

St Boniface Anglican News



The Church of St Boniface Antwerp

www.boniface.be

Nr. 392

Jan - March 2023

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
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MTS & Port chaplain	The Rev'd June Mark Vañes
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Reader & Lay Prison Chaplain	Mr Egbert van Groesen	0470 67 35 46
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Safeguarding Officer	Mr Philip Gray	safeguarding@boniface.be
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Churchwardens	Mr Cedric Hess	0476 98 39 77
	Lay Canon Ann Turner	03 440 25 81

Services at St Boniface

SUNDAY	09:00	HOLY EUCHARIST (BCP)
	10:30	SUNG EUCHARIST - coffee in hall afterwards Lunch first Sunday of month

WEEKDAY	10:30 THURSDAY THE EUCHARIST* - coffee in hall afterwards
	10:30 SATURDAY THE EUCHARIST

Confession and spiritual council by appointment with the clergy

Bank Accounts

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

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

Anglican News Annual subscription

€20 (Printed copy Belgium)

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The newsletter is available freely on our website.and distributed by Mailchimp

The Chaplain writes

Lent at St Boniface this year follows an ancient pattern: throughout Lent, candidates for baptism (and confirmation) will be prepared for their baptism which will be by the Bishop during the Easter Eucharist. I hope that everyone will be there, to welcome them into the Eucharistic community of the one, holy, catholic and apostolic church. Our candidates are fortunate that Bishop Norman will be with us for this most important day in their lives.

Please note when we hope to hold our confirmation and Lent Groups: These are the plans:

Junior Confirmation group:
Sunday, after the 10:30 Eucharist.

Senior Confirmation group:
Tuesday evening at 8pm
Lent group:
Tuesday evening at 8pm



*Right Rev'd. Norman Banks SSC
Bishop of Richborough*

At the last PCC meeting, I announced that I would be retiring at the end of April. As many of you know, I have been living with Parkinson's disease for some time, and finding it increasingly difficult to keep up with the demands of parish life. This was, as you will understand, a difficult decision. The time for farewells is not yet, however, - we have plenty to be getting on with. In the meantime, I ask for your prayers and your understanding if I am not always on "top form".

Fr Andrew

We look forward to a full church at Easter, 9 April 2023!

MTS News roundup from Fr June

We're grateful to Fr June for this update on his work with MTS:

Andrew Wright, Mission to Seafarers (MTS) General Secretary visits Antwerp

On January 11, 2023, Andrew Wright, MTS General Secretary visited Antwerp to meet with Chaplain June Mark Yañez . He also met with the MTS Antwerp committee, led by Father Andrew Wagstaff, and some of the chaplains of Antwerp Seafarers Welfare.

MTS responds to a crisis!

On January 1, 2023, Chaplain June visited MV Estraden, following a terrible accident onboard. After Father June's pastoral and stress management conversations with the crew, the captain expressed gratefulness for the visit. The shipping company representative said, "Thank you for your report and all the help you have given to our crew to get over this terrible accident. We are really grateful that you had time to visit the vessel."

MTS attends to Isolated Crew in Willebroek

Since October 2022, Father June has taken the lead in caring for the crew onboard a "detained" ship near Boom, Antwerp. Antwerp Seafarers Welfare (A.S.W.) helped the crew to get hold of



sim cards and at Christmas, they received gifts. For shopping and recreation, MTS transported some of the crew to Antwerp City. They also received practical, moral and spiritual support from MTS Antwerp when some of the crew got ill.

Together We Are Stronger

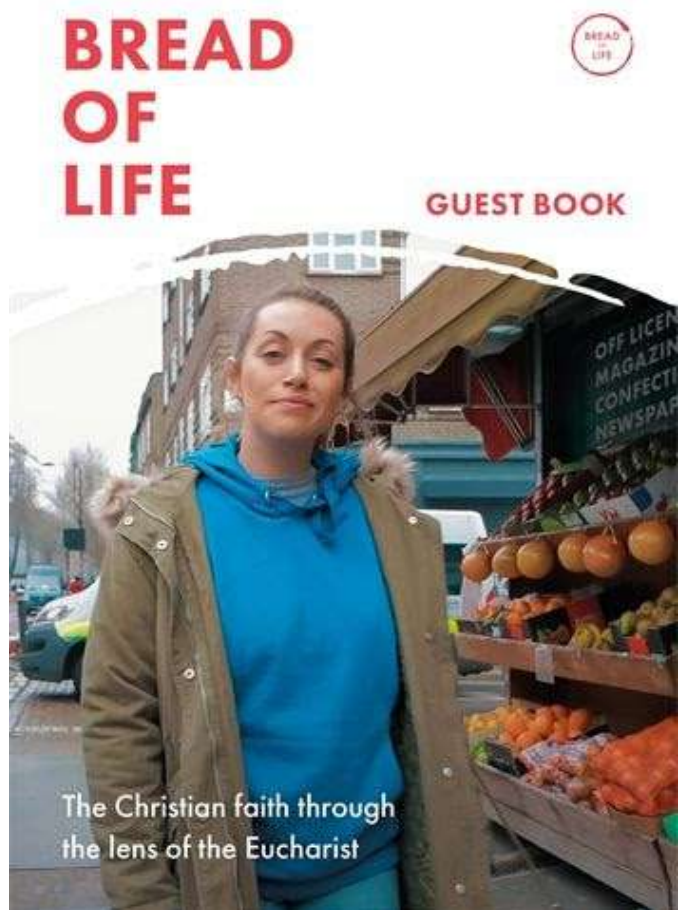
Fr June, accompanied by Port Chaplain Joerg Pfautsch (German Seamen's Mission), went aboard one MSC ship to visit a Filipino seafarer, whose father in the Philippines recently died. The sailor could not afford to go home. MTS in Antwerp contacted Philippine-based SeaNetwork (SeaNet) alliance to help arrange a pastoral visit to the bereaved family in Cebu, Philippines. The Stella Maris Mission visited the family and gave financial support to the bereaved family.

Lent Course 2023- The Bread of Life

Every year during Lent we offer a six week study course at St Boniface . This year is no exception and the theme for 2023 is 'The bread of Life'.

The course will be given on Tuesday evenings after the 19:30 Eucharist. The first session is on Tuesday 28 February. It would be useful if you can let Fr Andrew know if you plan to attend by email to: chaplain@boniface.be

We shall use the book illustrated here and there will be copies available price €10.



It is written by leading thinkers in the Catholic tradition of the Church of England and Bread of Life is ideal as preparation for confirmation , as a refresher course in the Christian faith, and as a course for Lent.

The initial six modules are:

1. I am the bread of life
2. He has reconciled us to God
3. The word of the Lord
4. Hear our prayer
5. The body of Christ
6. Go in peace to love and serve the Lord

Come and join us on 28 February!

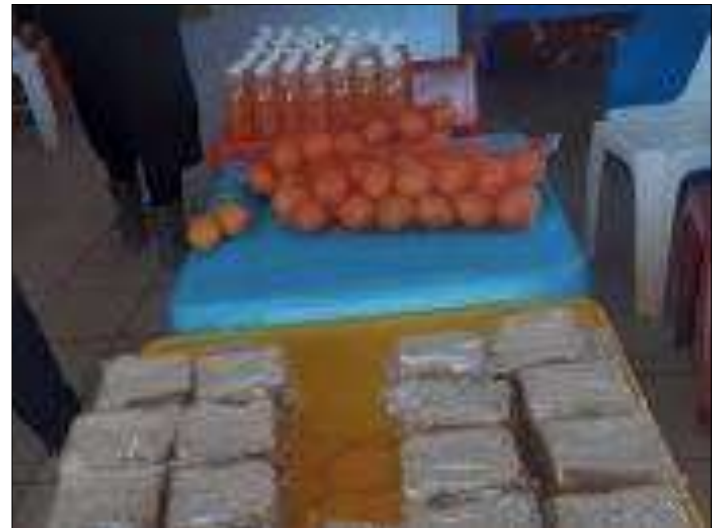
Parish News- Charities

The Friends of St Boniface are committed to allocating charitable help each year and this can be either local or further afield.

In the last year we have sent modest financial help to The Shrine of Our Lady of Walsingham . This was in the form of a donation to enable us to have a lamp burning at the Shrine in the name of St Boniface. Not only does this serve as a prayerful presence for our congregation at the shrine but also supports the shrine's work.



We made a more generous donation to the work of Kwa Hilda in South Africa. This is a feeding project we have supported for some years now and they rely on donations. The children they help are mostly orphans and at school Kwa Hilda provides them with one good meal a day. The price for this is about €1 a week per child so €50 feeds a child for a year. We are able to feed 20 children annually with our €1000 donation.



Charitable work which depends on your direct generosity is our regular connection of dried or tinned food stuffs and toiletries for a local foodbank in Berchem. We would like to encourage you to support this collection again throughout lent.

The Christmas donations were warmly received and swiftly distributed.

Thankyou!



Non-perishable food & toiletries

Parish News

Safeguarding

Here at St Boniface we are careful to follow the Diocesan Safeguarding policy.

We're very pleased to report that the number of parishioners who have completed a safeguarding training has increased this year. This means that Sunday school and choir activities now have more trained volunteers among their numbers giving us greater flexibility.

A big 'Thank you' to those who have completed the on-line course(s). If you have any questions about Safeguarding at St Boniface or would like to complete the course, please contact our safeguarding officer Philip Gray or the chaplain.

Flowers in church

We are continually grateful to Pat Deckmyn who ensures that the church has floral decoration on a weekly basis!

If you'd like to dedicate some flowers in memory of a loved one or simply help with the costs you can always speak to Pat and make a donation.

Easter Confirmations

We are looking forward to welcoming Bishop Norman here in Antwerp for Easter 2023 to confirm our candidates. If you, or someone in your family, is interested in coming forward for confirmation, please contact Fr Andrew so that the necessary instruction can be arranged.

It is always a joy to welcome our bishop and the confirmation candidates.

The last confirmation was in Lent 2019.



Dates to summer 2023

Wednesday 22 February	Ash Wednesday, Eucharist 19:30
Tuesday 28 February	Lent Course starts, 19.30 (See P. 5)
Sunday 5 March	Lunch after 10:30 Eucharist
Sunday 12 March	AGM-VZW- Noon and PCC- 12:30
Sunday 19 March	Mothering Sunday, Lunch after Eucharist
Sunday 2 April	Palm Sunday, Lunch after Eucharist
Thursday 6 April	Maundy Thursday, Eucharist 19,30
Friday 7 April	Good Friday 19.30
Saturday 8 April	Easter Eve - Time at a later date
Sunday 9 April	Easter Day
Sunday 7 May	Lunch after 10:30 Eucharist
Thursday 18 May	Ascension Day, Eucharist 10:30
Sunday 28 May	Pentecost
Sunday 4 June	Lunch after 10:30 Eucharist
Saturday 24 June	Summer Fair, 11-17h (Hall & garden)

KEEP IN TOUCH!

You can keep up to date with all events by going to our website:

boniface.be