

Church of All Saints in the Vendée

“To know and to share Jesus Christ”

The Grapevine

August 2016

CONTACTS:

Priest: Reverend Caroline Sackley:

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

Phone no: 02 51 46 39 51 mobile: 06 73 94 40 01

e-mail addresses: revcarosack1@gmail.com and allsaintsvendee@gmail.com

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

Polly Ward: Phone no: 02 28 13 01 93, email: wardpolly@outlook.com

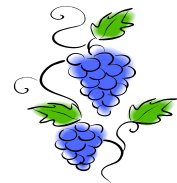
Assistant Church Wardens: Margaret Kent (PdS) 05 49 72 27 72

Keith Fowler (LCA) 02 51 49 83 25, Jo Collinson (LCP) 02 51 55 84 56

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

Website: www.allsaintsvendee.fr





Preface

Dear Grapevine Readers,

Thank you for all your prayers during my illness in July. I had a pulmonary embolism and deep vein thrombosis following a time when my Warfarin-type tablet levels had gone out of control for some reason. The French health system was very good and I was well taken care of. One of our dogs, Polly, also died, Bob has had to have treatment for heart problems, a friend had an unhappy diagnosis and now Bob's sister is very ill. There was the attack in Nice. Political upheaval and financial instability. July has not been good. At the time of writing we are only half way through. I pray that August is an improvement.

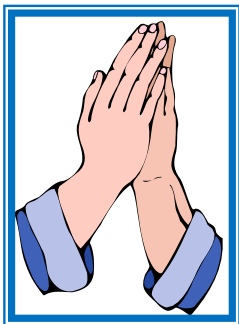
Thankfully God can take our anger and pain, our questions and our doubts; and the Bible has plenty of examples of that for us to draw on. Our Bible is not full of comfortable, cosy stories, nor is it just a book of rules on how to live and please God. Instead it is full of ordinary, flawed people who sometimes do extraordinary things. And God does extraordinary things in their lives. They make mistakes, they have doubts, they are disobedient, they go through the sorts of things we experience; we have our own Goliaths to face, our own trips into the unknown, our own sins. The moments of despair they feel can sometimes echo our own.

But we have the Good News as well, that Christ has conquered death, that the God of love and peace has won the final battle. It feels at the moment though as if we should be singing some battle songs like "Onward Christian soldiers", "Soldiers of Christ arise" and "Stand up, stand up for Jesus" as we prepare ourselves for whatever the future may hold and so that we can spread the good news to comfort and support others and help them see that God is good and is with them whatever is going on.

Paul gives us another of his lists in his letter to the Romans but it is a useful passage to have at such a time as this. Romans 12:9 -15, 17-18 "Love must be sincere. Hate what is evil; cling to what is good. Be devoted to one another in brotherly love. Honour one another above yourselves. Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervour, serving the Lord. Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer. Share with God's people who are in need. Practice hospitality. Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse. Rejoice with those who rejoice; mourn with those who mourn. Live in harmony with one another. Do not repay anyone evil for evil. Be careful to do what is right in the eyes of everybody. If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everybody. Do not take revenge my friends."

God bless,

Caroline



Prayer List

Regular readers of Grapevine will have noticed that the usual list of names for prayer has not appeared this month. The ASV Ministry Team has decided that this and the reading out of names during intercessions should be discontinued, mainly in the interests of privacy and to avoid unnecessary embarrassment. In future, names will only be published, or read out in church at times of crisis such as bereavement or an operation and, of course, always with the express consent of the person(s) or family involved.

You may be interested to know, however, that there is an e-mail 'prayer circular' operating. If you don't already subscribe, why not join us? Just e-mail me at:

davidlpearson@orange.fr

with your request and I'll make sure you're included.

Thank you all,

David Pearson.

AUGUST INTO SEPTEMBER CHURCH SERVICES WITH LECTIONARY 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]

7th August	LCP	11.00am	Holy Communion	11th Sunday after Trinity
			Genesis 15:1-6;	Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16;
				Luke 12:32-40. Psalm 50:1-8 23-24
14th August	PDS	11.00am	Holy Communion	12th Sunday after Trinity
			Jeremiah 23:23-29;	Hebrews 11: 29- 12:2;
				Luke 12:49-56. Psalm 80:1-2, 9-end
21st August	LCA	11.00am	Morning Worship	13th Sunday after Trinity
			Psalm 71:1-6;	Hebrews 12: 18-end;
				Luke 13:10-17
28th August	PDS	11.00am	Holy Communion	14th Sunday after Trinity
			Ecclesiasticus 10:12-18;	Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16;
				Luke 14:1, 7-14. Psalm 81:1, 10-16
4th September	LCP	11.00am	Holy Communion	15th Sunday after Trinity
			Deuteronomy 30:15-20;	Philemon 1-21;
				Luke 14:25-33. Psalm 139:1-5, 12-18

(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.

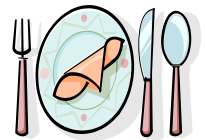


PLEASE JOIN US

*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

🧡 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]*

Dates for your Diary

1st August Monday 1500 Deux-Sèvres Bible Study Group

(See page 5 and email: carole.stocking@gmail.com)

8th August Monday 1500 Deux-Sèvres Bible Study Group

(See page 5 and email: carole.stocking@gmail.com)

Please note: No "Filling Station/Faites le Plein" this month (See page 6 for more information)

11th August Thursday 14.30 Sewing Circle

(For more information, email: jpsmorandiere@free.fr)

22nd August Monday 1500 Deux-Sèvres Bible Study Group

(See page 5 and email: carole.stocking@gmail.com)

25th August Thursday 14.30 Ladies Circle Shopping and Chinese Lunch at La Roche.

(No cakes necessary)

(For more information, email: jpsmorandiere@free.fr)

29th August Monday 1500 Deux-Sèvres Bible Study Group

(See page 5 and email: carole.stocking@gmail.com)

...and looking ahead....(please see website Calendar)

Early September "Walking for my Husband" Date to be arranged see page 11

(Contact Polly Ward at wardpolly@outlook.com)

9th September Friday Harvest Supper at Puy de Serre *(contact Polly for more information)*

2nd October Sunday 11.00. Revd Caroline's Farewell Service. We have now received confirmation that Revd Caroline's official leaving date is 3rd October. This is so that she can officiate at the **Harvest Festival in La Chapelle Palluau** on Sunday October 2nd. This will therefore be her farewell service.

(More details from Church Warden, Polly Ward at wardpolly@outlook.com)

12th November Saturday Autumn Bazaar at St Hilaire de Voust.

(See page 12 for more information)



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

AUGUST 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)	7 th August LCP	14 th August PdS	21 st August LCA	28 th August PdS
Welcomers (Polly Ward)				
Salle Setup/ Clearing away (Chris Green at PdS)		Ward/ Rackham		Condie/ Kent
Refreshments after the service (Jenny Wilkinson at PdS)		Richard & Marian Rackham		Carol/John Judge/Christi ne
Musicians +/- Organist (Polly Ward)		Stuart		Stuart
Readers (Polly Ward)				

Deux-Sèvres BIBLE STUDY GROUP



We are now studying ST LUKE'S GOSPEL

*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.

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!!!



There will be no meeting of "Faites le Plein" in August

The next meeting will be in September.

For more information, please contact
Liz JOND for the "Faites le Plein" team.

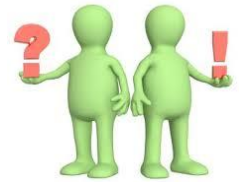
liz.jond@wanadoo.fr



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.

Your comments will be much appreciated.



You will discover:

Messages received from friends of ASV, including:

"The Odd Sin" from Revd Gareth;

*A request for **Your Opinion from Marian and Richard***

*Messages from **The Trussell Trust** to Carole and Bill*

***The Autumn Bazaar & Harvest Supper** information*

"Walking for my Husband"

....and there's more....



This prayer was part of the Service at La Chapelle Achard on 17th July:



Almighty God, once again we come to you in mourning for the people of France

Their sorrow touches us all.

We weep with them.

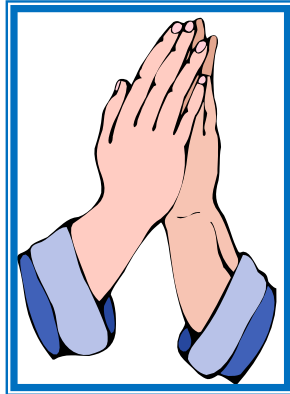
We lift to you the families of those killed in Nice, the injured and the traumatised.

We pray for the hearts of terrorists, that they may be changed and forgiven.

Comfort and strengthen the people, give courage to those who have to deal with the tragedy, the police, firemen, medical, trauma and bereavement, counsellors as they deal with the aftermath of this terror attack.

God of infinite mercy we pray for the victims in the Nice attack, remember them according to the favour you bear for your people, comfort those who mourn and give strength to the injured, deliver those whose hearts are hardened by hatred, grant to us all your understanding, and your persevering love, for your mercy's sake. Amen

This from Marian and Richard, who would dearly like to receive your opinion....



Dear Friends,

It was with great surprise, and much dismay, that we read the notice in July Grapevine that the ASV Ministry Team has decided that the reading out of names during intercessions should be discontinued, mainly in the interests of privacy and to avoid unnecessary embarrassment.

We have been accustomed to hearing the names of those asking for prayers at Communion services for over seventy years, and have felt grateful for the opportunity to add ours to others at these times. Indeed, at seven years of age I, Marian, was critically ill and not expected to live. I was on the local "prayer list" for five weeks and could "feel" the prayers which were offered, many by total strangers. I made a miraculous recovery.

Two good friends in UK and one here in France have been mentioned regularly at Puy de Serre and the former are now in remission from their cancer and have sent thanks for all the prayers which they are convinced helped their recovery and also themselves through a terrible time. Both Marian's sister and our daughter Lorna, have likewise received healing.

Yes, we appreciate that their names can be, indeed were distributed for private prayers but what is wrong with asking a far wider congregation for their help?

We fail to understand the comment "mainly in the interests of privacy and to avoid unnecessary embarrassment". Surely no-one's name is read out in public without their approval and agreement. Frankly, if we believe in the power of prayer, and we do, we find it hard to know why any-one should be embarrassed, but if this is the case, can they not request just to be on the circulated email list distributed regularly by David?

Have a large number expressed these embarrassed feelings? We know that several of the congregation feel as we do and would like to have the reading of the prayer list reinstated. Whether they will contact you with their views I don't know. Perhaps The Grapevine could be a forum for discussion, or is the current decision irrevocable?

Yours hopefully and prayerfully,

Marian and M. Richard Rackham



AUTUMN BAZAAR

12 NOVEMBER 2016

at ST HILAIRE-DE-VOUST

This is an important event in the ASV calendar and several people have already expressed a wish to be involved. However if there are any other Grapevine readers who know they will be available to help on the day or have any practical money-raising ideas, please contact Marian Rackham. (richard.rackham@cegetel.net)



Here is the Plant Sale and Coffee Morning Team:





The odd sin?

It's the middle of May, Wednesday morning, and I'm getting ready to go off again to the Archdeaconry Synod on France at L'Abbaye de St Jacut which sadly is all of a twenty minute drive from here in Dinard!

I'm looking forward to having a good time again meeting up with old friends: your Priest-in-charge, Caroline; your Church Warden, Barbara and her husband, Robin; but sadly, not this year, your former priest, Brian Davies, who's decided not to come again.

As I pack my bag of essential goodies and a change of clothes, I'm struck by the word Synod. I guess I must have first heard the word in a history lesson a young pupil at my boys' grammar - the Synod of Whitby 667AD when the Church in England decided to follow the order of Roman Church rather than that of our home-grown Celtic spirituality.

Well a synod is a posh name for a meeting of folk to discuss religious matters and ours was, as you can imagine, fun: good food; good company; good debate and learning.

I guess what is so good about believing in God is that we are encouraged to come together and share - to be there for each other. A recent study in the United States found that women lived longer and were happier if they went to church - it's all about being in community, communication, mutual support.

So what is your secret for a good, long and happy life? And are you bold enough to share your secret with Jacqui?

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



Two Advance Notices from Polly:



**Harvest Supper 2016
at Puy de Serre
on Friday 9 September**

This will follow a similar format to previous years and the price per ticket will be €12 to cover a 4 course meal plus aperos and coffee. Please note that you should bring your own drinks to accompany the meal.

Tickets will be on sale from the beginning of August at all services



'Walking for my husband'



I expect that most of you have seen this advert on UK television. It is a fund-raising promotion on behalf of the **Alzheimer's Society**. As we are not excused this dreadful disease here in France, I thought we might organise a walk in **support** (with donations or sponsorship to add to their funds).

I anticipate that this would take place **early in September** and would suggest the '**Colline des Moulins**' in **Mouillerons en Pareds**. We could start from the village square during the morning and organise a suitable stop at lunchtime when we could be joined by 'non-walkers' who wish to support us. **Please contact Polly for more information:** wardpolly@outlook.com

There are T-shirts and other items available for sale through their website (www.alzheimers.org.uk – look for 'memory walk', also: <https://www.memorywalk.org.uk>)

Bill and Carole would like to share these emails received from The Trussell Trust in UK. It is run on similar lines to the Restos du Coeur in France and as you will see, carries out similar work.



If you feel you can help in any way, please contact Bill and Carole.

You can read more about Sue's volunteering experience and meet some of the other Volunteer Superstars from the Neighbourhood Food Collection [here](#).

It's always inspiring to see communities coming together, so thank you for your support. Foodbanks are currently busy sorting all the donated food, ready to help people who will be facing hunger this summer.

Best wishes,
The Trussell Trust team

[View the highlights from the collection here](#)



York's hidden poverty

From the single dad struggling to feed himself and his ten-year-old son on just £10 a week, to the man who almost cried when he was given a new toothbrush; they are just some of the people York Foodbank Manager, Laura Chalmers (above), and the team have helped.

Anyone could find themselves in a crisis needing emergency food, with Laura seeing people from all walks of life coming through the foodbank's doors.

She said: ***"We see people from all social classes. Numerous times in the foodbank, I have spoken to people and thought: 'that could so easily be me'."***



Rise in child poverty

Data released by the Government last week revealed that child poverty increased by 200,000 children in 2014/15, with 29% of children now classed as living in poverty.

Last year The Trussell Trust played their part to tackle this worrying problem; our network of foodbanks provided over [400,000 three-day emergency food supplies to children](#) in 2015/16 and many of them ran school holiday clubs for struggling families.

Scott (above), aged 11, whose family were helped by the foodbank said: ***"It's good that the foodbank was there. We're eating now and we're not hungry anymore."***

School holidays are a difficult time for many families to feed their children adequately. Free school lunches are not available during the holidays and often a school meal at lunchtime is the only meal of the day for many children.

Help us make the school holidays something for families to look forward to this summer.



NEWSWIRE

Issue 172 - 22 July 2016

Dear Carole Stocking,

The school holidays are here, an exciting time that should be filled with long sunny days and trips out with the family, free from the burden of homework. But for many families on a low income this will be far from the reality. Instead, they will be facing the strain of struggling to afford food or ways to entertain their children on a limited budget.

That's where our [Holiday Clubs](#) project steps in. We're tackling hunger and isolation during the school holidays by offering a safe haven that provides meals and activities to struggling families like Selby's.

“In the holidays my Mum doesn’t normally eat at all during the day. The Holiday Club has meant my sisters have gone to bed on full stomachs, and given mum a chance to eat twice a day.” - Selby, aged 11.



Thanks to your continued support we can develop projects like Holiday Clubs, giving more families the opportunity to have a real break during the holidays, ready for the next term to start.

Best wishes,
Lucy Williams,
Holiday Clubs Coordinator



Don't forget, if you have missed a service and would like to read the **Sermon for the Day**, then log on to the ASV website at www.allsaintsvendee.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 August, please**



*Requests to be included on the emailing list should be addressed to:
Jacqui Stainton-James at: sjfamily66@hotmail.com*