

# Holy Trinity Newsletter

February 7<sup>th</sup> 2010 – Creation Sunday

**Today's Services:** 09.00 Holy Communion David White; 10.30 Holy Communion David White; 14.00 Holy Communion Augustine Nwaekwe; 19.00 Heather Roy

## Our readings this week

**Genesis 2:4b–9, 15–end** The second account of creation follows a different order from the first, but still puts humanity first among living things. Our natural place is as gardeners in the paradise garden, working obediently with God's providence, in relationship with the animal kingdom, helped by our partners, in relationship one with another and with God.

**Revelation 4** John is allowed to glimpse heavenly reality, a vision of the glory of God, enthroned among symbols of his creation that recall the prophetic visions of the Old Testament. His servants, ever watchful and ready to act at his bidding, pour forth a stream of praise. Some of this ironically echoes the homage demanded by the Roman emperor. The words are apt for God. Whatever the destructive pretensions of the emperor, it is God who is creator.

**Luke 8:22–25** The disciples encounter the awesome might of nature. Like others in the world, they find that it can be terrifying, destructive and life threatening. Where is God when this is happening? Yet when Jesus rises, nature gives way before him and is calm. The storm is an image of the chaos that God subdued in the order of creation, and which keeps breaking out. Yet God masters it: in the midst of the storm, he is still present, in the midst of his creation.

**Psalms 65** This psalm is a hymn of praise for God's providence, particularly as seen in the harvest. But the psalm takes good note of the raw power that has to be held in check if we are to be secure. It is the might of the God who could make mountains that drives back the tumult of chaos – including, at times “the peoples”. There is nothing inevitable in the rich provision described in the last verses.

## Pointers for prayer

- In catastrophes like the Haiti earthquake, we feel as if chaos is breaking through. Like the disciples, we cannot understand. Is God asleep? Like them, we should not hesitate to cry for his help;
- Pray that we may care for and maintain God's garden as he would wish;
- Consider the wonderful providence of God and give thanks.

*The flowers today are offered to the Glory of God and in celebration of the baptism of Hugh Warfield.*

At the Evening Service tonight Heather Roy continues the series on 'Real Life Issues: Money' with "Too little not to give it away?", drawing on Mark 12:41–44

## Our life together

**We extend a warm welcome to visitors and regular members of our church today.** We give a special welcome today at our 10.30 a.m. service to Neil and Rachel Warfield and their families as they celebrate the baptism of their adorable baby Hugh. Neil and Rachel kindly invite members of the congregation to join them for a drink in the hall downstairs after the service.

**New Year Sale!** After the 10.30 a.m. services today and on 14<sup>th</sup> February, all items on the church bookstall – books, CDs and DVDs – are available for 20% off the marked price. This is a great opportunity to stock up on Christian material for you, your children, colleagues and friends, or for your home group.

**Next Sunday** at 10.30 a.m. we celebrate the baptism of baby Bram Theune, and we pray for his parents Sarah-Jane and Rutger as they prepare for the baptism of their first child.

**Calling all bakers & buyers!** Next Sunday (14<sup>th</sup> February) is also **Bun Sunday**. This is your chance to support smaller charities and missionary projects by buying our baked goodies, jams, chutneys and marmalades. We do also still need plastic carrier bags or save the environment and bring along your own bag next Bun Sunday.

**The Chaplain will be away** on Study Leave from tomorrow (8<sup>th</sup>) until 28<sup>th</sup> February inclusive. In his absence, please contact one of the other clergy about pastoral matters, and the church office about administrative matters. The church wardens have overall responsibility for the wellbeing of Holy Trinity in the Chaplain's absence.

Lent begins on Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> February with an **Ash Wednesday Service at 8 p.m.** Lent is traditionally a season in which Christians take up some extra study or spiritual discipline. During Lent, **The FCJ Centre for Spirituality** in Avenue Winston Churchill is offering three afternoon sessions on Lady Julian of Norwich and four evening sessions on prayer. More details on flyers on the table opposite the church entrance.

**We apologise** that last Sunday the church was very cold. This was because the clocks failed to switch the heating on. We have had three visits from IMTECH, our heating contractors, and are very pleased to say that the mechanical time clocks have now been replaced by modern digital clocks. The system has been fully tested by the IMTECH technician, and this weekend is the first opportunity to see if it works. If you are tolerably warm when you read this text then you know that it does!

**Volunteers needed for various tasks in Church House.** We have two basic needs – a housekeeper and a handyman. We are looking for a person or a group working on a rota to carry out these functions. If either appeal to you and you would like to know more about the tasks involved, please contact David or Catherine in Church House via [admin@holyltrinity.be](mailto:admin@holyltrinity.be).

Please note that **all contributions to this year's written AGM report to the Annual Congregationa Meeting on 18<sup>th</sup> April** should be sent to Council Secretary Simon Robbins ([simon.robbins@scarlet.be](mailto:simon.robbins@scarlet.be)) **no later than Monday 1<sup>st</sup> March**. If you wrote one last year, please provide one this year. We need contributions on Finance including ASBL; Electoral Roll; Youth Activities and Child Protection; Mission including Bun Sunday; Bookstall; Ecumenical Activities; and Archdeaconry activities.

**Exodus Vision visit to Malawi on August 1<sup>st</sup>–14<sup>th</sup>.** Would you like to join the party with Frieda Mukanyangezi, her brother Faustin Uzabakiliho and his group of six from California on this visit? They will be visiting the refugee camp "Dzaleka" which houses people from many African countries amongst them, Rwanda, Burundi, Congo, Ethiopia and Somalia. Their objective is pastoral training and evangelistic outreach. If you are interested, please contact Frieda on 0472/44 94 27. Please hold Frieda and Faustin in your prayers as they plan this trip.

**Parking arrangements.** The church benefits from an agreement with Inno which gives us 30 free tickets for the car park each Sunday morning. We have changed the system for the administration of the car park so that these tickets are 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!

**The Bun Sunday bake sales** raised about € 3400 in 2009. So a big thank-you to all bakers & buyers! Please let me know of any projects you would like to support with this money (in writing to my pigeonhole or to [annbarleycorn@belgacom.net](mailto:annbarleycorn@belgacom.net)).

**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.

**CDs from our 13<sup>th</sup> December Carol Service** are still 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@holyltrinity.be](mailto:precentor@holyltrinity.be).

**Lost property.** A number of items of lost property have been handed in to the Church Office. Please check the box at the back of church to see whether anything belongs to you.

**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, or Anne Fieldsend – tel: 02/735 19 97.

### For your diaries

**The International Christian Women's Club of Brussels** is holding its monthly brunch on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> February. Full details on the poster at the entrance to the church.

**African Enterprise** will be holding a fundraising dinner on Friday 12<sup>th</sup> February at 7.45 p.m. at the Christian Center in Rhode St Genese. Harvey Thomas CBE (PR and presentation consultant) will share his testimony under the theme 'Love in Action'. Tickets are €25 each from Lynn Nwagbara on [africanenterprisebelgium@telenet.be](mailto:africanenterprisebelgium@telenet.be) or 0479/28 16 51.

The **European English speaking New Wine Network** is holding a Training Day from 10 a.m.–4 p.m. on Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> February at Christ Church, Amsterdam, Netherlands, with the theme 'A Vision for Distinctiveness – Discipleship and Disciple-Making in 21<sup>st</sup> Century Europe' led by Bishop Graham Cray from New Wine England. Cost €10 per person payable on arrival, includes lunch and coffee/tea. For full details visit the website [http://city.christchurch.nl/index.php?option=com\\_content&task=view&id=60](http://city.christchurch.nl/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=60).

**The Institute of Leadership & Ethics (ILE)** will be holding its next breakfast seminar on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> March from 8.30–10.30 a.m. on the campus at St Jansbergsesteenweg 97 in Leuven. Many of us struggle daily with the challenges presented to our Christian faith by the workplace. Professor Patrick Nullens will speak on the topic of **Christian Professionals in the Post Religious World** and the lessons that can be drawn from the life of Dietrich Bonhoeffer to help them in the workplace. For more information and to get onto the ILE mailing list, email: [ddsayers@gmail.com](mailto:ddsayers@gmail.com).

**The World Day of Prayer service** will be held this year at Holy Trinity on Friday 5<sup>th</sup> March at 10.30 a.m. We will be worshipping God and praying for the people of Cameroon. The service will be followed by refreshments. Please join us! For more information, contact Ann Milton on 02/772 4704 or email [ann.milton@belgacom.net](mailto:ann.milton@belgacom.net).

**On Monday 8<sup>th</sup> March from 7.30 – 9 p.m.** we plan to present our hopes and aspirations for the development of our church house office and accommodation building. This meeting will comprise a presentation from the Chaplain on the future of our Pro-Cathedral, a presentation from Architect Richard Craddock, and opportunities for questions. If you are interested in the development of our church, please note this date in your diary.

Please do note that **Holy Trinity's La Foresta weekend away** this year will be the last weekend of May, Friday 28<sup>th</sup> to Sunday 30<sup>th</sup>. 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 will be thinking about our own travels, and the question of migration, in the light of the travelling we read about in scripture.

**A service of Confirmation** will be held at Holy Trinity on Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> October at 2 p.m. Assistant Chaplain Augustine Nwaekwe will be running confirmation classes shortly. Contact [augustine.nwaekwe@holytrinity.be](mailto:augustine.nwaekwe@holytrinity.be) for more details if you are interested.

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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](mailto: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