

Church of All Saints in the Vendée

"To know and to share Jesus Christ"

The Grapevine

April 2016

CONTACTS:

Priest: Reverend Caroline Sackley:

Vicarage: 27, rue de Malvoisine, 85110 St Vincent Sterlanges:

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In Revd Caroline's absence and/or in case of emergency, please contact any of the following:

Church Wardens: **Barbara Kenyon:** Phone no: 02 51 40 51 59, email: bandrkenyon@orange.fr

Doug Green: 05 49 72 18 46, email: greensinfrance@yahoo.co.uk

Reader: **John Matthews:** Phone no: 05 49 75 29 71, e-mail: matthewsj@wanadoo.fr

Website: www.allsaintsvendee.fr



Preface



Dear All,

Alleluiah Christ is risen! May the Risen Christ bless you all.

Welcome to our April edition as we collapse into our post Lent and post Easter daze. Our Lent Lunches were a great success and I would like to thank our hosts and their helpers for all of their hard work. It was a time of good food, great fellowship and fun and the all important fund raising. And here I would like to thank everybody for their generosity. I'm sure the final total will be announced elsewhere in this magazine but the amount grew very quickly.

It does feel different here in 'borrowed' churches that we can't decorate for Easter (although I'm sure any of you ex-flower arrangers will be heaving a sigh of relief!) but it seemed to add to the sense of celebration to bring lots of colour into a barren church and the joy of everyone entering that beautiful space on Easter Morning was palpable and of course there was the empty tomb in the Easter Garden. Visual imagery is important and I have in the past used 'The Flowering Cross', a wooden cross (sometimes made from the church's old Christmas tree) which was part of the Good Friday meditations and then covered in oasis and filled with flowers by the congregation on Easter Sunday. It looked stunning and was a simple reminder of how pain and sin can be transformed into good and beauty and the transforming love of God at work in our lives.

Early April will be dominated by our Annual Meeting and the subsequent formation of a new council. I hope as many of you as possible will be able to join us for this important time. Again more details follow on subsequent pages. New people need to be elected to various posts, decisions about our future made and we get to hear what has been happening over the last year.

God bless,

Caroline

APRIL INTO MAY 2016 CHURCH SERVICES WITH BIBLE READINGS

All Services start at 11am except where indicated

[We have also included the Psalms for each week, as they may inform your own reading at home]

3rd April	11.00	LCP	the Second Sunday of Easter	Morning Worship
Acts 5:27-32,	Rev 1:4-8,		John 20:19-31	<i>(Psalm 118:14-end)</i>
10th April	11.00	PdS	the Third Sunday of Easter	Holy Communion
Acts 9: 1-20,	Rev 5:11-14,		John 21: 1-19	<i>(Psalm 30)</i>
17th April	11.00	Note venue LCP	the Fourth Sunday of Easter	Holy Communion
Acts 9:36-end,	Rev 7:9-end,		John 10: 22-30	<i>(Psalm 23)</i>
24th April	11.00	PdS	the Fifth Sunday after Easter	Holy Communion
Acts 11:1-8,	Rev 21:1-6,		John 13:31-35	<i>(Psalm 148)</i>
1st May	11.00	LCP	Rogation Sunday	Holy Communion
Acts 16:9-15,	Rev 21:10, 22:1-5,		John 14:23-29	<i>(Psalm 67)</i>

(There may be last-minute changes to the readings so please check with Revd Caroline or the Worship Leader if you are a Reader)

LCA = La Chapelle Achard; PDS = Puy de Serre; LCP = La Chapelle Palluau,

MW=Morning Worship; HC(CW)=Holy Communion (Common Worship); BCP=Book of Common Prayer.



PLEASE JOIN US

for Tea, Coffee & Biscuits after our services, followed by a Bring & Share Lunch.

Everyone is welcome to join us

- even if you have not brought anything, there is always enough to go round!

(Unfortunately, when there is a service on the fifth Sunday in the month, the hall is not always available).



APRIL FORWARD PLANNING

*This Forward Planning Rota displays those essential responsibilities which make our Services and Refreshments afterwards possible.
If you feel able to "fill in the blanks", please contact the Organiser concerned.*

Responsibility (Organiser)	3rd April LCP	10 th April PdS	17 th April LCA <i>(Church not available)</i>	24th April PdS
Welcomers (Polly Ward)			Because of the unavailability of the church at LCA, the service today will take place at La Chapelle Palluau	
Salle Setup/ Clearing away (Chris Green at PdS)		Polly/ Anne & Bill		Anne & Bill Chris & Doug
Refreshments after the service (Jenny Wilkinson at PdS)		Christine & Brian		Anne & Bill
Musicians +/- Organist (Polly Ward)		Stuart		Stuart
Readers (Polly Ward)				



🤗 Sunday Club 🤗

Sunday Club takes place at Puy de Serre.
If you know of any children who would like to join our Sunday Club
please bring them along at 11a.m.
They will be most welcome.

Barbara

*[Please contact Barbara if you require more information:
Phone 02 51 40 51 59, email: bandrkenyon@orange.fr]*



"Here is a photo of the children of the Sunday Club around our Easter Tree:

At this Sunday Club, we talked about Jesus' sacrifice on the cross and the reasons for this. We also talked about Ash Wednesday, Lent, Palm Sunday and Easter, and what happened on these days.

We hope you all liked our picture and we will try and publish a little something in future newsletters.

Juliette, Jennifer, Barbara, Thomas, Samuel and William."

**Hope you like it,
William**



Dates for your Diary



6th April, Wednesday, 7.00 for 7.30pm start Faires le Plein at La Roche-sur-Yon (See page 7)

7th April, Thursday, 2.30pm **ASV Sewing Circle**

Block of the month with Caroline. Tote bag with Jenny (Contact Joan Stewart)

9th April, Saturday, 14.30, **ASV AGM** at Les Essarts

17th April, Sunday, 11.00, The church at La Chapelle Achard will be unavailable during April so the service will take place at La Chapelle Palluau

28th April, Thursday, 2.30pm **Ladies Circle**

Tap dancing with Julie and Mel . Cakes: Julie (Contact Joan Stewart)

30th April, Saturday, **Non-Annual Coffee Morning & Plant Sale** (See pages 8 & 9)

(contact: The Rackhams : richard.rackham@cegetel.net)

...and looking ahead...

24th May, Tuesday, **"Exciting" Car Treasure Hunt + Meal** (see page 11)

(contact: greensinfrance@yahoo.co.uk or geoffrey.kent@wanadoo.fr for details)

...and looking even further ahead....

24th July 10am **Commemoration Ceremony for the 75th Anniversary of the Loss of the Crew of a 35 Sqn Halifax on 24 July 1941, Museum followed by Lunch at Angles.**

(Please contact Revd Caroline, as soon as possible, if you would like to attend the service and lunch afterwards which is being organised by the people of Angles).

Also, a Reminder...

Every Monday Deux-Sèvres BIBLE STUDY GROUP at the home of Bill and Carole Stocking



A Thousand Gifts, a Thousand Blessings!

Don't forget your gifts on the 2nd Sunday of each month.



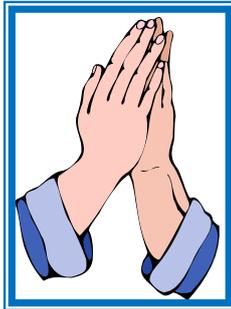
Bill and Carole will collect them and pass them on to Restos du Coeur in Coulonges-sur-l'Autize.

For more details and updates of all these events, please visit our Website: www.AllSaintsVendee.fr

Names on our Prayer List.....

Please remember in your prayers:

Alasdair Anderson.
Paul Brechet & Anne
Maggie Calton
Geoffrey Cornwall
Joelle Gosselin & Bernard



**Richard & Marian's daughter,
Lorna Inglis & her family**
Sally's brother, Michael Mantle & Sue
Jean Mylod & Mike
Caroline Sackley & Bob and Beccy*



**We remember those recently departed,
their families and friends,
and especially at this time,**

Tony Calton



And please continue to remember all those whom we know and whose names do not appear here, who are in need of prayerful support at this time.

Our Prayer Co-ordinator is David Pearson.

Please let him have details of any folk you become aware of who need our prayers.

☎ 02 51 61 05 04 ✉ david.sally@orange.fr

"Thank you all for your continuing prayers"

You may sometimes hear of members or friends of our congregations who do not want to go on our Prayer List, but who are ill or in need. In these cases, please let David Pearson, our Pastoral Organiser, know.





Deux-Sèvres BIBLE STUDY GROUP
*We are now studying MATTHEW AND BECOMING A DISCIPLE.
 We meet each Monday afternoon at 2.30pm at our house
 at La Barangerie, La Chapelle Thireuil (79).
 Our phone number is 05 49 06 05 85.*

EVERYONE IS WELCOME

Please give us a ring if you would like to join us and we will give you directions to the house if you don't already know where we are.

Carole and Bill Stocking.



NOTES FROM YOUR CHURCH WARDENS

CHURCHWARDEN VACANCY

As reported last month Doug Green will not be seeking re-election as Warden this year. All wardens are elected annually and there must be two wardens elected. If you know someone who can fill this post, and you have not done so already, seek their agreement and nominate them on the form which can be obtained from Caroline or the secretary. One suggestion we have made is that, because of the distances between the churches in ASV, we could appoint "Deputy Wardens" or "Local Wardens" to help the two elected

Churchwardens with their duties.

ANNUAL MEETING

Please support the Annual Meeting and Open Forum which takes place on the 9th April, 1430hrs at Les Essarts. As well as the Wardens there are also vacancies to be filled on the Church Council for a three year period and nominations are sought. The Annual Meeting is the formal part where the elections are held and reports are reviewed. You can only vote if you are on the Electoral Roll of ASV. The Open Forum which follows is a chance for everyone to share their views on relevant topics. Please make every effort to attend – this is your church – your views are important. We hope to see you there.

FUTURE EVENTS

Please support Marian and Richards "Non-annual Coffee Morning and Plant Sale" on the 30th April. A lot of hard work is needed for this event - it is always an enjoyable morning and a good source of some fresh vegetables and flowers for your garden.

Looking ahead to next month, there will be a Car Treasure Hunt on the 24th.May - further details later from this year's organisers "Kent's DS Krew"!

Doug and Barbara



Do you pay French taxes?



If so, did you know that for every 100 euros that you give to our Church the taxman will reduce your tax bill by 60 euros thus a 100 euro donation will only cost you 40 euros (and you will be able to increase your donation!!!)

You simply need to make your donation in a recordable manner.

You can put your donation in numbered envelopes in the collection box, set up a standing order (virement) or send money to the planned giving officer (Mike Mylod) giving your name and address. At the end of the year your contributions will be totted up and a certificate issued. You enter this amount on your tax return (no need to send proof, just keep your certificate in case you are asked for it) and the taxman will reduce your tax bill by a figure equal to 60% of your donations.

Donations to the vicarage renovation can also qualify for tax relief if made through A S V.

Start planned giving now and let the taxman help our Church!

Contact..... Mike Mylod 02 51 51 07 36 (joseph.mylod@wanadoo.fr)
or..... Colin Grimshaw 02 51 98 67 91 (colingrimshaw@orange.fr)

.....To find out how easy it is!!!



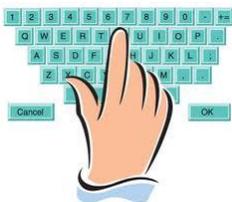
You are warmly invited to our next
"Faites le Plein" meeting
which will be held in La Roche sur Yon
on Wednesday 6th April 2016

The evening starts at 7pm with refreshments followed at 7.30pm by a time of
sung worship, in French and English,
then our guest speaker will share a message, with a translation.

Anyone who would like personal prayer ministry, offered by a qualified team,
can receive that at the end of the meeting.

The meeting is held at the Maison du Diocèse, 62 rue Maréchal Joffre (the entrance to this site is
opposite the Boulangerie Potier which has a red frontage, through the large gateway, into the car
park). Look out for the "Faites le Plein" signs directing you towards the restaurant.

Hope that you may join us !
Liz JOND for the "Faites le Plein" team.
liz.jond@wanadoo.fr



I hope you have enjoyed this edition of "Grapevine".

Thank you to all the Contributors and
I look forward to hearing from you next time
SO.....

send your contributions and comments to:
Jacqui at: sjfamily66@hotmail.com
before the 15th of April, please



Requests to be included on the emailing list should be addressed to:

Jacqui Stainton-James at: sjfamily66@hotmail.com



These are YOUR pages.....

Once again, my thanks to all the Contributors of notices and articles for this month's "Grapevine" so, read on, and see what you can discover:



I am delighted to publish messages received from friends of ASV: Sylvia and Ernie who visited LCA last summer, as well as a timely offering from Revd Gareth, info about the "Exciting" Treasure Hunt, the Non-Annual Coffee Morning and much more....

Please send your Notices and Comments to me, Jacqui, at : sifamily66@hotmail.com

Thank
you!

SALLY MILLS

A "Thank You" from the Ministry Team

There always seems to be someone who is willing to work quietly in the background and deserves a "Thank You". Sally Mills often provides flowers for special Church events and the posies for Mothering Sunday. She also hosts refreshments after our Remembrance services at Angles in November. Your work is appreciated, Sally, and the Ministry Team want to say a big

"Thank You !"



CAKES, CAKES, CAKES NEEDED

Calling all bakers, calling all bakers!
At the "Non-Annual Coffee Morning" on the 30th April I will again be running a cake stall which has always proved popular. I need lots of cakes or savouries please to sell so I hope lots of you have been inspired by all the cookery programmes on TV and will be able to make something for me to sell and raise funds for ASV.

Many thanks in anticipation,
Chris Green (Please Tel: 05 49 72 18 46)





The Non-Annual

COFFEE MORNING

Will take place on

Saturday, 30th April 2016

At the home of Marian and Richard Rackham,
15, rue de la Cure, THIRÉ

All the normal contributions will be welcomed, most beforehand if possible.
Raffle prizes, Tombola items, Jewellery,
Vide grenier objects (in reasonable condition please,) Cakes on the day, etc.

We will contact all friends on the “seed-growing list” early in April to enquire what we might expect, when and how, and what labels we will need to make!

Further details from the Rackhams, 0251276467
richard.rackham22@gmail.com or richard.rackham@cegetel.net

Posters

*in both French and English are available for you to download,
print and distribute locally.*

Just go to: www.allsaintsvendee.fr and click on NOTICES



Joie de vivre

How good are you at French ? In my tenth year here now, I guess my French is probably 'good enough' but my problem is I spend most of my time in English - not least engrossed with my radio, TV and DVDs.

But what I love is the English ability to steal beautiful French words and phrases: 'cul-de-sac'; 'ingénue', 'debacle' to cite but three. I guess the trick in speaking French is when lost for a word in French to try the English one you know but said with a French accent!

What caught my attention, making my pre-breakfast cup of tea this morning, was the phrase 'joie de vivre' and it made me smile as the French nicely captured what I would shortly experience, supping my cuppa and noshing a Madeleine – the joy of being alive.

So my question to you today is 'What makes you happy?' What connects you with happiness, gives you a feeling that life is truly good, well worth living, that we are really fortunate to be alive, here and now, in France?

Why not let Jacqui know?

*Gareth Randall, Priest-in-charge,
St Bartholomew's Dinard*



I have received these photos from Sylvia and Ernest who visited La Chapelle Achard in February this year:



They write.....

We have had a house in La Tranche for 13 years but we are still working so just go back and forward when we can. We live in Castlerock in Co. Derry on the top north coast in Nr. Ireland. We fly from Dublin to Nantes in the winter time and into La Rochelle in the summer.

We drove to La Chapelle Achard on Sunday 21st February an hour early and heard the central heating running in the church so we had a fair idea we were at the correct place. We were keen to get to the service. We met Polly on the green with Barney her dog, she was very helpful. Shortly a lady came and took us in the side door, what a wonderful building. All of a sudden these people arrived with all their bits and pieces: hymn sheets, screen, projector, amplifiers etc, where would you see the like of it. A wonderful camaraderie of a small group of people working together to praise God. Most people had a part to play in the service and to finish, some tea and biscuits in the vestry. We were also invited to lunch which we declined, we will be back.

Sylvia and Ernie

“Exciting” Treasure Hunt.....

We hope you are seriously thinking about gathering a car full of folk to enter this year's Treasure Hunt.

It will be held during the afternoon of:

Tuesday 24 May

It will be followed by a competitively priced meal for those who wish to stay, as well as the announcement of the winners and prizes!

Full details will appear in next month's Grapevine.

For information contact: greensinfrance@yahoo.co.uk or geoffrey.kent@wanadoo.fr

Lots of FUN for ALL!!



This acknowledgment received following collections made by members of the church at Puy de Serre





Thank you!

Puy De Serre Church
for your generous gift of
£128.95

The Christian charity tackling poverty and injustice in the Middle East



Embrace the Middle East
24 London Road West
Amersham HP7 0EZ
Registered Charity No. 1076329

www.embraceme.org



24 London Road West
Amersham
Buckinghamshire
HP7 0EZ
01494 897950
info@embraceme.org
www.embraceme.org

Ms P Ward
Puy De Serre Church
10 Rue Des Ecus
MOULLERON-EU-PAREDS
85390
France

Ref: 383684

5 January 2016

Dear Ms Ward

Thank you so much for forwarding the kind donation of £128.95 on behalf of Puy de Serre Church which will go towards our Christmas appeal which is supporting the Christian response to the refugee crisis in the Middle East.

Across the region the ever-increasing numbers are overwhelming the resources of the countries and their ability to cope. In Lebanon the cold weather is closing in and the heating stoves and fuel supplied by our partners are a lifeline to families in temporary accommodation. Many families have fled with nothing but the clothes on their backs and find themselves in tents or abandoned industrial or agricultural buildings which were never designed as winter accommodation. Every single one of the projects which we fund in Lebanon is now admitting Syrian refugees, even though they do not have the budget to cover the additional support needed.

In Egypt too our partners are offering essential services for the Syrian refugees. One of our church partners in Alexandria has set up a pre-natal clinic which provides reassurance as well as regular check-ups for pregnant refugee women who are far from home.

We think this is the first time that you have sent us a donation – please let us know if this is not the case as we are keen to keep our records up to date.

We would like to keep you updated on the work of our partners, their prayer needs and the challenges they face through our magazine (3 per year) and other occasional mailings. Please let us know if you do not want to receive further information from us.

Thank you again for helping our partners share the compassion of Christ with refugee families who have nowhere to call home this Christmas.

Yours sincerely



Nigel Varndell
Director of Fundraising & Marketing

Embrace the people of the Middle East and help our Christian partners tackle poverty and injustice.
Registered charity number 1076329. A company limited by guarantee registered in England & Wales number 3706037.
Registered office: 24 London Road West, Amersham, Buckinghamshire HP7 0EZ.

ASV LADIES CIRCLE + SEWING CIRCLE SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS 2016

as at 23/3/16

(Please contact Joan Stewart for more information)

Thursday 7th April, 2.30pm
Sewing Circle
Block of the month with Caroline
Tote bag with Jenny

Thursday 28th April, 2.30pm
Ladies Circle
Tap dancing with Julie and Mel
Cakes: Julie

Thursday 12th May, 2.30pm
Sewing Circle
Dressmaking demo with Barbara
Block of the month with Joan

Thursday 26th May, 2.30pm
Ladies Circle
Candles with Jenny and Jane
Cakes: Jenny

Thursday 9th June, 2.30pm
Sewing Circle

Thursday 23rd June, 2.30pm
Ladies Circle
Strawberry tea with everyone
Cakes: Mel

Thursday 7th July, 2.30pm
Sewing Circle

Thursday 28th July, 2.30pm
Ladies Circle
Flowers and cards with Dot
Cakes: Pat M

Thursday 11th August, 2.30pm
Sewing Circle

Thursday 25th August, 2.30pm
Ladies Circle
Shopping and Chinese lunch in La Roche
No cakes necessary

Thursday 8th September, 2.30pm
Sewing Circle

Thursday 22nd September, 2.30pm
Ladies Circle
Craft with Olga
Cakes: Rita

Thursday 13th October, 2.30pm
Sewing Circle

Thursday 27th October, 2.30pm
Ladies Circle
Bargeware with Debs
Cakes: Jaynie

Thursday 10th November, 2.30pm
Sewing Circle

Thursday 24th November, 2.30pm
Ladies Circle
Cake decorations with Dot
Cakes: Jean

Thursday 8th December, 2.30pm
Sewing Circle

Thursday 15th December, 11am
Ladies Circle
Get ready for Christmas! – crackers, table
centres, wreaths, etc.
Bring and share Christmas lunch