

# ANGLICAN NEWS



*Gounod's Messe Solemnelle was sung liturgically  
In St Boniface on July 26th.*

**THE CHURCH OF SAINT BONIFACE, ANTWERP**

Anglican / Episcopalian

Nr. 326

July/August 2009

## THE CHURCH OF SAINT BONIFACE, ANTWERP

*Anglican / Episcopalian*

www.boniface.be

Chaplain: Fr Andrew Wagstaff SSC

Church: ☎: 03 - 239 33 39  
chaplain@boniface.be

Deacon: The Rev'd. Ann Babb

☎: 03 685 34 20  
ann.babb@telenet.be

Mission to Seafarers:

Port chaplain & Reader: John Attenborough ☎: 03 - 605 41 88

Churchwardens: Mr Edward Hiett ☎: 03 - 449 44 14

Mr. John Varghese ☎: 0479 - 26 85 85.

### **Bank Accounts :**

Stewardship & Donations: 220-0781296-94 [vzw]

Anglican News voluntary subscriptions 220-0236970-35 [kerkfabriek].

Recommended minimum p.a.:

€ 14 (Belgium), € 20 (Europe), € 30 (outside Europe)

In The Netherlands: Stichting Saint Boniface Foundation, Vlissingen

Postbank Giro Account 426.00.80

## SUNDAY SERVICES

09:00 HOLY EUCHARIST (BCP)

10:30 SUNG EUCHARIST with children's time, creche and Sunday school. Coffee and often lunch afterwards in the Church Hall

EVENSONG: As Announced

WEEKDAY EUCHARISTS: Tuesday 19:30; Thursday 10:30

## The Chaplain writes -

We live in uncertain times, when many are wondering what the future might bring. What will the world be like for our children and grandchildren? Many of the things that we once took for granted have been weakened or swept away in the recent economic crisis. Global warming reminds us of the fragility of the planet and its effects are already being seen in some of the world's most vulnerable peoples. Large numbers of migrants are finding their way into our neighbourhoods, and all our lives are affected. This really is a time of "crisis" - a time when we have to make crucial decisions which will have repercussions for years to come. Some are avoiding the crisis - "eat drink and be merry, for tomorrow..." Others are retreating into their own self-centred worlds. A few are seizing the opportunity to make a difference. I hope that the congregation at St Boniface is among the latter group, because Christianity is all about making a difference in the world.

A century ago, our forebears built the church in the Gretrystraat in a spirit of confidence and optimism. Their world was swiftly swept away in the Great War, and again in the Second World War. And yet the church they worked hard to build remains as a glorious home for anyone who cares to enter. Our Centenary Appeal has found a generous response in some surprising quarters - while some of those we felt

would gladly give to maintain the build-

ings for the future have shied away, feeling that the old British community is dying, and the church ought to die with it.

Anyone who attends our services will know that there is a new community here now, broader, and generously welcoming. The spirit of generosity and confidence has returned as we look forward to the restoration of our buildings and the consolidation of our pastoral outreach. Here at least, in the faith of the Church, we know that our future is secure as we lay up for ourselves treasures which know no corruption.

As we approach our Centenary year, we hope that the builders will soon be at work, renewing the vision of the past, in our own day, for our children's future.

The future always relies on the wisdom of the past—when past lessons are forgotten, trouble lies ahead. The Christian faith has ensured the freedom and openness of the European mind over the centuries. That faith is in danger of being forgotten by many who are too careless to pass on its wisdom. Join us in worship, and rediscover the freshness of the gospel message; re-read the scriptures, and learn from Jesus how to live in difficult times; and with our church building, face the future, bright and confident!

## Fete income breakdown

| No. | Name of the Stall/<br>Activity    | 2008            | 2009            |
|-----|-----------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| 1   | Bar                               | 108.10          | 70.00           |
| 2   | Books                             | 36.40           | 34.00           |
| 3   | Bottles                           | 407.98          | 347.50          |
| 4   | Cocktails, drinks                 | 121.20          | 165.67          |
| 5   | Flowers                           | 267.50          | 128.00          |
| 6   | Food                              | 501.00          | 360.00          |
| 7   | Games                             | 11.00           | 0.00            |
| 8   | Treasure for you                  | 0.00            | 112.00          |
| 9   | Gifts                             | 61.10           | 123.00          |
| 10  | Home produce                      | 400.80          | 338.90          |
| 11  | Teas                              | 437.20          | 250.00          |
| 12  | Wellness                          | 87.00           | 62.00           |
| 13  | Hotdogs                           | 0.00            | 10.00           |
|     | <b>Sub total Stalls</b>           | <b>2,439.28</b> | <b>2,001.07</b> |
| 14  | Add: Tombola                      | 2,587.50        | 2,137.50        |
| 15  | Add: Brochure                     | 920.00          | 855.00          |
|     | <b>Total Income</b>               | <b>5,946.78</b> | <b>4,993.57</b> |
|     | Less: Tombola Prize<br>+ Expenses | 288.33          | 384.66          |
|     | <b>Grand total</b>                | <b>5,658.45</b> | <b>4,608.91</b> |
|     | Net receipts                      |                 |                 |

## Parish Matters—Are you up to date?

- **Electoral Roll**

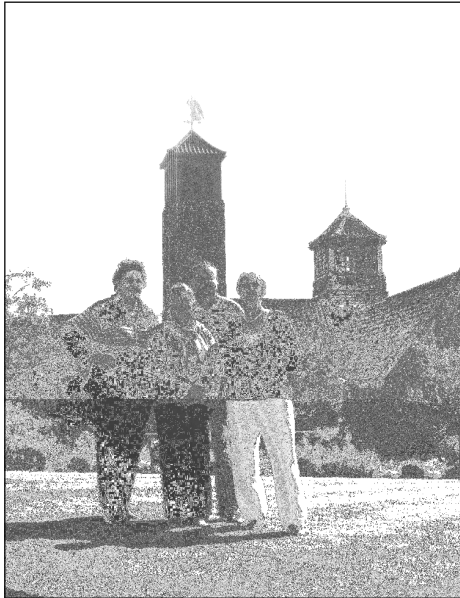
If you have worshipped with us for 6 months you maywell be eligible to be on our electoral roll. This entitles you,as a parish elector, to vote at an AGM (including the election of Archdeaconry synod and Partish Council members) and shows that we have an active congregation who take an interest in the work of St Boniface. There are forms available at the back of church or otherwise contact Fr Andrew or the Churchwardens.

- **Stewardship and Plate Collections**

Comprehending the accounting system of St. Boniface is not an easy task for even financial experts. With the specialized requirements of the Kerkfabriek (KF) prescribed by the government authorities and the need for a separate VZW account, complicates matters further.

(Con't P 7)

## Walsingham



The parish pilgrimage to Walsingham in June was another success . In the picture above you can see some of the pilgrims

and in the background the Shrine Church .

In addition to participating fully in the services at the shrine (where it was wonderful to enter a church full of people waiting in silent anticipation for the service to begin) we discovered the delights of Wells next the Sea, Holkham Hall, Blickling Hall with its magnificent gardens and we celebrated Corpus Christi at Norwich cathedral at the kind invitation of the precentor, Fr Jeremy.

If you are interested in joining us next year please do get in touch. We anticipate the cost will be about 350 euro and can take up to 8 pilgrims. It is a great experience and recommended to all. The atmosphere is relaxed, the food and accommodation excellent, liturgy - the Church of England at its best and our leader Fr Andrew is a wealth of knowledge and an expert when it comes to Walsingham!

## Congratulations - To Malik and Immanuel

Our sincere congratulations go out to Malik Jacobs and Immanuel John who have just succeeded in obtaining their Master's degrees.

We wish them every success in their new careers and are delighted to have two young professionals as regular worshippers at St Boniface!



## Dates for your diary

**Mission to Seafarers Barbecue**  
**Friday 21 August 7p.m. in the vicarage**  
**garden**

**Price: €28 in advance**

Phone John Attenborough on 03 605  
 4188 or from Church.

Last orders please by 16 August, so  
 hurry!



| DATE  | EVENT                                  |
|---|--|
| Friday August 21 19:00  | MTS BBQ- see above                     |
| <i>Saturday August 29 -Stop Press! Concert Choir:Gaudeamus (U.K.)<br/>in aid of Centenary Appeal-see flyers+ Pergolesi Stabat Mater,<br/>website for time + tickets</i> |  |
| September 21 to 25  | Clergy Pastoral Conference- Cologne    |
| Sunday October 4 10:30  | Harvest Festival                       |
| Tuesday October 6   | 20:00 vzw , 21:00 Kerkfabriek meetings |
| October 8-10  | Archdeaconry synod -TPC Antwerp        |
| Saturday November 21 10:00  | ACB meeting-Brugge                     |
| Sunday November 22 12:30  | Ham & Turkey lunch                     |
| Saturday November 28 11-16:00   | MTS Bazaar - Stella Maris, Italialei   |
| Saturday December 5 11 -16:00   | St Boniface Christmas Fayre            |

**You can always keep up to date on**  
**[www.boniface.be](http://www.boniface.be)**

## **Parish Matters—Are you up to date?** (Con't from P4)

In this backdrop, there appears to be a need for some explanation about the financial position vis-à-vis the two bodies at our church. The KF is responsible for the fabric of the church, and maintenance of regular worship. All costs related to worship, cleaning & maintenance of the building, heating, electricity, water, travel & conveyance, office expenses, etc are borne by the KF which works on a cash budget system i.e. at the end of the year there is no surplus or shortfall. The KF is funded by the plate collections and subsidy from the City of Antwerp. However, the City authorities insist that we should be able to raise at least 50% of the budgeted expenses. If our collections fall short of the budgeted levels, there is a possibility that the City will reduce the subsidy they provide to us meaning we will have to cut our expenditure or essential items which will have a direct bearing on the quality of worship. Our plate collections are falling, which is a matter of concern. On a cold winter Sunday, the cost of heating the church works out to about 200 Euro, whereas the average collections are much less. Even a small increase of a Euro or two by each family present in church would make a significant difference. *Is there something we can do about this?*

The Friends of St. Boniface VZW, takes care of all other activities that we have. The VZW is mainly responsible to meet the costs of clergy pension contributions, quotas (Diocese, Anglican Council of Belgium & Archdeaconry), refurbishment & maintenance of the vicarage and church hall apart from other costs. About 55% of funds for the VZW comes from Stewardship, our planned giving programme. The VZW also organizes various fund raising activities to augment its finances. Ideally, the total expenses of the VZW should be met from Stewardship and additional funds raised through activities should go to building up savings .

Though the two separate channels of contributing financially to the church - the plate collection on Sundays and the Stewardship programme - ultimately are offerings to God, there are clear differences in them. While the plate collection is a thanksgiving offering when we go to church, the planned giving is more of a long term commitment to the church and its ministry/mission. It would, therefore, be natural to expect all members of the parish to join the Stewardship programme. While the quantum of offering would be a personal choice, the principle and sanctity of planned giving should be given its desired prominence. *I would exhort all members who have not yet joined our Stewardship programme to reconsider this issue.*

Please do get in touch in case you have any questions about the financial situation of the church—*John Varghese-Churchwarden & Treasurer vzw*

**Thank you for the generous contributions you make—these help to keep YOUR church running!**

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