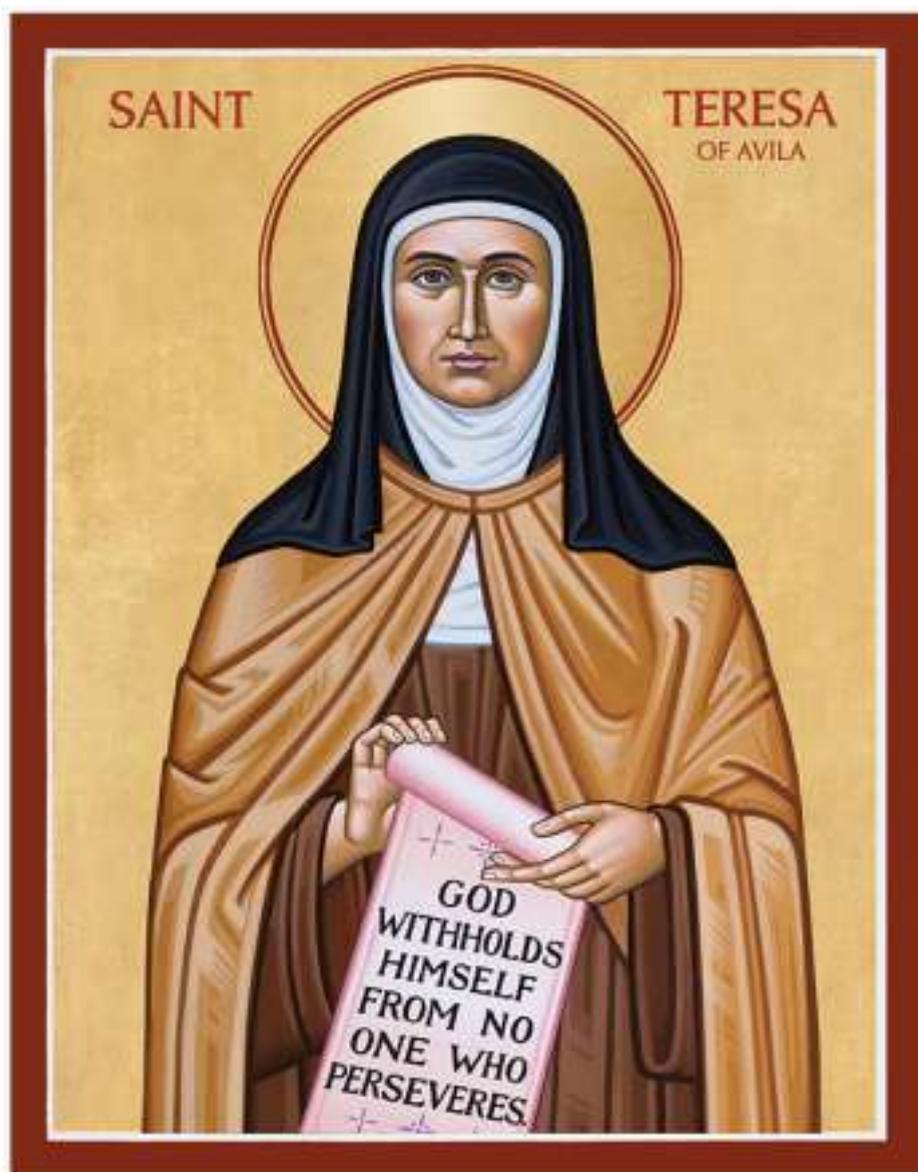


St Boniface Anglican News



*Let nothing disturb you Let nothing frighten you All things pass
away God never changes Patience obtains all things.
Whoever has God lacks nothing God alone suffices.*

The Church of Saint Boniface, Antwerp

Anglican / Episcopalian

www.boniface.be

Facebook - St Boniface Anglican Church, Antwerp

Chaplain	The Rev'd Canon Andrew Wagstaff SSC email Fr Andrew: chaplain@boniface.be	03 239 33 39
MTS & Port chaplain	The Rev'd Brian Millson	03 233 34 75
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Safeguarding Officer	Mr Philip Gray	safeguarding@boniface.be
Churchwardens	Mr Philippe van Hissenhoven Lay Canon Ann Turner	03 239 99 90 03 440 25 81

Services

SUNDAY 09:00 HOLY EUCHARIST (BCP) - FIRST SUNDAY OF MONTH
 10:30 SUNG EUCHARIST

WEEKDAY Tuesday at 19:30 Thursday at 10:30 Saturday 10:30

Confession by appointment with the clergy

Bank Accounts

Belgium	vzw Stewardship & Donations	BE87 2200 7812 9694
	Kerkfabriek & Anglican News	BE57 2200 2369 7035

The Netherland Stichting Saint Boniface Foundation, Vlissingen
 NL10 INGB 0004 2600 80

*The Friends of St Boniface is recognised by the tax authorities in the Netherlands and has an ANBI listing.
For more information, contact Mrs Lucy Hess, treasurer.(treasurer.vzw@boniface.be)*

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Newsletters are only posted if the subscription is paid. If you request the newsletter you are agreeing to us keeping your contact details on our database. The newsletter is available on our website.

The Chaplain writes

Since the last newsletter, the pandemic has receded and returned - and now it is tightening its grip in almost every aspects of our lives.

During the summer we were able to restart congregational worship in a well ordered, Covid-19 secure setting. We should all be grateful to those who work each week to ensure that we are as safe as we possibly can be when we come to St Boniface. While worship has been possible, social or fundraising events were not permitted, thus depriving us of our fellowship with one another. This looks set to continue for some time, so do make use of the telephone and social media to keep in touch with one another.

Lack of fundraising events brings its own problems, of course, and many people responded generously to our appeal. Our thanks are due to them. Do please try and support us financially—because the bills for maintenance, insurance, heating etc do not go away! Grants from the City and from the Diocese have been a great help, as has a successful re-negotiation of our Diocesan Share. Thanks to Lucy and Ann for their tireless work in this rather specialist aspect of our church life.



We are already looking ahead to Advent—and ways in which we can study, worship and celebrate the season. This is not easy with rules and regulations which change so frequently, so please bear with us. Remember to use the website, and get to know just how much information there is online. Remember, online worship is not the real thing! But in times such as these, we have an opportunity to visit and experience other traditions as well as our own.

Spirituality is something unique to each one, a gift of God's grace. In these difficult and potentially turbulent days, it is that spirituality that will bring us through. So take every means and opportunity to strengthen your faith and widen your spiritual horizons. Perhaps the famous prayer of St Teresa of Avila will enrich your faith as it has for Christians down the ages:

Let nothing disturb you Let nothing frighten you All things pass away God never changes Patience obtains all things. Whoever has God lacks nothing God alone suffices.



Sunday School for the under '12's restarted on 20 September and is open every alternate Sunday (every fortnight). The dates are on the calendar on our website: boniface.be if you need to check and also on our Facebook page. It's great to be able to welcome the youngsters back again and it's thanks to our volunteers who arrange these classes that it's possible. We take safeguarding very seriously at St Boniface and abide by the Diocesan safeguarding policy. Mr. Philip Gray is our Safeguarding Officer.

Bishops Robert and David write to the Diocese

Dear Sisters and Brothers

We are witnessing an unprecedented rise in police brutality in Nigeria. Across our diocese people of Nigerian background are affected by this growing crisis. Some are fearful for their own family and friends at home. Others are feeling helpless and hopeless as they watch the violence on TV. Peaceful protesters have been killed, and violence against innocent civilians is on the increase. Many of our Nigerian sisters and brothers in the diocese may have lost a loved one, a friend, or a member of their family to this brutality, and many more are sure to know of someone who is now grieving such a loss.

The tragedy before our eyes is great; Nigeria is a country blessed with much wealth, but clearly that richness is not evenly distributed. So widespread impoverishment is moving people peacefully to protest against corruption and failings in governance and to seek the basic dignities of life. It is shocking that

Continued on P8

KWA Hilda & Mothers' Union

The children who rely on KWA Hilda for their daily meal have not been forgotten in times of COVID-19! They are unable to congregate for a warm meal but instead are being provided with a nutritious packed lunch.

We hope to continue our financial contribution to this feeding programme.



stock photo

Bishop Robert's Advent Appeal, 2020

The COVID-19 pandemic has hurt communities throughout the world. Many communities are not equipped with even the most basic of hygiene and sanitation facilities, and lockdown measures have increased economic hardship in the poorest communities with people unable to work. We are raising funds to support virus prevention and emergency relief for vulnerable communities throughout our Anglican family.

The Anglican Communion Fund (ACF) has already begun responding to COVID related needs, allocating over £180,000 across 21 provinces of the

Communion. The ACF is supporting the Church in its ministry, providing food relief to the vulnerable, communicating ways of staying safe from the virus, and providing hand-washing facilities and PPE.

In the South Sudanese Diocese of Maridi, an ACF grant provided food items, soaps and seeds to over 200 pastors and lay-readers and provided bicycles and hand microphones for pastors to carry prevention messages into remote areas. Speaking of the support, Bishop Moses Zungo said, "You held our hand during our most trying moments."

If you wish to contribute to this appeal, please send your donation to our vzw account, (Account no on P2) marking your transfer, BISHOP'S APPEAL.

Parish news

AGM of the Friends of St Boniface- book-year 2019

This year the AGM of the vzw was held much later than normal and after the 10.30 service in church on August 30th.

It covered the legal requirements and we were told that the organisation had gratefully received €27,317 in Stewardship and that in excess of €11,000 was raised by fundraising. At the end of the year there was a small deficit of €707.

Harvest October 4th

The service on Sunday 4th October was a celebration of thanks for the harvest and everyone in the food industry who enable us to enjoy such a wide variety of foods! Although it was not possible to have a procession of gifts the Sunday School children made a wonderful banner.

The dry goods that were donated went to a food bank run by the St Vincent de Paul society in Deurne and the plants were delivered to the older members of our congregation who are unable to worship with us at this time.



Photo: St Boniface Webmaster

Church Council AGM for 2019

The Parochial AGM for 2019 was held on October 18th. much later than usual. Philippe van Hissenhoven and Ann Turner were re-elected as churchwardens and no election was required for the Parochial Council, which remains the same as last year. Fr Andrew thanked everyone for their contribution to the life and work of our church and in return the churchwardens, on behalf of the parish, thanked Fr Brian and Fr Andrew for their dedicated, loyal service to the congregation at St Boniface.

Remember all updates, events, newsletters, photos and much more can be found on our website, boniface.be and weekly updates appear on Facebook

Looking Forward to November and December- but DO check website for updates closer to time!

In a normal year there would be much to look forward to as we approach the end of the calendar year: Remembrance, Christmas Fayre, Advent, Carol Service, Midnight Mass, Christmas Day and many more activities that usually keep us busy. But the year will be markedly different as the Covid protocol limits not only our congregational numbers at any one service but also other things we have over the years taken for granted e.g. choirs, hearty refreshments and the children's nativity play.

We are able to plan for some of these events and have been forced to cancel others. Please see below!

Remembrance Sunday, 8th November

There will be no evening service.

This year, the Act of Remembrance will take place during the Solemn Eucharist at 10:30. In accordance with our Protocol the *total* number allowed in church will be 39. Once we reach this number we will be required to turn people away. This may result in people being disappointed but we **MUST** abide by the protocol.

Christmas Fayre is cancelled this year

Advent Carol Service, 13th December at 18:30

There will be a limited number of places available - only 30- as we may only have a total of 39 people in church including priest, singers and organist.

We have therefore decided that this will be a "ticket only" event and a donation of €10 will be asked for each ticket., €15 for a couple. (Children are free but must be registered° This will go towards covering the costs of the service - organist, rehearsals, printing etc. The tickets will be available from 22 November after the Sunday 10:30 service and from 30 November on-line from admin@boniface.be.

If there is a high demand we hope it may be possible to arrange a second event but there is no date at the moment.

Christmas Eve and Christmas Day

There will be no Midnight Mass this year but we shall be arranging two services on Christmas Day:

Family Eucharist at 09:30

Christmas Day Mass at 11:00.

These will again be subject to the Covid-19 protocol, so 39 people. in total.

The Church of St Boniface Antwerp
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Cont'd from P4- Bishops' letter

the response from the authorities has been such a severe violation of the human rights of those who simply seek to make their voice heard and bring about peaceful change. We wish at this time particularly to address the Nigerian communities in our diocese. We join our prayers to yours at this time of crisis in your homeland. We ask all the faithful across the diocese to unite in prayer, asking our gracious God to bring an end to the violence, and to bring justice and healing to the people of Nigeria. May those who have perpetrated this violence be brought to account, and may the country's leaders seek to bring reform and reconciliation.

Loving Father, hear the cries of your people in Nigeria who turn to you in faith. Grant them strength in adversity, comfort in their sorrow, and to those who have died, grant rest eternal. Save the people from further violence and oppression, and bring your justice, love and peace to the nation.