



SAINTS ALIVE!

THE NEWSLETTER OF ALL SAINTS' EPISCOPAL CHURCH
WATERLOO, BELGIUM

A PARISH OF THE ANGLICAN COMMUNION
SERVING THE GREATER BRUSSELS AREA

JUNE 2016

The Anglican Communion, of which we are a part, is a worldwide family of 38 churches representing 70 million people in 164 countries. Each national church is independent in its government and liturgical life.

Located near Waterloo, Belgium, All Saints' Church extends an invitation to people of all faiths to join our common life and worship. Established in October 1979, All Saints' is affiliated with the Convocation of Episcopal Churches in Europe.

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ALL SAINTS' WATERLOO

THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH SERVING BELGIUM

The Mission of All Saints' Church

We welcome all with joy to our spiritual home.

We seek to share and to deepen our faith and our love of God through Anglican worship, pastoral care, Christian nurture, and vibrant community life.

The Mission of the Convocation of Episcopal Churches in Europe

The Convocation of Episcopal Churches in Europe is a welcoming community that knows God loves all people – no exceptions. We celebrate our diversity of languages, cultures and nations. Worshipping together, we rejoice in reaching out to the world and becoming One in Christ.

The Five Marks of Mission of the Anglican Communion

To proclaim the Good News of the Kingdom.

To teach, baptize, and nurture new believers.

To respond to human need by loving service.

To seek to transform unjust structures of society, to challenge violence of every kind, and to pursue peace and reconciliation.

To strive to safeguard the integrity of creation, and sustain and renew the life of the earth.

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From the Rector: Why me?

Lately, I keep wondering: Why me?
 I keep asking God: "Why me?"
 "Why not someone else, God, why me?"
 Loneliness. Unhappy family. No love.
 Violence. Suffering.
 Never having enough.
 Or experiencing devastating loss of what was once plenty.
 Sickness. Addiction.
 Disease and other physical ailments or limitations.
 Too cold at night and too hot all day.
 Living with only torn or worn clothes,
 few or no ways to keep clean.
 I see these things and ask myself:
 "God, why me?" Why me?
 Why do so many face all these problems
 and I do not?
 Why me?
 What have I done that makes me any more deserving to have
 loving and supportive family and friends,
 good health, security and comfort,
 so much more than most of the people in this world?
 Why me, God?
 Why so much for me?
 ... NO, this is not about me. really.
 it is about
 those who do not have.
 Why them?
 What makes them any less deserving of their needs?
 Why them?

Perhaps another title for my reflections above would be *Thoughts while participating in Food 4 Friends*, sharing the All Saints' donations with the refugees and homeless people at Brussels Gare du Nord.

Sunny Hallanan

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The Bishop received Scott McColl into the Episcopal Church at the American Cathedral in Paris at the end of April. And we will be receiving Scott formally when the Bishop is with us on 12 June.

Plan to stay after the service that day to enjoy fellowship and meet the Bishop. A light lunch will be served in the café.

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Outreach in Brussels

For I was hungry and you gave Me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave Me something to drink, I was a stranger and you took Me in.

Matthew 25: 35

Last summer and early autumn saw a very large number of refugees and migrants pouring into Europe, fleeing from dreadful situations: from war, persecution and poverty. Thousands of people came to Belgium, many ending up living in and around the Gare du Nord in Brussels.

Winter came and it seemed that the government and the Red Cross had become much more organised and the number of people left to fend for themselves around the station fell. At about the same time, Sunny met with Serve the City, a charity working with the homeless in Brussels, and we began to support the work of a very remarkable man called Nino Ostojic. A day-centre run by a volunteer organisation near the Gare du Nord was where we took the food donated by the congregation and it was here that we began to provide hot drinks and cookies. Then the centre closed because the building was needed for redevelopment. So Nino took us back to the Gare du Nord where, for the last few months, we have provided food and something to drink for both the migrants and the homeless living there.

In the last couple of weeks, the night shelters, which had opened at the beginning of winter, have been closing and the Red Cross have moved away from the building they were in by the station. We don't know where all the clothing donations are now housed and cannot get clothes for the migrants. In addition to the young men from the night shelters people from 'the Jungle' in Calais have now arrived here.

The numbers have definitely increased, with young men from Syria, Iraq, Egypt, Somalia, Morocco and many other countries, all desperately needing our help. We have gone from just providing oranges to including bananas, apples, home-baked cookies, 12 dozen hard-boiled eggs, tea and coffee. Sunny collected Nino, who cannot drive, and brings him to the railway station on Mondays and Tuesdays. This means he can cook and serve hot food for up to 100 people on those two days, and he also goes there on Thursdays. More recently, with the help of the scouts, we have begun to collect clothes and shoes for the migrants. Urgently and always needed are socks and men's clothing, medium and large but NOT extra large sizes, and also

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shoes sizes 36-45. The extra fruit, eggs and hot drinks are paid for out of our Outreach fund.

I spend most Sunday afternoons cooking six dozen hard-boiled eggs. Thanks to ex-All Saints' member Martha we have realised that they are an excellent source of protein that do not need a fridge or special storage. On Monday afternoons I bake up to 100 small cakes to take with me.

Sunny spends her time making tea and coffee, buying milk and a huge amount of sugar cubes – they really like sweet tea! She also brings more hard-boiled eggs, clothes and all the fruit you donate.

So what is it like to meet these people? I think that most of us faced with going down to serve the homeless imagine they will be dirty, smelly, drunk people who we would really rather not go near. I certainly did. A few are certainly like that and I don't take much money or any valuables with me. However, my instinct was wrong. Most of these people are not drunk or smelly, but given their circumstances are surprisingly clean. They are not a single group of people even if we find it difficult to tell the difference between someone from Syria and another from Egypt just by looking at them. I suppose they would find it equally difficult to tell the difference between me, a Brit, and someone else from France – until we begin to speak of course.

It can be difficult when you're surrounded by people asking for food who want their share, even if it means pushing someone else out of the way. It is emotionally difficult when I meet a child aged 14 on his own who has just come from Calais. It could so easily have been my son. It is hard when arguments break out between some of the men or when some try to take more than their share to sell. On the other hand, arguments get settled, fights stopped, people are fed and clothed, and friendships begin. When someone smiles at you and you smile back, a connection is made. When someone you fed thanks you, everything else is unimportant.

So come and spend time helping Nino and the many others who work with these people. All Saints' has a vital ministry to help and support people in very great need, and our work is only just beginning!

Felicity Handford

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The early history of All Saints' Church (aka the American Episcopal Anglican church) – Part 2

In my previous article I left you with a challenging thought: how did it happen that an Anglican parish planted a church for an Anglo-American congregation supported by the American Episcopal Church?

We should recognize two things from the start. The Anglo-American character of the church was clearly in evidence: many new expatriate families in the Waterloo area, some with strong Episcopalian backgrounds, provided the context for an initiative with both Anglican and American components.

In the words of an early mission statement: 'The primary focus will be on the Episcopalians in that area for whom the worship and style of the Church of England was unfamiliar, and on other Anglicans who preferred to worship locally.'

The essential facts were that the 1970s was a time of growth in the economy and increased numbers of English-speaking families were arriving, both 'expat Brits' in the years after the UK joined the EEC and American families posted to Belgium in order to manage large multinational companies. A number of these families had already well-established contacts with the Bishop and the Cathedral in Paris, and a group of perhaps 30 people wanted to worship locally rather than in central Brussels.

That said, without the willingness of Holy Trinity church and Archdeacon Peter Duplock to be flexible and to give us a start, providing both practical advice and the religious authority that was required, it could not have been done. The only Anglican English-speaking priests available were at Holy Trinity, and the logic of the situation was to look for a hybrid solution.

What emerged was a truly ecumenical compromise, supported by both the Anglican and Episcopalian bishops of the time. In the founding document I have seen, the new church was to be under the direct authority of the Archdeacon, but with an American lay leader; a Council of Advice to be established, with three officials and six to eight additional members; and the chair and half of the other members reserved for Americans. It records the formal commitment of the people and priests to their respective responsibilities: the people to find a suitable building, to assist in worship and Christian education, and to raise funds to cover church activities; and the priests to celebrate the Eucharist twice a month, to provide training for lay readers and to offer pastoral services to the new congregation.

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The third component was the relationship with the local Catholic population. Through Holy Trinity contacts we were lucky to find the place where we would worship for almost 30 years – a private church belonging to the de Meeus family and where a religious order, the Aumoniers du Travail, had established a retreat house, a convent and a local school. Another important friend of All Saints' was Father Peter Fluitsma who led the order and welcomed us with open arms to share his facilities and to have the use of the church.

We have to remember that this unusual structure was established many years before we took the decision (in 1989) to belong to the Convocation of American churches in Europe. An earlier recorder of church history (Pam Breton) described the new congregation as 'thriving, vigorous, a daughter (of Holy Trinity) who grew up into a rebellious and independent-minded teenager'. This might be seen as a process of Episcopalian adaptation to the 'unfamiliar' Church of England style and the precursor of later decisions. In practice it seemed to work remarkably well, with a willingness to look for bridges between two different cultures. An American curate had already been attached to the staff of Holy Trinity, and in 1979 Ted Berktold (who has a British wife) was a perfect fit to be our first priest, for two years through until 1981. After that we had some interims until Worth Campbell arrived in 1983.

The constant support of the Episcopalian bishops in the early years was also a key element. Bishop Krumm made a point of meeting the congregation, attending social events to celebrate the first birthday of All Saints' and the first Thanksgiving supper. Church members had moved rapidly to establish the first Council of Advice, and to set up liturgical and educational ministries (as described in the previous issue). Another positive feature was that the new church very soon became financially independent (with low overheads for worship, and plate collections which exceeded the initial expenditure).

A final word relates to finances. Given the happy fact of a budget surplus, the congregation was able to devote time and effort to Outreach, both locally and farther afield. In the first few years All Saints' was contributing to global charities and projects in Africa, India and Poland; and there was a special, close link with the Rixensart children's home, as well as support for members of the congregation and others involved in religious studies and training for ordination. A very specific case was the financial assistance given in 1981-82 to an Archdeacon from Rwanda who required lengthy treatment in a Belgian hospital.

Roderick Abbott

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Scouts in our community

At the beginning of this year, 1st Waterloo (International) Scout group made All Saints' Church their new home. The troop ranges from Beavers (6-8yrs), Cubs (8-10.5yrs), Scouts (10.5-14yrs) and Explorers (14-18yrs). Every Monday evening over 150 young people can be seen Scouting in the church and the local area.



Keen to get immediately involved with church life the Scouts have already donated boxes full of food and over 150 used pairs of shoes that Sunny has given to Serve the City for the refugees in Brussels.

Additionally, the Scouts and the Explorers spent a day at the church in May where they undertook the project of bringing the church garden back to life. They cut grass, clipped hedges, re-drew the borders, planted window boxes and made several container park runs with garbage and unwanted church items. However, the Scouts had the most fun whilst jet-washing the patio, outbuildings and furniture. It is fair to say they all got wet – even the leaders!

“Scouting is all about being part of the community and doing good deeds when we can. To that end, it is a natural win-win solution for our Scouts to make All Saints' Church their new home. We look forward to any new challenges the church may set us”, said Andrew Girvan, Scout Leader.

More information about the Scout group can be found at:

<http://1stwaterlooscouts.com/>

LECTIONARY AND ROSTER FOR JUNE 2016

Date	Lectionary Psalm / Hebrew Scripture	Apostolic Scripture / Gospel	Lay Assistants	Ushers	Lesson Readers	Prayer
5 June: Third Sunday after Pentecost	Psalm 30 1 Kings 17:17-24	Galatians 1:11-24 Luke 7:11-17	M. Smets	B. Bythell	OT: B. Nahimana NT: B. Bythell	C. Ducastel
12 June: Fourth Sunday after Pentecost	Psalm 32 2 Samuel 11:26 - 12:10,13-15	Galatians 2:15-21 Luke 7:36 - 8:3	M. Tolley	M. Breton	OT: D.-H. Lemaire NT: M. Wiklander	J. Leigh
19 June: Fifth Sunday after Pentecost	Psalm 22:18-27 Isaiah 65:1-9	Galatians 3:23-29 Luke 8:26-39	B. Bythell	M. Breton	OT: Ph. Marchandise NT: M. Breton	B. Bythell
26 June: Sixth Sunday after Pentecost	Psalm 16 1Kings 19:15-16, 19-21	Galatians 5:1, 13-25 Luke 9:51-62	M. Tolley	C. Ducastel	OT: M. Smets NT: N. Molenstra	S. Downhill

If you are on the roster and are unable to be in church, please arrange a swap with someone else.

June 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
29 2 Pentecost ■ 11:00 Holy Eucharist ■ 12:30 ASBL meeting	30 Clergy conference ■ 17:00 Beavers ■ 18:00 Cubs ■ 18:30 Food for friends ■ 19:30 Scouts & Explorers	31 ■ 19:30 Scout AGM in Library ■ 20:30 AA (French)	1 Justin ■ 14:00 Wednesday Club ■ 15:00 Rainbows & Brownies ■ 18:15 Girl Guides ■ 20:00 AA (English)	2 Martyrs of Lyons ■ 20:30 AA (French)	3 Martyrs of Uganda ■ 08:00 Rector's day off	4 Archdeaconry choral festival, Ghent
5 3 Pentecost Boniface ■ 11:00 Holy Eucharist	6 ■ 17:00 Beavers ■ 18:00 Cubs ■ 18:30 Food for friends ■ 19:30 Scouts & Explorers	7 ■ 20:30 AA (French)	8 ■ 15:00 Rainbows & Brownies ■ 18:15 Girl Guides ■ 20:00 AA (English)	9 Columba ■ 20:30 AA (French)	10 Ephrem of Edessa ■ 08:00 Rector's day off	11 ■ 18:00 Vestry dinner with Bishop
12 Bishop here! Enmegahbowh ■ 11:00 Holy Eucharist ■ 12:30 Lunch with Bishop ■ 14:00 ICB choir - rehearsal and concert	13 ■ 17:00 Beavers ■ 18:00 Cubs ■ 18:30 Food for friends ■ 19:30 Scouts & Explorers	14 Basil the Great ■ 20:30 AA (French)	15 Evelyn Underhill ■ 14:00 Wednesday Club ■ 15:00 Rainbows & Brownies ■ 18:15 Girl Guides ■ 20:00 AA (English)	16 Joseph Butler ■ 20:30 AA (French)	17 ■ 08:00 Rector's day off	18 Relay for Life Bernard Mizeki ■ 14:00 Relay for Life
19 Relay for Life 5 Pentecost ■ 11:00 Holy Eucharist ■ ... Relay for Life	20 ■ 17:00 Beavers ■ 18:00 Cubs ■ 18:30 Food for friends ■ 19:30 Vestry ■ 19:30 Scouts & Explorers	21 ■ 20:30 AA (French)	22 Alban ■ 15:00 Rainbows & Brownies ■ 18:15 Girl Guides ■ 20:00 AA (English)	23 ■ 20:30 AA (French)	24 ■ 08:00 Rector's day off	25 ■ 13:00 Clair Ulmann ordination anniversary celebration
26 6 Pentecost ■ 11:00 Holy Eucharist	27 ■ 17:00 Beavers ■ 18:00 Cubs ■ 18:30 Food for friends ■ 19:30 Scouts & Explorers	28 Irenaeus ■ 20:30 AA (French)	29 ■ 15:00 Rainbows & Brownies ■ 18:15 Girl Guides ■ 20:00 AA (English)	30 ■ 20:30 AA (French)	1 ■ 08:00 Rector's day off	2 ■ 11:00 Breton 50th Anniversary

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'Come and grow', an Academy for Parish Leadership (APL) event

Really, I shouldn't be writing this. As a board member of the European Institute of Christian Studies (EICS), the organizers of the 'Come and Grow' event, I should be leaving it to one of our participants from All Saints', Felicity Handford and Fabiano Soares, to give a report. Or perhaps Balthazar Nnahimana from Christ Church, Charleroi who was also there. But I have been influenced by Rev. John Perris, from Christ the King, Frankfurt, another EICS board member who was also really there to 'work', but returned to his parish and immediately communicated his views and enthusiasm to his parish. I'd like to share with you some of John's comments and others who have expressed their reactions. In fact, the board's chair, Rosemarie Valentine, has received notes of thanks and appreciation from every participant!

There were 41 of us drawn from all the congregations of the Convocation, all lay people with the exception of two priests who are EICS board members (John and Rev. Tony Jewiss), and including the keynote speaker, Dr Denise Crenshaw, who came together at the Schloss Fürstenried Retreat House, outside Munich, for the annual APL event. Denise has an impressive CV: a Doctorate of Ministry, a Master's degree in Theology, a Master's degree in Education and a Bachelor's degree in Mathematics. She is Dean and Director of the Whitaker School of Theology of the Episcopal Diocese of Michigan, and has designed and facilitated leadership programmes and serves on a regional programme project for Peace and Justice with the Society of the Companions of the Holy Cross. She is also a leadership consultant. One participant wrote: Denise was a warm, kind person, who was always prepared to find humour in any situation, and share her own life experiences with us.

To quote John, "Using the Myers Briggs Personality Indicator, we each considered how our own personality is predisposed in four areas. We looked at the degree to which we are naturally inclined (1) to be energized by time alone or with others, (2) to focus on the big picture or the details, (3) to reflect with thinking or feeling, and (4) to value the making of a decision or the process of deciding.

"In group discussions, we recognized the value of every person, whatever personality type God has given her or him. It can be hard to feel that you are God's beloved son or daughter if other persons routinely criticize you for your personality. (For example, someone might put you down for not being more outgoing, when

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God made you introverted.) So, we need to recall that – in the words of Psalm 139 – God has ‘marvelously’ made us!”

In fact, the weekend revolved around Psalm 139 – Lord, you have searched me out and known me; you know my sitting down and my rising up; you discern my thoughts from afar – and I recommend that you read it again. Each ‘pod’ was give a part of it to study and pray over in Lecto Divina and then to act out in one continuous performance on the Saturday night. There were choral versions of some passages and others were translated into many languages.

John Perris: “Knowing that God has marvelously made all people encourages us to be more appreciative towards those whose personality is different from our own. During the APL, we talked about what we value about different types of personalities. We recognized that we complement each other, when we value each other’s strengths, leading us to be more whole in community.”

When taking part in church life, serving on committees and vestries, such an appreciation of the other person’s strengths and point of view enables God to work through each and every one of us, His wonders to proclaim.

Rev. John Perris again: “During part of the APL, we used a tool for assessing our spiritual gifts.. Through a set of questions, we identified the ministries (ways of serving) in which we find fulfillment. We assessed our preferences for administration, discernment, encouragement, evangelism, faith, giving, healing, helping, hospitality, intercession, leadership, mercy, and teaching – a reminder that God has given each of us gifts for ministry and desires us to use every one of those gifts.”

The way the retreat house is arranged, with the sleeping accommodation in the modern block grouped around a central sitting area or ‘pods’, enabled us to get to know our groups better by using the space for prayer together, as break-out areas and for just chilling out. Each board member was a facilitator of a group/pod and the one I was assigned was made up of people from the congregations of Charleroi, Clermont Ferrand, Frankfurt, Munich, Paris and Waterloo. There was also plenty of informal conversation at meal times.

Should we be thinking more of the other person in our parish life? If God values each one of us, we should certainly be doing the same no matter who that person is. God has made each and everyone of us marvelously to know, love and serve Him.

Carole Ducastel

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Uncovering Waterloo

Alasdair White, historian, author and university professor, is the Historical Consultant to Project Hougoumont and to the Waterloo Uncovered archaeology project.

The first two weeks of July see the return of archaeologists to the battlefield of Waterloo as they continue uncovering the story of the château/ferme of Hougoumont in war and peace. Conflict archaeology, the application of archaeological techniques to the study of war, is always interesting to both the general public and to the historian, but the project being run by Waterloo Uncovered is unusual in that it involves wounded military veterans, especially those with PTSD.

PTSD, post traumatic stress disorder, is an unseen wound which many veterans carry around with them unknown and unrecognized by the general public. The result of being subjected to traumatic stress, stress beyond which that person's mind can cope, such as extended periods in battle conditions, being victims of IEDs (improvised explosive devices), being subjected to terrorist activities, can leave the human mind unable to cope with even the mundane realities and minor irritations of day-to-day life. Now recognized as a psycho-medical disorder, PTSD is a very real 'mental illness', one that incapacitates, and for which the sufferer needs attention, therapy and assistance. Archaeology has been found to have appropriate therapeutic qualities and the Waterloo Uncovered archaeological team is predominantly made up of PTSD sufferers with a few physically wounded veterans as well. The veterans work alongside other archaeological professionals and students under the direction of Dominique Bosquet of the Wallonian Archaeological Service and Dr Tony Pollard, who is the Director of the Centre for Conflict Archaeology at the University of Glasgow.

For historians studying the Battle of Waterloo, having military veterans involved in the archaeology is an added bonus as they provide a unique and professional perspective, not only on the finds but also on the tactics and strategy that might have been employed 200 years ago on 18 June 1815. Their contribution has already proven to be invaluable when, last year, they helped solve the conundrum of why just 1200 allied soldiers were able to hold off five times that number for nearly four hours. Their professional knowledge also helped to sort out the timeline of the elements of military activity at Hougoumont.

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The Waterloo Uncovered team will be back at Hougoumont from 4 to 15 July and this year much of the work will focus on identifying the burial sites around the farm so that they can be memorialized. If anyone would like to visit the dig, contribute to the work or to help fund the Waterloo Uncovered activities, then please email me, in the first place, at alasdair.white@pm-solutions.com so that I can put you in touch with the appropriate people.

Alasdair White

An invitation from Mike and Pam Breton:

On 2 July 2016 we shall be celebrating 50 years of marriage. Celebrations will start at 11.00 with an ecumenical concelebration of the Eucharist at All Saints'. Sunny and Tchuma, the parish priest of St Pierre, Genval, will be our celebrants, with music provided by the All Saints' choir and the choir of St Pierre.

The service will include an exchange of our marriage vows, with texts chosen to express our faith, thanksgiving and joy on this occasion.

We shall follow with a reception - simple but fortifying!

We invite all members of All Saints' to join us and would ask you to fill in the sign-up list, available at the Church, to help us with the catering!

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Calendar highlights for All Saints' 2016 and beyond

Please put these dates on YOUR CALENDAR TODAY so you don't schedule conflicting events. This calendar doesn't include ongoing, regular events such as Eucharist every Sunday at 11.00 and groups such as youth, Wednesday Club, AA and Scouts.

30 May-3 June		Clergy at Convocation conference
12 June	09:30	Confirmand breakfast with bishop
	11.00	Confirmation etc
	12.00	Sunday School Celebration
18-19 June	14.00-14.00	Relay for Life at St John's
25 June	13:00	Clair Ulmann anniversary worship event
2 July	11.00	Breton anniversary worship event
4-15 July		Waterloo Uncovered
*1 Aug	18.30	Vestry BBQ & monthly meeting
28 Aug	11.00	School-bag blessings
4 Sept	11.00	Sunday School start-up & picnic
11 Sept	11.00	Welcome home Sunday – Mission Fair
17 Sept	18.00	Worship service & movie night for No-Drive Sunday
18 Sept	11.00	No drive Sunday: special Agape eucharist
2 Oct	12.15	Animal Blessing & Stewardship event
11 Oct	11.00	Harvest festival
19-23 October		Convocation Convention (in Munich)
6 Nov	11.00	Celebration of All Saints & All Souls
13 Nov	11.00	Special service for Remembrance day
20 Nov	11.00	Christ the King
	12:15	Parish Thanksgiving Feast
27 Nov	11.00	Advent 1
3 Dec	Evening	Carol Supper
11 Dec	11.00	Pageant & HE followed by parish party
	16.00	Advent Lessons & Carols at Christ Church, Charleroi
TBA Dec	Evening	Waterloo Community Lessons & Carols
18 Dec	11.00	4 Advent followed by decorating the church & Rector's Tree party
24 Dec	17.00	Christmas family service (followed by dinner)
	22.30	Christmas Carols & midnight service
25 Dec	11.00	Christmas Day SUNDAY
1 Jan	11.00	New Year's Day; 1st Sunday after Christmas
8 Jan	11.00	Epiphany service
15 Jan	11.00	Baptism of Christ
18-25 January		Week of Christian Unity

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Summary of the Vestry meeting held on 18 April 2016 at All Saints' Church, Waterloo

1. Fiona White opened the meeting in **prayer**.
2. The Vestry needed to appoint a Junior Warden, according to the constitution and canons. In some churches the Junior Warden (JW) is the Senior Warden in training, some have the JW in charge of property and finance. The JW is chosen by the Vestry – i.e. the People's Warden. **Jennifer Blanco-Marvik was chosen to be Junior Warden.**
3. **Visibility:** Fiona White reported:
 - a. The exterior signs for the church all need to be replaced. We will research and follow the Braine-l'Alleud Commune regulations about signage.
 - b. We will develop a way to let our outside groups (scouts, guides, etc.) know that there is more to All Saints' than meeting rooms.
4. **Finance and property:** Mike Breton reported
 - a. The number of pledges was 25 with a total of €42,030. More are needed.
 - b. The Fabrique accounts for 2014 are up for approval. Once approved, the 2015 accounts will then be looked at.
 - c. An estate agent has been asked to find us a tenant for the one-bedroom apartment. We await developments. (*Note - we have since found a tenant and he has moved in and begun paying rent!*)
 - d. Although the building was tentatively approved by the fire authorities for the daycare to open, further work on electricity is in process to meet full final approval.
 - e. Final payment for Chris O'Shaughnessy's work was made through Youth for Christ in April. He will continue to do some e-blast and website work as a volunteer until he has had a chance to show Fiona the rest of the work, hopefully in June.
 - f. We still need to deal with the damp problem. A crack above a window in the library is part of this problem which needs to be further investigated.
 - g. Following Fiona and Alasdair White moving into the administrator's apartment, it was found necessary to replace several items, mainly due to problems of not being used for a year.

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h. There was a vote of thanks to Mike for all the time he devotes to the church.

5. **Formation:** Jennifer Blanco-Marvik reported that it is a challenge to find new teachers for Sunday School. Sunday School groups are split by age so there are therefore not enough teachers. We are almost at the point of having a youth group again. Anyone can help on an ad hoc basis. Working with the children helps adults develop too, and enriches them. A minimum of two adults per group is required.

We still need a nursery teacher. Until we get one we will have the small children in Sunday School. Mark Barwick wondered if it was worth investing in a child pager; however it was felt that mobile phones can work just as well.

6. **Fellowship:**

a. A 'strawberry do' or other event will be held for all the outside groups so that we can tell them more about the church. We need to make it a 'welcome the community' as well as a fundraiser.

b. The Fellowship Committee will organize a reception for after the service on 12 June when the Bishop is with us. There will be a pot luck meal with the Bishop on the evening of 11 June for all Vestry members and their partners.

7. **Outreach:** Laura Atlee reported. This is a time of transition, with Brenda Barleycorn having hip surgery soon, and her information passing on to others.

Bills are coming in for items bought for refugees. A church in the USA has very kindly donated money to All Saints' Church, to be used specifically for refugees. In addition to what parishioners and scouts donate, Sunny and Felicity Handford regularly purchase eggs, coffee & tea, along with more fruit, and now socks and underwear; they are reimbursed from these funds. Sunny is looking into getting additional funds for refugees from Episcopal Relief & Development.

8. **Charity Concert:** Fiona reported that there will be a charity concert on 28 May, like the ones that Paddy Latham used to organize. The beneficiary this time is All Saints' Church and its missions. The performers are either professionals or very good amateur musicians who are giving their services.

9. **Associate's report:** Mark Barwick began by explaining to the new Vestry members what he does: he is the Assistant Rector at All Saints', the Rector at Christ Church, Charleroi and he also has a day job. He described a monthly French-speaking ecumenical bible study group in Charleroi which he runs with a Jesuit

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priest, with often as many as 30 people present. He told the meeting that the One World Film Festival is currently on in Brussels.

10. **Rector's report:** Sunny Hallanan reported.

The new office administrator (Fiona White) is working out fine. It was a bit of a baptism by fire, with all the Easter services followed by the service for General Chuck Wilson and a funeral worship guide to put together.

The scouts are staying overnight in the Campbell Hall on Friday, 29 April and work in the garden the following day. They will take items to the dump, and donate clothes and shoes for the refugees.

The Bishop is currently attending the Anglican Consultative Council in Zambia. His wife, Melinda, is recovering slowly following her operation.

Scott McColl will be received as an Episcopal priest at the Cathedral in Paris on 27 April. There will be a public recognition of Scott when the Bishop is with us on 12 June. He will be available for supply ministry around the Convocation. There is no *traitement* for him in Belgium.

The Convocation's Youth Across Europe retreats are held every year, hosted at different parishes on a rotating basis. Five of our youth are going to the Juniors' retreat in Florence over Ascension weekend. All Saints' will host the 20-30s retreat. Only three have registered so far but hopefully the number will reach 10 or 12.

Regarding the Holy week services, does anyone want to see changes made? The attendance was low for all three services. Why was this? Was it holidays, or something else?

11. Fiona led the **closing prayer** and the meeting finished at 21.20.

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