

Holy Trinity Newsletter

June 27th 2010 - Trinity 4

Today's Services: 09.00, Holy Communion David White; 10.30 Holy Communion David White; 14.00 Jeanne Mbonigaba; 19.00 Heather Roy

Our readings this week

1 Kings 19:15, 16, 19–end By anointing Hazeal, Jehu and Elisha, Elijah has laid the foundations of a new generation of servants of God. Elisha, from a rich family, puts his old life behind him and becomes Elijah's servant. No-one yet knows the wonderful things that will result. Elijah's call to him is an act of faith in what God will undertake in silence.

Galatians 5:1, 13–25 Every life is built on a choice between the gods of this world and the God who made this world. The gods of this world fix our ambitions on satisfying our every desire. If we opt for the God who made the world, we are set free from our desires and are fulfilled by what he gives us. When we look at the lists of what results, there is little doubt which is the more attractive. The desires of this world are enslavement. The gifts of God set us free.

Luke 9:51–end There are many who oppose Jesus openly. Others want to follow him, but with conditions. No supernatural pressure will be exerted on us. We are free. But commitment requires action, not procrastination. Jesus has set his face on the path he will follow and does not look back. His path led to death, but then to glory. He calls us to the commitment of faith, wherever it may lead. The choice is ours.

Psalms 16 For the psalmist there are two possibilities: to follow the Lord; or to follow the gods of this world. He observes that those who choose the ways of the world find that their sorrows multiply. His testimony is that in choosing the way of God, the "boundaries have fallen in pleasant places". He has a guide and protector, security and lasting joy. He has found the path of life.

Pointers for prayer

- Jesus confronts each of us with a choice. If we try to avoid it, we have decided against. What is it to be?
- Handing on the faith is one of the most important things we can do. Pray for our young people.
- Praise God for the wonderful gifts that he offers us.

At the Evening Service tonight, Heather Roy continues the mini-series: "Letters to the Churches", with 'Thyatira', drawing on Revelation 2:18–29

Our life together

A warm welcome to Holy Trinity Brussels to visitors and regular members of our church alike! At the 10.30 a.m. service today, we dedicate baby **Constantin von Franquemont**. We welcome him, his parents, family and friends on this happy occasion.

The striking flowers in today's decorations are *Strelizia Reginae*, also known as 'Birds of Paradise.' These are grown in the Dendermonde area and are offered to the glory of God.

Calling all buyers! There will be a small sale of bedding plants in aid of Bun Sunday in the hall after the 10.30 a.m. service.

Finance Committee holds its monthly meeting at 7.30 p.m. on Monday 28th June in Church House.

The chaplain, **Robert Innes** is now away from Brussels until Saturday 3rd July. Robert is preaching at his former parish in Durham today and then giving several talks at a clergy conference for the Durham Diocese.

Associate Chaplain Gary Wilton will also be away until 17th July. Today he is preaching at St Andrews Histon in Cambridge before representing Holy Trinity Brussels at the ICS Chaplains Conference, also in the UK. From 4th–17th July, the Wilton family will be on holiday.

Assistant Chaplain, **Augustine Nwaekwe, will be on holiday** from 3rd–17th July inclusive.

Next Sunday 4th July at the 10.30 a.m. service we will be dedicating baby **Ella**. Her parents, **Sarah** and **Pete**, hope many of you will be able to join us. Sarah and Pete are back from the Middle East with Ella and are **Holy Trinity's mission focus this month**. To learn what they have been up to, see the display board in the entrance hall and/or invite them to your home group by calling 0471 /72 12 98 or contacting Richard Steel (richard.steel@skynet.be).

We warmly thank those who responded positively to our **stewardship appeal** last Sunday morning. Those in church last Sunday will have heard Guy Milton say that our church is currently running at around €200 to €300 per month below last year's income levels. If you are a newer member of our church and have decided to make Holy Trinity Brussels your spiritual home, please do prayerfully consider whether you could join our financial giving scheme.

During the week, the chaplain had a chance meeting on the street with the proprietor of the property next door to the church known as 'The Paradise Club'. The proprietor said that **the club was now finally closed**. It will be placed on the market and used either as offices or apartments. The second club ('The Excellence Club') belongs to a different proprietor and is not included in the sale.

The Church Office is looking for **volunteers to help out in the administration office from 9-20th August** (on weekday mornings) to cover planned absences. The office will be closed and we are looking to provide a skeleton staff which can carry out tasks such as replying to emails and answering the telephone during this typically very quiet period. Please contact the Church Office on 02/511 71 83 or admin@holytrinity.be if you can help at all.

In order to be considerate to fellow worshippers, please can you take care to **switch off your mobile phone when you come into church?** Also, we do appreciate that parents find grapes or

biscuits a helpful distraction for small children – but we try to discourage food and drink in church, so can we please ask you to be discreet?

We are reinstating the **10.30 a.m. prayer ministry** with slightly changed practical arrangements. Members of the prayer team will be available to pray with you after the service, but will not be standing by the side altar. If there is something for which you would like individual prayer, please see one or two of the people in our prayer team, who will be delighted to pray with you. You will find a list of names with photos on the church notice board. If you cannot easily identify anyone, please have a word with one of the clergy or ushers who will link you to one of the prayer team. Additional volunteers would be most welcome. If you would like to volunteer for this important ministry, please have a word with an existing member of the team.

Parking arrangements have changed again! We are sorry to tell you that QPark have decided that the free parking arrangement will only work if you introduce the "free" ticket first and then the access ticket at the exit barrier. Please advise David Sayers if you have problems at 0475/83 92 45 or email cathedraladmin@holyltrinity.be.

Security. Things unfortunately go missing from the church and from Church House. We all need to be vigilant and to report suspicious events. The newly installed CCTV cameras with 24-hour recording will help improve security. Notification of recording is required at the entrance and is displayed in the specified format. This may not be as welcoming as we would wish, but it should serve as a deterrent to potential miscreants. Thank you for your understanding of the reality of the world in which we live. Please send any comments or reports of suspicious events to the Cathedral Administrator at cathedraladmin@holyltrinity.be or call 0475/83 92 45. Confidentiality and anonymity can be respected if appropriate.

Can you help improve our **cycle parking provision**? We aim to raise €1,800 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. Some €1,500 has already been raised and so we are now very close to our target! This appeal is part of the Church Council's strategy for a more environmentally-friendly church.

Also as part of our drive to be more environmentally responsible, we are replacing the plastic goblets with the proper tea service that we already have. **We are now looking 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.

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 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

Exodus Vision is holding a benefit evening on Saturday 3rd July in the Church Hall from 6–9 p.m. For the past three years, Exodus Vision has been helping refugees in camps around Africa. For further information, contact Frieda Mukanyangezi on 0472/44 94 27 or friedamuk@yahoo.fr or Eric Mandela on 0488/47 51 16.

Serve the City wants to give everyone the chance to serve the homeless, asylum seekers, children, the disabled, the elderly and victims of abuse during their big volunteer week on 3–10th July. Sign up 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.

The **Community Help Service Helpline**, a 24-hour helpline for the English speaking community in Brussels, is looking for volunteers. If you have a few hours free per week, speak fluent English, are empathetic and non-judgmental, please contact us. No previous experience is needed, full training is given, which will be organized in September, and you will receive continuing support. Contact Helpline Administrator Jan Fulton at jan4chs@yahoo.com, or call 02/647 67 80 for more details.

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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