

# Holy Trinity Newsletter

February 28<sup>th</sup> 2010 -Lent 2

**Today's Services:** 09.00 Holy Communion James Day; 10.30 Holy Communion Gary Wilton; 14.00 Holy Communion Emmanuel Sesonga; 19.00 Gary Wilton

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).

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.

On **Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> March** from 10 a.m.–4 p.m., Mary Leahy of the FCJ will be carrying out an introduction to dream work. Email the FCJ at [fcj@fcjcentre.be](mailto:fcj@fcjcentre.be), call 0477/734551 or see <http://www.fcjcentre.be> for more details.

German MEP Thomas Mann, Italian MEP Patrizia Toia and the Konrad Adenauer Stiftung are holding a **European conference called 'Protection of a Work-Free Sunday'** on Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> March from 4.30–7.30 p.m. at the European Parliament. Registration forms available in the church lobby.

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 starting confirmation classes shortly. Contact [augustine.nwaekwe@holyltrinity.be](mailto:augustine.nwaekwe@holyltrinity.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@holyltrinity.be](mailto:admin@holyltrinity.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

## Our readings this week

**Genesis 15:1–12, 17–18** Is what we do with our lives of any account? Abraham faced childlessness. Yet God assured him that, contrary to all human expectation, he would have an heir and that, long after his own time, his descendants would have both the land and God's blessing. The ceremony described is an ancient way of confirming this promise. Abraham's life was made special by his trust in God.

**Philippians 3:17–4:1** As children learn from the example of their parents, so the young Christians at Philippi should follow the example of Paul and trust the sufficiency of the cross for their salvation, not seeking it through adhering to the Jewish ceremonial and food laws. They are citizens of heaven, not of Rome (as were the people of Philippi), or of the Judaic promise (as those who followed Jewish ceremonial law sought to be). It is a question of trust.

**Luke 13:31–end** Jesus trusts God in a special way. He knows where his destiny lies and that Herod cannot override that. Jesus knows that his ministry of gathering in the lost children of Israel (healing is part of this) will be rejected. It is only through the Easter events that the gathering in of God's people will truly become possible. When he returns at the end of time, there will be no choice but to recognize him.

**Psalms 27** This psalm continues the theme of trust. The trust here attributed to the king has been shared by God's people down the centuries. It is a deep trust that knows, from experience, that only the things of God are ultimately worthwhile. So even though he is surrounded by trouble – verses 7–14 leave us in no doubt of that – it is this trust that wins through. Trust does not necessarily mean early triumph. Abraham, Jesus and Paul knew that. We are called to trust God to the end, as they did.

## Pointers for prayer

- Jesus calls us, in trust, to take up the cross of discipleship. Are we willing?
- Pray that those who feel forsaken by the world may find themselves taken up by God;
- Wait for the Lord and be strong!

At the Evening Service tonight Gary Wilton continues the Lenten series on 'Being at Home' with 'God came and made his home among us', drawing on John1: 1–14

## Our life together

**We offer a sincere welcome** to Holy Trinity, both to visitors and to regular members of our church. Please do stay for a cup of coffee or a drink from the bar downstairs in the hall after our morning service. Today is the second Sunday in Lent. The forty days period of Lent is traditionally a season in which Christians take up some extra study or spiritual discipline to deepen their walk with God. Perhaps you might like to use the six weeks of Lent to read a spiritual book – lots of ideas on the bookstall! Or join a home group? On Wednesday mornings at 9 a.m. during this period of Lent, you are invited to join the team who work in Church House for prayers in the Conference Room, followed by a cup of coffee.

Still to come during Lent, the **FCJ Centre for Spirituality** at 211 Avenue Winston Churchill is offering three afternoon sessions on **Lady Julian of Norwich: an introduction to her spirituality** starting this Sunday, as well as on 14<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> March from 2 p.m.–4 p.m. led by Teresa White. Teresa is also leading **Circles of Prayer: an ecumenical Lent course** on four Thursdays from 4<sup>th</sup>–25<sup>th</sup> March from 7.30–9 p.m. You can find flyers on the table opposite the church entrance. And on Wednesday mornings from 10.15–11.45 a.m., FCJ has started an Open Door Group: Sharing the Word to which all are welcome. Email the FCJ at [fcj@fcjcentre.be](mailto:fcj@fcjcentre.be), call 0477/734551 or see <http://www.fcjcentre.be> for more details.

Today at 12.15 p.m. (after the 10.30 a.m. service), you are welcome to attend a **discussion/reflection on Christians and Work** in the meeting room in Church House, following coverage of this issue by Gary Wilton during one of his recent sermons. This is an important subject for us all in whatever capacity we see our work to be.

The Holy Trinity Brussels **Health & Safety Working Group** will also meet in Church House Conference Room at 5 p.m. today.

**Johan De Pypere** would like his friends in the congregation to know that his father, Prosper, passed away on 19<sup>th</sup> February after a long illness. Johan would particularly appreciate prayers for his mother, himself and other family members who cared for his father at home during these long months.

Congratulations to Carine Creminger and Allwell Ohajunwa on **the arrival of their baby son Tobechi** on 19<sup>th</sup> February.

**February's mission focus is A Rocha**, an international Christian conservation organisation working to care for God's creation in 18 countries, through community-based conservation projects. There are lots of opportunities for members of Holy Trinity Brussels to get involved by praying for or donating to our work, signing up for our email news, volunteering at our field centres, or offsetting your carbon emissions through our tree planting projects. Find out more at A.Rocha's website <http://www.arocha.org> or contact [janice.weatherley@arocha.org](mailto:janice.weatherley@arocha.org).

**Volunteers needed for a housekeeper and a handyman in Church House.** 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).

Volunteers are also being sought to help clean the church kitchen floor to rid it of the coating of grease that it has acquired which makes it slippery and dangerous. We have the product and the equipment, we just need the manpower. Please let the office know at [admin@holyltrinity.be](mailto:admin@holyltrinity.be) if you would like to help with this important job to improve our kitchen safety.

A limited supply of **'Holy Trinity crosses'** in solid silver, 3½ by 2½ cm will shortly be available from Paulina Robbins van Rijn at a cost of €60. For more information, contact [paulinaemma@scarlet.be](mailto:paulinaemma@scarlet.be). Cash or bank transfer only.

Please note that all contributions to this year's written AGM report to the **Annual Congregational 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 will make a visit to Malawi on 1<sup>st</sup> –14<sup>th</sup> August.** Would you like to join the party with Frieda Mukanyangezi, her brother Faustin Uzabakiliho and his group of six from California on this visit to give pastoral training and evangelistic outreach? They will be visiting the refugee camp "Dzaleka" which houses people from many African countries including Rwanda, Burundi, Congo, Ethiopia and Somalia. If you are interested, please contact Frieda on 0472/44 94 27.

**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!

**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 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).