

Holy Trinity Newsletter

March 21st 2010 – Lent 5 – Passion Sunday

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

Our readings this week

As Lent moves into Passiontide, so the focus of our readings moves towards Jesus' passion.

Isaiah 43:16–21 The exodus from Egypt was for long the mightiest work of God in redeeming his people. Now God announces a new exodus of his exiled people. As he once made a way through the sea, now he will make a way through the desert. He is the God who does new things for his people.

Philippians 3:4b–14 Paul had previously been committed to what he saw as the way of salvation, through the practice of the law by God's elect. But now he sees the new thing that God has done in Christ. All that he held dear seems of no value compared with laying hold of the precious gift that God is now making available to all believers, through faith in Christ.

John 12:1–8 Fully aware that his life is in danger from the hostility of the religious authorities, Jesus moves resolutely towards Jerusalem. In this home, that seems to have been, for him, a place of rest and friendship, one who knows him well expresses her love for with an act of caring extravagance that came to be seen as pointing towards Jesus' coming death. As we watch Jesus journey towards Easter, we can join with Mary in expressing our love and thankfulness towards him.

Psalms 126 The gathering in of the exiles, those who had seemed irredeemably lost, is a moment of bubbling joy. In it, we experience God, working his mighty works for us. As it has happened before, so we pray that it will happen again, with as dramatic a change as comes when rain fills the dry valleys of the desert, when weeping turns to joy and when we reap the harvest of God's love for us.

Pointers for prayer

- Whatever the problems we face, God is doing new things to reach us and to help us. Are we open to receive?
- Pray for all far all exiles from God, and for anyone whose existing commitments prevent them receiving Christ' love;
- What can I do to show, like Mary, my response to Jesus' love for me?

At the Evening Service tonight Gary Wilton concludes the Lenten series on 'Being at Home' with 'Mission is making others 'at Home'', drawing on Luke 15:11–31

Our life together

A warm welcome to Holy Trinity today to regular members and newcomers of our church alike. Please do stay for a cup of coffee or a drink from the bar downstairs in the hall after our 10:30 a.m. service.

Our five teams of ushers play an important role in ensuring that the 10.30 a.m. service is well ordered and, should there be an emergency, guiding people to the safest exit. Most teams are now short of members and volunteers are sought to build up strength. A team needs a group of five, to avoid calling on help, and we currently need another 10 people to help with this vital job. To this end, **Nicholas Fern, Chief Usher, will be holding a short meeting (maximum 40 minutes) in the church immediately after the 10.30 a.m. service today** for all the teams and potential new recruits. During this meeting, the duties will be explained, as will the emergency procedure should an evacuation of the Church and hall be necessary. For more information, if you are interested but unable to attend, contact Nicholas on 02/217 0116 or email nickfern@skynet.be.

Our **Finance Committee** meets at 8 p.m. on Monday 22nd March in Church House.

On Monday and Tuesday 22nd – 23rd March we are entertaining in Church House a party of around 15 Diocesan Secretaries from the southern dioceses of the Church of England. As heads of administration, they manage between them a large proportion of the regional resources of our church. They will learn about the mission and ministry of Holy Trinity as a Cathedral church. Gary Wilton is organising a programme of events that will introduce them to the people and institutions of the European Union. This is an important example of the wider role of Holy Trinity in resourcing our parent Church and building bridges between the English Church and Europe. As part of their visit, there will be a **said service of Holy Communion in the church on Tuesday 22nd March at 9 a.m.**, which members of the congregation are very welcome to attend.

On Tuesday evening 22nd March the chaplain represents us at a meeting of “Brussels Esperance” (Hopeful Brussels). This is a meeting of religious leaders, sponsored by Regional Minister Charles Picqué, that aims to support the different religions in working together for the peace of our city. We are thankful to live in a country and city that has not suffered some of the inter-religious tensions of neighbouring France and (in a different way) England. Do pray for this and other groups that seek respectful and constructive relationships between members of the different religions in our cosmopolitan and multi-faith capital city.

On Saturday 27th March at 1.30p.m. we celebrate the marriage of Fr. Yvan Tasea to Natasha Matari Kafuti. Fr. Yvan worships regularly at Holy Trinity, whilst also having responsibilities as bishop of “La Petite Eglise” of Belgium. We rejoice with him and Natasha in the love and joy they have found in each other.

Remember! Next Sunday, 28th March, the clocks go FORWARD one hour!

During Holy Week and Easter our worship continues as we recall the events surrounding the death and resurrection of our Lord. Do pick up flyers in the church lobby entitled “**Celebrating Holy Week and Easter**” for yourself and to give to friends and colleagues.

On **Tuesday 30th March in Holy Week at 12 p.m. (noon)** our diocesan Bishop Geoffrey will be leading a service of blessing of oils and renewal of ministerial vows. After the main service, there will be a short ceremony to 'install' two new canons in stalls in the chancel of our Pro-Cathedral. Clergy will be travelling from across the diocese to attend this event. Whilst it is especially for clergy and licensed lay ministers, all members of the congregation are very welcome to attend. A lunch will be served in Church House after the service for our visitors.

This month our mission focus is on Burma and the work of Projects to Support Refugees from Burma and Help 4 Forgotten Allies (H4FA) who support refugees from Karen and Karenni States. There are around 150,000 refugees in camps along the Thai-Burma border, and among them are veterans or their widows from the Second World War who fought with the British. This dwindling group of very old people have had their small grants cut and H4FA, with your help, has been able to replace these this year. Holy Trinity has also supported a Bible College in a Karenni refugee camp. While visiting, Sally Steen was asked to give the congregation of Holy Trinity heartfelt thanks. Please see the notice board in the foyer or <http://handsoffriendship2.dynalias.org:8080/> for further details.

Holy Trinity's **La Foresta weekend away** will be on 28–30th May. The main speaker will be Professor Ted van der Ende, who will be helping us to think about 'biblical travel stories'. Ted has a wide range of pastoral and teaching experience in America and Europe. Children's work will be coordinated by our own Ruth Faber. And the Dance Band who provided such excellent entertainment last year will be back with us. And the very good news is that we are managing to hold prices at the same level as the last two years. Programmes and booking forms for La Foresta are now available in the church lobby.

Easter Lilies. As in previous years, the flower team invites you to give Easter lilies in memory of departed loved ones. Each lily costs €1.50 and there are envelopes available at the back of the church in a basket. Please put the name(s) of those you wish to commemorate on the envelope and the amount inside and either return to the basket or give to Diane Oppenheim.

Volunteers needed for a housekeeper and a handyman in Church House We are still 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.

We are looking for an **accompanist** for the Royal School of Church Music (RSCM) exams on Saturday 22nd May. Can you play piano? If so, please contact David Mitchell at precentor@holyltrinity.be.

A limited supply of '**Holy Trinity crosses**' in solid silver, 3_ by 2_ cm are available from Paulina Robbins van Rijn at a cost of €60. For more information, contact paulinaemma@scarlet.be. Cash or bank transfer only.

Young Christian woman seeks house/flat share for six months with people of similar age and outlook. Please contact megan.s.lewis@gmail.com .

Exodus Vision will make a visit to Malawi on 1st –14th 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. If you are interested, please contact Frieda on 0472/44 94 27.

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

Serve the City – 19–22 March The World Water Weekend is now happening and joining a worldwide emphasis on the need for clean and accessible water around the world. Come to the final event Monday night 22nd March – World Water Day Film and Arts Festival at Espace 53 (Autoworld). See www.worldwaterweekend.be

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 24th March from 4.30–7.30 p.m. at the European Parliament here in Brussels. Registration forms are available in the church lobby.

The Wednesday Club, an English-speaking afternoon social club for older men and women, will start on Wednesday 21st April in All Saints' Church, Braine-l'Alleud (see <http://www.allsaints.be>). The club, which is secular and has no religious affiliations, will provide a caring environment for members from 2–4.30 p.m. on the first and third Wednesday of each month. Membership is open to residents and "grannies and grandpas" of visiting families. Light refreshments will be provided. The premises are wheelchair-accessible and the club is recruiting volunteer drivers for those without transport. Email vals@the-wednesday-club.org or info@the-wednesday-club.org for details.

Sue Bird will be repeating her workshop on **Christians and work** on Thursday 15th April and Thursday 27th May, both to be held in Church House starting at 8 p.m. When all of us spend so much time "at work", this is a topical subject to take a closer look at. We hope you will support this initiative.

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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 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