

Holy Trinity Newsletter

June 13th 2010 – Trinity 2

Today's Services: 09.00, Holy Communion James Day; 10.30 Holy Communion Robert Innes; 14.00 David Mitchell; 19.00 Hugh Prior

Our readings this week

2 Samuel 11:26–12:10, 13–15 David's wandering eye led to adultery and then murder. If he consoles himself that people either do not know, or can do nothing about it, he is mistaken. God has seen what has happened and Nathan's approach leads David to condemn himself out of his own mouth. David is a man of character: he recognizes his offence to God. This opens the way to receive forgiveness, although the consequences remain within his family.

Galatians 2:15–end Paul is concerned that the church should understand that our hope of forgiveness depends entirely on God's grace and cannot be achieved by anything that we may do. The Old Testament writers understood that forgiveness could only come by through God's mercy. We have Jesus. By putting our trust in who Jesus is and what he has done, we can lay hold of the grace that is from God alone.

Luke 7:36–8:3 Simon fails to connect the story told by Jesus and his own attitude towards the woman. He does not grasp just how far God's grace can go, nor has he the compassion to perceive that the woman has been released from her past. Jesus, on the other hand accepts the love of one who now experiences the fullness of forgiveness. Luke gives prominence to the women accompanying Jesus, linking them with the twelve and identifying them as his financiers. Jesus challenged Simon's prejudices, as he does ours.

Psalm 32 Sin is a burden. Concealment, at which most of us are adept, will not resolve the problem. Wisdom teaches, and experience confirms, that the way to deal with sin is to bring it into the open with God. His forgiveness can be trusted and his guidance will lead us back on to the path of life. The one who has known God's forgiveness has much cause to rejoice. Penitence leads to thanksgiving.

Pointers for prayer

- What image of myself do I try to project towards God and other people? Is it honest?
- In what practical ways can I reflect Jesus' compassion?
- Pray, as Jesus taught us, to be forgiven by God as we forgive others who have offended us.

At the Evening Service tonight, Hugh Prior continues the mini-series: "Letters to the Churches", with 'Smyrna', drawing on Revelation 2:8–11

Our life together

We extend a warm welcome to those worshipping at Holy Trinity today, both regular members and visitors alike. During the 10.30 a.m. service this morning we are baptising **Olga Ndidi Edwards**. We welcome her, her family and friends on this joyous occasion. Please do stay for a cup of coffee or a drink from the bar after our 10.30 a.m. service, with cakes provided by baby Olga's family.

The flowers today are offered to the glory of God and in celebration of the marriage of **Junko Kanno** and **Hiroyuki Yahamoto** which took place yesterday.

Peter Arthern, a long-time member of our congregation, passed away on the evening of Sunday 6th June. The funeral was held in St Katharine's church, Bonlez, on Friday 11th June. There will also be a memorial service in Holy Trinity on Saturday 10th July at 2 p.m.

Congratulations to Alison and Greg Houston, and brother Noah on the **birth of baby Heidi Piper** on 24th May.

Calling all buyers! Today is **Bun Sunday** – our monthly sale of baked goodies and marmalade and 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! There are also some more **bedding plants** for sale (African marigolds and busy lizzies).

Bookstall – summer sale: Take some Christian reading on holiday with you! Today and next Sunday 20th June, many books will be at amazingly low prices (reduced to €10 or even €5!). After that there will be no bookstall until September. Any queries, contact Ann Milton at ann.milton@belgacom.net.

Also this Sunday at 12 p.m., we will host a service for the **Catholic Apostolic community**.

Gary Wilton is spending today at St Michaels Paris. He is preaching at all three services. On Thursday 17th June he will be in Warwick at ICS Headquarters interviewing candidates for the next intern to succeed Markus this autumn. Please remember him in your prayers.

The Chaplain, Robert Innes, will be away in Cambridge on Tuesday and Wednesday this week (15th and 16th June) for a Grove Books meeting.

Members of Holy Trinity's choir will be joining choirs from all over the Arch-Deaconry for the annual **Choral Festival**, which is being held on Saturday 19th June in Rotterdam, the Netherlands. You are invited to go and support them. Details are given on the notice in the porch. Contact David Mitchell at precentor@holyltrinity.be if you are interested.

At 10.30 a.m. next Sunday 20th June, we plan a **special service to celebrate the replacement of the roofs together** with a mini-Stewardship appeal and drinks in the courtyard after church.

Also next Sunday 20th June, the **Destiny Africa Children's Choir** from Kampala will sing at the 2 p.m. service. Come and listen as the children, aged between 8 and 16 years, share their dreams through a lively mix of contemporary and traditional African songs, drumming and dances. For more information, see <http://www.kampalachildren.com>.

Exodus Vision invites you to a benefit evening to be held on Saturday 3rd July in the Church Hall from 6 p.m. – 9 p.m. For the past three years, Exodus Vision has been helping refugees in camps around Africa, with actions in the fields of evangelisation, education and economic development. To carry on their work, Exodus Vision relies on you. For further information, contact Frieda Mukanyangezi on 0472/44 94 27 or friedamuk@yahoo.fr or Eric Mandela on 0488/47 51 16.

Holy Trinity's mission focus this month is Pete and Sarah. Together with their baby Ella, they are back from the Middle East and would like to thank the congregation for remembering them in their prayers. To learn what they have been up to, hear stories of their local friends, find out how they go about their work and what will be happening when they go back out, please see the display board in the entrance hall and/or invite them to your home group. Call 0471/72 12 98 or contact Richard Steel on richard.steel@skynet.be.

Petty cash box missing: Last week, between Tuesday 25th May and Wednesday 26th May, the petty cash box went missing from Church House. The police are investigating this apparent theft. If you have any information that would help their enquiries please contact David Sayers, the Cathedral Administrator at cathedraladmin@holyltrinity.be or contact the police directly at Quartier Toison d'Or, rue du College 1, 1050 Brussels, or 02/515 71 70.

Increased security: In order to improve security we now have new security cameras and 24 hour recording of CCTV images. The areas covered are the street, Church House and church entrances and the garden.

Car parking: We are sorry for the on-going problems of car parking next door at Qpark where the new management is struggling to find out how the system worked previously. They now seemed to have solved the problem and today we have a batch of tickets which work on their own without the need to insert the access ticket, just as it did under the previous management. Please let David Sayers know if you have any problems at cathedraladmin@holyltrinity.be.

Holy Trinity cycle stand appeal: Can you help improve our cycle parking provision? We aim to raise €2,000 by end-July to buy and install three new 'cycle tubes'. Donations can be made to Holy Trinity's bank account: 310-1613905-08, IBAN: BE63 3101 6139 0508 with the communication "Cycle appeal," or cash donations can be put in an envelope marked 'cycle appeal' and put in the collection bag or given to an usher, warden or the treasurer.

The **Church Office** is still seeking volunteers to help out in the office over the summer months (weekday mornings of July and August) to cover holidays. Please contact the Church Office on 02/511 71 83 or admin@holyltrinity.be if you can help at all.

What better way to end the service than with a nice cup of tea or coffee **in a proper cup!** As part of our drive to reduce waste and be more environmentally responsible, Holy Trinity's Council has recommended that we replace the plastic goblets (which end up in landfill) with the proper tea service that we already have. In order not to add additional burdens on our hard-pressed coffee team **we would like to recruit more volunteers to help serve tea and coffee and put the cups in the dishwasher.** Any volunteers please make yourselves known at the coffee table on a Sunday morning. *Richard Steel.*

Dora Demaertelaere is looking for volunteers to help her sort out the secondhand book shop during the week. Please contact her on 0473/52 79 77 if you would like to help.

Adrian Dobbs, who worshipped at Holy Trinity in the mid 1990's, would like to tell everyone who remembers him that he is marrying **Gemma Wall** on 24th July at St Mary's Church Woolpit (Suffolk, UK) and would be delighted for anyone who might be in that area at the time to attend. Contact Adrian on a.dobbs@qmul.ac.uk for full details or just to catch up on his news.

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

An afternoon of Circle Dancing led by Teresa White of the FCJ will be held on Sunday 20th June from 2.30–4.30 p.m. Donation of €7 suggested. Book by email to fcj@fcjcentre.be.

Serve the poor in the name of Jesus. It is everywhere in the Bible, but do we see it? Do we do it? Serve the City wants to give everyone the chance to serve. Use your own talents and abilities to make a difference in the lives of the homeless, asylum seekers, children, the disabled, the elderly, and victims of abuse. Sign up to serve during *the Serve the City big volunteer week 3–10th July* at <http://www.servethecity.be>. Please contact Sarah Ironside at 0485/32 36 47 should you wish to host a visiting volunteer for lunch on Sunday 4th July.

The Latymer School Chamber Orchestra and Choir from London will give a free concert at Holy Trinity at 8 p.m. on Saturday 24th July. More details will be provided shortly.

The **'High Seas Expedition Vacation Bible School'** for children aged 5–11, will set sail every morning from 23rd – 27th August at the International Baptist Church, Wezembeek–Oppem. See poster in porch or visit the website <http://www.ibcbrussels.org> (click 'events').

This year's weekend away at **Chassepierre** in the Ardennes will take place from **Friday 10th to Sunday 12th September**. This is an opportunity for anyone who wants to relax in beautiful countryside and get to know other members of Holy Trinity better. Various activities will be on offer, such as canoeing and cycling. Registration forms will be available shortly. Contact Libbie Schilz for more information at libbieconroy@hotmail.com.

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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