

Church of All Saints in the Vendée
"To know and to share Jesus Christ"

The Grapevine

January 2017

CONTACTS:
Interregnum.

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

Phone no: 02 51 46 39 51

e-mail addresses: allsaintsvendee2@gmail.com.

During the Interregnum and/or in case of emergency, please contact any of the following:

Church Wardens: **Barbara Kenyon** (President)

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, email: maguyjelley@gmail.com

Keith Fowler (LCA) 02 51 49 83 25, email: antheakeithfow@aol.com

Jo Collinson (LCP) 02 51 55 84 56, email: collinson5@orange.fr

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

Website: www.allsaintsvendee.fr

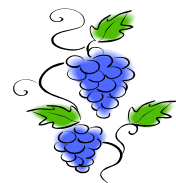


Many thanks to Revd Martyn Crompton who has written our New Year Preface.

Martyn and Gini have a holiday home in the Vendée and,
when here, often help at services and events.



Preface



Looking Forward to a New Year

Did you know that the average Christian in today's world is under 30 years old, lives south of the equator and is not white? Most likely you did, but it still comes as a shock to many of us as we look round our churches. Christianity is growing worldwide, even though our experience is often one of declining numbers and ageing congregations.

At the start of a New Year, when we are all tempted to make resolutions, here's one that I hope to be able to keep. Not to be discouraged. Why? Because God loves all of us, wherever we are and whatever the situation we may find ourselves in. We are all part of His purpose in calling us to be members together of the Body of Christ which is His church. Each of us in different places with different gifts,

different challenges and different opportunities, but all part of that greater whole, united in the knowledge that God loves us in Jesus Christ, who died for us, lives in us by His Spirit and wishes to make His love known to others through us.

The prophet Isaiah writing before the birth of Jesus in times of great trouble had faith and trust. Do not fear; for I have redeemed you; I have called you by your name, you are mine. When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through the fire you shall not be burned.

And he knew that God’s love and purpose embraced many others.

Do not fear; for I am with you; I will bring your offspring from the east, and from the west I will gather you; I will say to the north, ‘Give them up’, and to the south, ‘Do not withhold; bring my sons from far away and my daughters from the end of the earth – everyone who is called by my name, whom I created for my glory, whom I formed and made.’ Is 43 selected verses

What the Old Testament prophet saw darkly has been revealed by the grace of God to us in Jesus Christ.

What a hope and what a privilege to sustain us through the New Year – and for eternity.

With my love and prayers for the coming year.

Martyn



JANUARY 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) | 1st January LCP | 8th January PdS | 15th January LCA | 22nd January PdS | 29th January | 5th February LCP |
|---|-----------------------|----------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------|------------------------|
| Welcomers (Polly Ward) | No Service | | | | No Service | |
| Salle Setup/ Clearing away (Chris Green at PdS) | | Martin | | Kent | | |
| Refreshments after the service (Jenny Wilkinson at PdS) | | Pat and David Martin | | Dee and Curtis Parkyn | | |
| Musicians +/-Organist (Polly Ward) | | Stuart | | Stuart | | Stuart |
| Readers (Polly Ward) | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |

JANUARY into FEBRUARY 2017

CHURCH SERVICES with LECTIONARY READINGS

HC = Holy Communion; WW = Word & Worship
LCA = La Chapelle Achard LCP = La Chapelle Palluau PdS = Puy de Serre
(The Psalm for each week is included to guide your reading at home)

1st January *No Service*

2nd Sunday after Christmas (*Naming & Circumcision of Jesus*)

Numbers 6. 22-end
Galatians 4. 4-7
Luke 2. 15-21
Psalm 8

8th January *HC 11.00 PdS*

1st Sunday of Epiphany (*Baptism of Christ*)

Isaiah 42. 1-9
Acts 10. 34-43
Matthew 3. 13-23
Psalm 29

15th January *HC 11.00 LCA*

2nd Sunday of Epiphany

Isaiah 49. 1-7
I Corinthians 1. 1-9
John 1. 29-42
Psalm 40. 1-12

22nd January *Bilingual Service Week of Prayer for Christian Unity 11.00 PdS*

3rd Sunday of Epiphany

Ezekiel 36. 25-27
2 Corinthians 5. 14-20
Luke 15. 11-32
Psalm 27

29th January *No service*

4th Sunday of Epiphany (*Candlemas and Presentation of Jesus in the Temple*)

Malachi 3. 1-5
Hebrews 2. 14-end
Luke 2. 22-40
Psalm 24

5th February *WW 11.00 LCP*

4th Sunday before Lent

Isaiah 58. 1-9a
1 Corinthians 2. 1-12
Matthew 5. 13-20
Psalm 112

(If you are a Reader, please check with the Worship Leader for any last minute changes)



Please join us for Refreshments
after these services
- tea, coffee and Bring & Share Lunch.





Dates for your Diary



January 2017

- 1st No service
- 2nd
- 3rd
- 4th
- 5th
- 6th
- 7th
- 8th Sunday - 11.00 PdS HC also  RDC collection
- 9th Monday -3pm Deux-Sèvres Bible Study Group at the home of Bill and Carole Stocking (Please phone: 05 49 06 05 85)
- 10th
- 11th
- 12th Thursday Church Council Meeting at Thiré contact for Richard Rackham if you have Items for the Agenda.
- 13th
- 14th
- 15th Sunday - 11.00 LCA HC
- 16th Monday - 3pm Deux-Sèvres Bible Study Group at the home of Bill and Carole Stocking (Please phone: 05 49 06 05 85)
7 for 7.30pm Faites le Plein with Bill & Jan Gordon (See page 9)
- 17th Tuesday 10,00 Ministry Team Meeting at St Vincent Sterlanges
- 18th Wednesday - 23rd **Week of Prayer for Christian Unity**
- 19th
- 20th
- 21st
- 22nd Sunday 11.00 Bilingual Service for the **Week of Prayer for Christian Unity** at Puy de Serre
- 23rd Monday 3pm- Deux-Sèvres Bible Study Group at the home of Bill and Carole Stocking (Please phone: 05 49 06 05 85)
- 24th
- 25th
- 26th
- 27th
- 28th
- 29th No service
- 30th Monday 3pm- Deux-Sèvres Bible Study Group at the home of Bill and Carole Stocking (Please phone: 05 49 06 05 85)
- 31st



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.



...and looking ahead.....

February 2017...

| | |
|------|--|
| 1st | |
| 2nd | |
| 3rd | |
| 4th | |
| 5th | Sunday - 11.00 LCP |
| 6th | Monday - Deux-Sèvres Bible Study Group at the home of Bill and Carole Stocking (Please phone: 05 49 06 05 85) |
| 7th | |
| 8th | |
| 9th | |
| 10th | |
| 11th | |
| 12th | Sunday - 11.00 PdS also  RDC collection |
| 13th | Monday - Deux-Sèvres Bible Study Group at the home of Bill and Carole Stocking (Please phone: 05 49 06 05 85) |
| 14th | |
| 15th | |
| 16th | |
| 17th | |
| 18th | |
| 19th | Sunday - 11.00 LCA |
| 20th | Monday - Deux-Sèvres Bible Study Group at the home of Bill and Carole Stocking (Please phone: 05 49 06 05 85) |
| 21st | |
| 22nd | |
| 23rd | |
| 24th | |
| 25th | |
| 26th | Sunday - 11.00 PdS |
| 27th | Monday - Deux-Sèvres Bible Study Group at the home of Bill and Carole Stocking (Please phone: 05 49 06 05 85) |
| 28th | |

Also...

3rd March *World Day of Prayer Service* at the home of Joan Stewart,

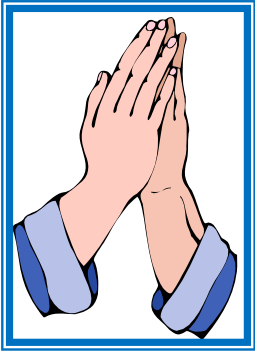
World Day of Prayer Service 11.00 at the home of Tonie & Chris Chandler St Christophe du Ligneron
also proposed service at Les Essarts(?)

1st April ASV AGM

29th April Non-annual Coffee Morning

Please view the website Calendar and Stop Press for Updates

Prayer



We do not know how to pray as we ought but the spirit intercedes for us with sighs too deep for words.

Romans 8:26

There is nothing so much like God as silence.

Meister Eckhart

As you recover from the hustle and bustle that poses as Christmas these days, I hope you might find time to enjoy this gentle poem. In subsequent issues of Grapevine I hope to continue on the theme of 'what is prayer?' My own background and spiritual journey has taught me the value and beauty of silence and that is something I'd particularly like to share. Years ago, J. B. Phillips wrote a book called, "Your God is too Small". I would like to suggest as my theme,

"Your God is Too Loud".

Here's the poem, it's by Joy French:

O, the blessedness of silence!
Time without times,
Without the watch of clocks,
The chatter and whine of radio,
The flashiness of the telly!
Time to become still,
Restless fingers relaxed,
Breathing quiet,
Spirit at peace;
The person personal,
Not diffused, not scattered hither and thither,
Becoming aware
Of self
Of you
Still there:
Still
And here.
DeoGratias.

David.

davidpearson@orange.fr

Robin Kenyon R.I.P.

I am sorry to tell you that Robin Kenyon, our Reader at All Saints Vendée, died on Saturday 17th December and his funeral service took place on 23rd December at La Roche-sur-Yon in the Vendée.

I hope to publish an Obituary in next month's "Grapevine"

A Message of Condolence addressed to the Members of All Saints Vendée, has been received from The Suffragan Bishop, Church of England, Diocese in Europe, The Right Reverend David Hamid, and will be available to view on the website: www.allsaintsvendee.fr/Notices

Our thoughts and prayers are with Barbara and the family at this sad time.



**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]*



Deux-Sèvres BIBLE STUDY GROUP

*We are now studying ST LUKE'S GOSPEL
We meet each Monday afternoon at 3.00pm 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!!!



You are warmly invited to our next "Faites le Plein" meeting.

On Monday 16th January 2017 with Bill & Jan Gordon.

As we celebrate Christian unity, Bill (Catholic) & Jan (Anglican) will be sharing their testimony.

From 7pm for refreshments, for a 7.30pm start.

This meeting is held in our usual venue 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

As a newcomer, you'll be made very welcome !

Liz JOND for the "Faites le Plein" team.

liz.jond@wanadoo.fr

*In my travels around the internet, I came across this website which gives details of FLP/FS meetings:
<http://www.thefillingstationfrance.com/next-meetings.html> Jacqui*



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 and Invitations received from friends of ASV, including:

A message from Rosemary and Tim,

, "Value" from Revd Gareth;

Poppy Appeal thanks, Ladies' Meetings News

and much more.....

A message from Rosemary and Tim



Thank you so much for being so welcoming to us. We have enjoyed living in the Vicarage. It is a lovely house and so central to the three churches.

Our two months have gone very quickly here. We have found it interesting seeing how the three churches in the chaplaincy work together despite the distances between them. We have seen for ourselves how much hard work goes in to making this possible and congratulate you all who have put in so much effort. We have tried as far as possible to visit the various groups which meet in the chaplaincy and found them interesting and varied.

This is a particularly lovely part of France and we have enjoyed seeing it as we travel around. Not only have we enjoyed being able to cover from TousSaintes to Noel but also you have given us the opportunity to explore a part of France we have never visited before.

We would like to thank the Churchwardens and Church council for making our time here so pleasant and wish you well in the coming year, hoping it will be possible to appoint a new chaplain in the near future

Rosemary and Tim



It's the New Year, the start of 2017, and I'd like to ask a provocative question:

'What do you value ? What has real value to you ?'

Well, my answer will necessarily be close to my own heart if not my wallet ! My older brother, Les, wisely told me I should respect money because it takes a lot of time and effort to earn it. But though we are enjoined to be wise stewards of our wealth, we should never make money an end in itself but rather treat money as a means to an end.

A friend of mine back in England supports West Ham and, this season, he has moved his season ticket from the Hammers' old ground at the Boleyn to the Olympic Stadium in Stratford. The capacity and size of the venue is so much bigger, so many more folk able to watch quality football and be excited by the thrill of the game. But would you pay £50 a game to see a Premiership match ?

If you did, then I'm sure you'd think it worth it but if that's how much you'd be prepared to invest in entertainment, then how much are you prepared to pay to come to church ? The only reason St Bart's is here in Dinard is because people in the past were prepared to pay for our church; because people at present are prepared to pay for our church; because people in the future, hopefully, will still be prepared to pay for our church.

Where your treasure is, there will your heart be also so do you treasure All Saints Church, La Vendée, sufficiently well to insure not only a thriving present but also to lay the foundations for an exciting future ?

So what do you truly value ? I'm sure Jacqui would love to know !

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



Christingle

On December 4th, our Christingle Service took place at Puy de Serre.



More photos are available to view on the website



Dear Good Friends,

Having reserved the right to hold a Coffee Morning or not, depending on our circumstances and health, it got nick-named the “Non-Annual Coffee Morning”.

At this moment in time we feel perfectly able to hold one in the spring, traditionally the last Saturday in April (although it was 1st May 2016) and hope to hold the event on 29.04.17 However, it is NOT our Coffee Morning, it is everyone’s Coffee Morning, merely at our home. We cannot do it without the help of so many good friends, either helping, or providing plants and other items. Hence this letter.

If you have assisted in the past, and are prepared to help again, please will you let us know, and in what capacity, help on stalls, providing seedlings etc. Cakes, tombola items etc. will be requested nearer the time!

If this is new to you, but you would like to participate, then please let us know, and we will keep you informed next year.

This is merely to ascertain whether we can, indeed, go ahead and plan the event, which we cannot do without so much input and support from so many generous helpers.

God bless you all, and our best wishes,

Marian and Richard

richard.rackham@cegetel.net



This letter has been received by Carole & Bill Stocking from The Royal British Legion:



Patron Her Majesty The Queen

POPPY APPEAL
The Royal British Legion Village
Aylesford
Kent ME20 7NX

Telephone 01622717172
Fax 0203 207 2172
www.britishlegion.org.uk

Mr W F Stocking
La Barangerie
La Chapelle
THIREVIL 79160
France

CARE : 15525603

Ref: PAOR/383562
Date: 28 November 2016

Dear Mr Stocking

Official Receipt

Thank you most sincerely for this contribution to the Poppy Appeal. Please accept this letter as our formal receipt for the amount shown.

The Poppy Appeal is the major single source of revenue for the Royal British Legion's Benevolent Fund. Each year more people come to the Legion for help and the cost of that help is continually increasing. Daily we see and read of young Service men and women employed in peace keeping duties in many parts of the world, often in considerable danger, and this means that there will always be a need to provide help for them and their dependants, when they themselves no longer can. That is why it is so important that the Legion can continue with its vital work.

Thank you on behalf of those who will now benefit from your support.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Shane Crowhurst".

Shane Crowhurst
Interim Head of Poppy Appeal
Date: 25/11/2016

Amount of donation £90.50

LIVE ON

Legion Contact Centre 0808 802 8080
Registered Charity Number: 219279



Christmas Lunch at Auberge du Donjon in Bazoges-en-Pareds



13th December 2016
(there are more photos to view on the website)

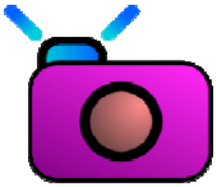
ASV MONTHLY LADIES MEETINGS

This is us having a fun craft day at our monthly meetings at Joan's, everyone is welcome . Every year we write a rota to share each other's talents and learn something new, or just come for cake and a cuppa. This month we were learning from Dot how to make sugar craft and we all made a small decoration to take home for our festive cakes. We were delighted for our Priest Tim and his wife Rosemary to attend and join in the fun this month, its great to get to know one another and share our gifts and making new friends.



For more information see ASV website.
Jennifer Wilkinson





For more details and updates of all Church events, please visit the ASV website where you can also view the Photo Gallery. You will discover more photos of the Christingle service, as well as the Christmas Lunch



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

**TO VIEW THE NEWSLETTER OF DIET – "DIOCESE IN EUROPE TIMES" CLICK HERE:
[HTTP://EUROPE.ANGLICAN.ORG/RESOURCES/DIET-NEWSLETTER](http://EUROPE.ANGLICAN.ORG/RESOURCES/DIET-NEWSLETTER)**



I hope you have enjoyed this edition of "Grapevine".
My thanks to all the Contributors and
I look forward to hearing from you next time
SO.....
please send your contributions and comments to:
Jacqui at: sjfamily66@hotmail.com
before the 15th of January, please



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

p.s.



*Here are the
Christmas Quiz
Raffle prizes*