the renewal that a new name will be needed, to mark the way God has changed the fortune of his city. The change can be seen by the whole world, far beyond the limited confines of Israel. Small wonder the prophet is bubbling over with excitement.

1 Corinthians 12:1–11 The gifts of the Holy Spirit to the church are abundant and varied. They all testify, in the end, that Jesus is Lord. Paul's point is that, when someone is "gifted", it is by no virtue of their own, but because something has been given to them. All gifts come *from* one Spirit, *in* the service of one Lord, *for* the common good.

John 2:1–11 This lovely story is described as a "sign". What does it point to? Certainly, to abundant provision in place of shortage; and to the transformation of the water of the ceremonial law into the wine of Christ, wine that is sufficient for the needs of the whole world. Maybe it points to the great banquet of the end of time. The story is rich in meaning. The evangelist says it revealed Jesus' glory.

Psalms 36 This psalm contrasts the joy of living in the steadfast love of the Lord with the self-delusion of the wicked. Plotting evil day and night, evildoers find in the end that their folly has led only to death. The central verses of the psalm are a hymn of rejoicing in the steadfast love of the Lord. So vast is that love that humans and animals alike are saved by it. So provident is that love that we can find shelter under it, feast on it, drink from it and see by it. Long may it continue: indeed, it will continue – forever.

Pointers for prayer

- Pray that we may read well the signs that point us to Christ;
- Our church is full of rich gifts, provided by God. How can we use them to enrich the community and serve the Lord?
- Give thanks for all the wonderful things that God, in his steadfast love, does for his people.

At the Evening Service tonight Robert Innes continues the series on Philipians, reminding us that "God is your Goal", drawing on Philipians 3

Our life together

We offer a sincere welcome to Holy Trinity today, both to visitors and to regular members of our church as we gear up for the work of another year.

Calling all buyers! Today is **Bun Sunday**. Our monthly sale of baked goodies and marmalade & jams will be held downstairs in the hall after the 10.30 a.m. service. Please bring along your own bag to take home your purchases!

Reverend Gillian Wilton is being licensed as a member of the staff team at St Paul's Tervuren today at 10.30 a.m. Please remember Gillian and the Wilton family in your prayers.

Week of prayer for Christian Unity. There will be an Ecumenical Service for Brussels at 8 p.m. on Thursday 21st January in the Russian Church, rue Leon Lepage 33, 1000 Brussels. A limited number of brochures containing prayers and readings for the week are available at the back of church.

"When I was in prison you visited me." Next Sunday 24th January at 2 p.m. we shall be licensing Grace West for her work in prisons. Grace has begun work as the lay Anglican chaplain to Francophone prisoners. Grace's work is carried out under the supervision of the Anglican Council of Belgium. Grace will be expected to undertake theological training for her ministry equivalent to that expected of a Lay Reader. Her licensing will be a commissioning and celebration of this vital work of outreach and care, which Grace engages in on behalf of our whole church community.

On Sunday evening 24th January at 7 p.m., the evening service will be a bring-and-share wine, cheese and worship event in the hall. Please bring some wine and cheese and your friends. For more details please contact markus.kankaanpaa@holytrinity.be.

Please note that the **Chaplain will be away on Study Leave** at Ridley Hall in Cambridge **from 8–28th February inclusive.**

Our Church Council met on Monday. Much of our time was spent considering the topical question of heating. We are implementing a range of measures to improve our control and delivery of heat to the different parts of the premises. In particular, we will be replacing the mechanical clocks with digital programmable clocks, and ensuring that wardens and evening service wardens are familiar with the heating controls. The Council also approved the completion of the refurbishment of the Church House kitchen – involving replacement of the windows and electrical wiring.

Parking arrangements. The church benefits from an agreement with Inno which gives us 30 free tickets for the car park each Sunday morning. We are changing the system for the administration of the car park so that, in future, these tickets will be available at the end of the morning service from a box at the back of church. If your car is in the Inno car park please do pick up a ticket. Note that the tickets are timed and dated, so that – unfortunately – you cannot use them for future Sundays or weekdays. Like manna from heaven, if you do not use your ticket on the day it is supplied, then it is no use!

CDs from our 13th December Carol Service are now on sale for €7 each (or €20 for three). They are available from our Music Director David Mitchell on a Sunday or by email at precentor@holytrinity.be.

Voice for Life. We are now welcoming a new batch of seven year-olds for our Voice for Life singing and music course. Interested parents please contact David Mitchell directly on 02/289 09 23 or via the Church Office at 02/511 71 83.

The Bun Sunday bake sales raised about **€3,400** in 2009. So a big thank you to all bakers and buyers! Please let Ann Freeman know of any projects you would like to support with this money (in writing to her pigeon-hole or to annbarleycorn@belgacom.net).

A number of items of mail have arrived in the Church Office postbox and the intended recipients either do not have pigeon-holes or cannot be identified. Please check if there is anything for you in the cardboard box labeled 'mail box' in the church entrance area.

New spring programme for 2010 now available at the back of church. Please take a copy to keep up to date on Holy Trinity's key services and other events to take place between January and March 2010. Contact admin@holytrinity.be if you have any additions or modifications before the next print run takes place!

In preparation for the church's Annual General Meeting on 18th April, please check if your name is on the **list of Holy Trinity parishioners** that is available at the entrance to the church. If you are not featured on the list, please complete a form that you can find on the welcome tables or ask Paulina Robbins van Rijn, who kindly keeps the list up-to-date.

Do you regularly attend the Sunday 10.30 a.m. service? We are still looking for **volunteers to help with the sound**. The only requirement is that you turn up at 10.15 a.m. one Sunday every 4–5 weeks to man the microphones during the service. Full training is provided! No technical background required – anyone can learn. If you are interested, please contact Petra Zollner at zollner_petra@yahoo.co.uk.

The Prayer Chain welcomes requests for prayer for any situation with complete confidentiality. Please pass your request to Mary-Jo Nimmons – tel 02/640 50 18, email: cnimmons@brutele.be or Anne Fieldsend – tel: 02/735 19 97.

Wider Church News

Serve the City are seeking representatives from the English-speaking churches in Brussels, including ourselves. This could be an exciting service opportunity. The role would involve encouraging, recruiting and developing volunteers and attending a monthly gathering. More details from Robert (chaplain@holytrinity.be) or Gary (gary.wilton@holytrinity.be).

Eurodiaconia is searching for an **Administration and Communications Officer** for their Brussels secretariat. Working in a Christian environment, the post holder will be responsible for organising meetings and events, general office organisation and for a range of communication tools including a website and newsletter. If you would like to find out more about this position, please go to <http://www.eurodiaconia.org>.