

Church of All Saints in the Vendée

“To know and to share Jesus Christ”

 *The Grapevine* 

February 2020

CONTACTS:

Chaplain:

Revd Hazel Door

Phone no: 05 49 87 71 45 email address: Rev.hazel@wanadoo.fr

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

New Vicarage Phone no: 02 51 31 23 71

President & Church Wardens

David Martin phone no: 02 51 00 92 97 email: davidpat.martin@orange.fr

Doug Green phone no: 05 49 72 18 46 email address: greensinfrance@yahoo.co.uk

Assistant Church Warden:

Margaret Kent (PdS) Phone no: 05 49 72 27 72, email: maguyjelley@gmail.com


Lay Reader:

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

Website:

www.allsaintsvendee.fr

Forethought

 Flowers, candy, red hearts and romance. That's what Valentine's Day is all about, right? Well, maybe not.

It's all a myth, he was a pagan, WRONG!

He was a Roman Priest in the time of an emperor called Claudius, who persecuted the church at that particular time. Claudius had also issued an edict that prohibited the marriage of young people. This was based on the hypothesis that unmarried soldiers fought better than married soldiers, because married soldiers might be afraid of what might happen to them or their wives or families if they died!

It was a very permissive society at that time. Valentine was martyred around AD 270. Polygamy would have been much more popular than just one woman and one man living together. Some of them may even have been attracted to the Christian faith. Of course, the church taught that marriage was a sacred bond between one man and one woman for their life and that it was to be encouraged. The encouragement of marriage within the Christian church was what Valentine preached, conducting marriages secretly because of the edict.

Valentine was eventually caught, imprisoned and tortured for performing marriage ceremonies against command of Emperor Claudius the second. There are many legends surrounding Valentine's actions while in prison.

One of the men who was to judge him in accordance with the Roman law of the time was a man called Asterius, whose daughter was blind. Valentine is believed to have prayed with and healed the young girl with such astonishing effect that Asterius himself became Christian as a result.

In the year 270 AD, Valentine was sentenced to a three-part execution of a beating, stoning, and finally decapitation all because of his stand for Christian marriage. The story goes that the last words he wrote were in a note to Asterius' daughter. He inspired today's romantic missives by signing it, "from your Valentine."

If Valentine were here today, he would say to married couples that there comes a time where you're going to have to suffer. It's not going to be easy to maintain your commitment and your vows in marriage. Don't be surprised if the 'gushing' love that you have for someone changes to something less "gushing" but maybe much more mature. As enduring perhaps as the memory of Saint Valentine. What Valentine has to teach us today, is that there comes a time where you have to lay your life upon the line for what you believe, and with the power of the Holy Spirit we can do that -- even to the point of death.

So, on the day of marriage couples have to take that into context: that love - - human love and sexuality is wonderful, and blessed by God -- but also carries the shadow of the cross. That's what Valentine still means today.

Hazel



Sunday Club



*Sunday Club continues to take place in the Salle 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.*

**No Sunday club until 9th February
Studying epiphany. Making cards and finger puppets.**

All children welcome from all denominations, we have lots of interest Xx Jenny Wilkinson

*Please contact Jenny if you require more information:
email: jennywilkinson213@gmail.com*

Prayer List

Please remember in your prayers:



Barbara (UK friend of Polly)

Barbara

Isi and family

(friends of Pat & Roy)

Holly and Rachel

Jenny and Ray

Joan

Penny and **David**

(friends of David & Sally)

Pam and **Brian**

Pat and **David**

Dick

Peter

Roy and **Pat**

Tim and **Jill**

Heidi and her parents, **Joël** and **Jo**

(family friends of **Hazel** and **Martin**)

....and for the recently bereaved and their families:

*The family and friends of **Avril Simmons**.*

***Jonathan Mark Sykes** died unexpectedly on 2nd September this year, aged 58.*

*Please hold his sisters **Hazel** and **Wendy**, niece **Samantha**, his carers and friends in your prayers*

*[If you would like a name to be added to the Prayer List, please contact **David Pearson**.*

Tel: 02 51 61 05 04 or Email: davidpearson@orange.fr]

Avril Simmons 1.4.1932 - 18.11.2019

Avril Simmons came to France, from Nottinghamshire, where she had followed a career in nursing, about 20 years ago having bought a home in Faymoreau. She became one of the early members of the Vendée Fellowship.

Avril worshipped at Puy de Serre and became an active member of a home-based Bible Group - her home being one of those used on a rota basis. Her other interests included membership of an Art Group and of Gardening and History Groups, while she was for many years a keen member of GT(Get Together- an Association of English speakers) and a regular walker on their organised rambles.

Some years after her arrival, Avril bought a plot of land in Coulonges-sur-l'Autize and had a bungalow built. However, after a fall and general deterioration of her health, Avril took the advice of her sons (who had continued to live in the UK) and moved back to England about 5 years ago, buying a home in Newark.

Avril's health did not improve and she had a serious heart condition for which she had an operation some time ago. Unfortunately, this did not resolve the problems and on November 18th last year, Avril died in Newark Hospital. Her funeral took place on 16th December, with her son Nigel leading the service, and Avril was laid to rest in a 'green burial ground' in Nottinghamshire.

Avril had many friends in each of the groups of which she was a member, and we will all miss her.

JM

CHURCH SERVICES with LECTONARY READINGS

February into March 2020

HC = Holy Communion; MW- Morning Worship

LCP = La Chapelle Palluau PdS = Puy de Serre

Liturgical Colours for the day are included

The Psalm for each week is included to guide your reading at home

2nd February Sunday 11h00 Holy Communion La Chapelle Palluau

Presentation of Christ in the Temple/(Candlemas) (white or gold)

Malachi 3.1-5 Hebrews 2.14-end

Luke 2.22-40

Psalm 24.[1-6]7-end

9th February Sunday 11h00 Holy Communion Puy de Serre

3rd Sunday before Lent (green)

Isaiah 58.1-9a [9b-12] 1 Corinthians 2.1-12 [13-end]

Matthew 5.13-20

Psalm 112 [or 112.1-9]

16th February - No Service

23rd February Sunday 11h00 Holy Communion Puy de Serre

Sunday next before Lent (green)

Exodus 24.1-end 2Peter 1.16-end

Matthew 17.1-9

Psalm 2 [or Psalm 99]

26th February Ash Wednesday 16h00 Ashes & Holy Communion Puy de Serre

Ash Wednesday (purple/Lent Array)

Joel 2.1-2,12-17 or Isaiah 58.1-12 2 Corinthians 5.20b-6.10

Matthew 6.1-6,16-21 or John 8.1-11

Psalm 51.1-18

1st March Sunday 11h00 Holy Communion La Chapelle Palluau

1st Sunday of Lent (purple/Lent Array)

Genesis 2.15-17;3.1-7 Romans 5.12-19

Matthew 4.1-11

Psalm 32



Dates for your Diary

February 2020




1 st	
2 nd	Sunday 11h00 Holy Communion La Chapelle Palluau [Presentation/Candlemas]
3 rd	
4 th	
5 th	
6 th	
7 th	
8 th	
9 th	Sunday 11h00 Holy Communion Puy de Serre (No Bring & Share Lunch)
10 th	
11 th	
12 th	
13 th	
14 th	
15 th	
16 th	Sunday No Service
17 th	
18 th	
19 th	Wednesday 14.30 Singing round the Piano at Mouilleron-en-Pareds 85390 [Contact Stuart & Jacqui]
20 th	
21 st	
22 nd	
23 rd	Sunday 11h00 Holy Communion Puy de Serre
24 th	
25 th	<i>Shrove Tuesday</i>
26 th	Ash Wednesday 16hr00 Holy Communion & Imposition of Ashes
27 th	
28 th	
29 th	



Dates for your Diary

March 2020



1st	Sunday 11h00 Holy Communion La Chapelle Palluau
2nd	Monday 10h00 Ministry Team Meeting at the Vicarage
3rd	
4th	
5th	
6th	
7th	
8th	Sunday 11h00 Holy Communion Puy de Serre and  Sunday 11h00 World Day of Prayer at the home of Linda & Nigel in St. Gilles. All welcome. If you would like to attend, please contact Linda & Nigel 02 51 60 23 72 for directions
9th	
10th	
11th	
12th	
13th	
14th	
15th	Sunday No Service
16th	
17th	
18th	Wednesday 14.30 Singing round the Piano at Mouilleron-en-Pareds 85390 [Contact Stuart & Jacqui]
19th	
20th	
21st	
22nd	Mothering Sunday 11h00 Holy Communion Puy de Serre
23rd	Council Meeting , at the Vicarage
24th	
25th	
26th	
27th	
28th	
29th	Sunday No Service
30th	

Dates for your April diary

Training Day for Emergency First Aid 7th April 9.15

Maundy Thursday 9th April

Good Friday : 10th April

Easter Day : 12th April

Annual Meeting (AGM) , Sunday 26th April after the service (more details later)

EAST & WEST VENDÉE – CHURCH SERVICE ROTA

FEBRUARY INTO MARCH 2020

DATE	VENUE	TIME	SERVICE	PRES-IDENT	PREACHER	WOR-SHIP LEADER	ORGAN-IST	CHALICE	INTER-CESSOR	READERS	WEL-COMERS	NOTES
<i>February</i>												
2/2/20	LCP	11h00	HC	HD	HD	PW	SSJ	JC	HD	LG/JB		3 rd Sunday of Epiphany/ Presentation Of Christ in the Temple (Candlemas) (Gold or white)
9/2/20	PdS	11h00	HC	HD	JM	MK	SSJ	CG	SP	DM/BM	TG/CD	3 rd Sunday before Lent (green)
16/2/20	<i>No Service</i>											
23/2/20	PdS	11h00	HC	HD	HD	DG	SSJ	MK	PW	IMc/FMc	MC/MR	Sunday before Lent (green)
26/2/20	PdS	16h00	Ashes & HC	HD				DM				Ash Wednesday (purple/ Lent Array)
<i>March</i>												
1/3/20	LCP	11h00	HC	HD	HD	HD	SSJ	JC	HD	JC/PW		1 st Sunday of Lent (purple/ Lent Array))

February into March 2020

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.

2020	2 nd February HC 11h00 LCP	9 th February HC 11h00 PdS (No B&S Lunch)	16 th February	23 rd February HC 11h00 PdS	26 th February Ashes & HC 16h00 PdS	1 st March HC 11h00 LCP
Salle Setup/ Clearing away (Chris Green at PdS)		Green/ Rackham & Calton	No Service	Rackham & Calton/ Condie		
Refreshments after the service (Jenny Wilkinson at PdS)		Jenny W.		Jean & Ken Miller		



Your Churchwardens write:

February 2020

This is the first Grapevine of 2020 so Happy New Year and New Decade!

Can we pass on a bit of advice? When signing documents this year, please write the year in full e.g. 26/4/2020 not 26/4/20. If you only write 20 then this could be altered by adding other figures afterwards!

The date 26/4/2020 was chosen as this is the date of this year's Church Annual Meeting (AGM) which will take place after the service at PDS. You need to elect your Churchwardens for next year and elect some Council members. One third of the council finish their 3-year term each year and we still have a vacancy. New council members are always welcome! Please think prayerfully if you are being called to join council and help run your church. Talk to us or anyone on council for more details.

As we said in the previous Grapevine, social and fund-raising events contribute significantly to our income each year. Please consider if you could run an event, however large or small, and you will be given all the assistance you need. At the AGM you will see in the Treasurer's report how much fund-raising events contribute each year - but we need new ideas and new people!

The next meeting of the current council is on 23/3/20. Is there anything you want us to consider at this meeting?

Doug and David



Please Note:



Sunday 8th March at 11h00
World Day of Prayer
at the home of Linda & Nigel in St. Gilles.
All welcome

*If you would like to attend,
please contact Linda & Nigel 02 51 60 23 72
for directions*

ASV Treasurer's Report:

May I start by wishing you all a Very Happy and Prosperous 2020!

for November 2019

Income: 2712.50€

Expenditure: 1227.30€

This has been an exceptional month, benefitting from the Craft Fair and the Quiz, giving a positive monthly balance: 1476.20€

for December 2019

Income: 1470.50€

Expenditure: 568.88€

The balance, therefore, remains positive for the month: 901.62€.

Thank you all for your hard work and generosity in fundraising and ensuring the stability and viability of All Saints, Vendée

Iain McGregor
(Treasurer)



through the Standing Order Scheme

ADVANTAGES

If you set up a standing order (virement) through your French bank, online, it is cost-free. If you need help doing this, please just ask me, or other council members.

You stay in total control of what you give – the standing order (virement) can be changed at any time, but only by you!

Only the treasurer knows how much you give per month.

You know what you are giving, and exactly when the money comes out of your account, and so your budgeting is much easier.

If you complete a French tax form, then you will get a rebate of 66% at the end of each financial year in which you have made a contribution. That means that a monthly virement of 30€ per month, will only cost you 10€ after tax. A monthly virement of 60€ will only cost you 20€ etc!

If your French tax bill is small, then you will pay no tax at all.

ASV can plan ahead much more effectively, as it knows what contributions are coming in, rather than guessing who is going to be at church!

If you would like to physically put something into the collection plate each service, then there should be small cards which you can collect on your way into church, which you can put into the collection plate as it is passed round.

DISADVANTAGES:

I can't think of any, so why not come and join the party!

British residents:

If you do not have a French bank account, but would like to support the work of ASV on a regular basis, then please contact me, and I can help you. Please note, you cannot use tax-efficient giving in both France and the UK.

Iain McGregor
Treasurer, ASV
mcgregor@lalogette.com

-What?

Training Day for Emergency First Aid

Training to HSE standard, leading to a certificate valid for 3 years



When?

Tuesday April 7th 2020

Coffee from 0915

10-00 to 12-30

12-30 to 13-30 lunch break.

Packed lunch required

13-30 to 16-30.

Where?

The Salle Paroissial, Puy de Serre

Who?

For anyone interested, includes welcomers, wardens etc.

Why?

Duty of care?????

Cost for the day: €15
includes cost of certificate
and the course book.

Places Limited book early!

Other information from Rev. Hazel



I was asked to continue the Council member profiles.....so here goes!

Iain Airaud McGregor: Church Treasurer

We moved to the Vendée nearly five years ago, camping upstairs whilst the house was rebuilt around us!

I was actually born in Croydon, to a French mother and Scot's father, but immediately moved to Paris and spent the next seven years there. When we moved back the UK, I started school not speaking a word of English! It was a hard transition, and so I certainly have much sympathy for those of you who struggle mastering the French language! We always spoke in French at home, as my mother spoke the most awful 'franglais', and never knew which language she was trying to speak!



After school in Sussex, the University of St Andrews was an obvious choice! I had a wonderful time there – the degrees take four years, so I followed courses in Mediaeval History, French, German and Philosophy, including six months in Caen, researching the 11th century legal system of the Duchy of Normandy – just the general knowledge that everyone should have at their finger-tips! I enjoyed the Mountaineering, OTC, Scottish Dancing, Golf, the Music Society, and of course the drinking. I met Fiona there, and we married a couple of years later, in 1978.

After a year's Archaeology at Cambridge, I decided to do something a bit more useful and trained to be a French and German teacher, working in Kent, Cheshire, Hampshire, Isle of Wight, Prague and finally Surrey. Having become a Fellow of the Institute of Linguists along the way I decided to set up my own business, managing translators all over the world. Fascinating, but rather tiring when you are dealing with Japan and the USA during the same night! I coupled this with international consultancy, and gradually spent more time on the consultancy – I even headed up an International School in Cairo for a while!

Fiona and I have three children: two girls and a boy, and two grandchildren who all seem happily settled in the UK, but enjoy coming over to stock up on wine and cheese, and perhaps see us! We dragged them up the road to Mouchamps, where we belatedly discovered my mother lived when she was a child!

We have certainly enjoyed being part of the ASV congregation, having had no idea that such a friendly, welcoming and vibrant church was on our doorstep!



These are YOUR pages....

Once again, my thanks to all the Contributors of notices and articles for this month's "Grapevine"

Included in this edition are :



Church Recipe Book; Necklace found by Marian; Christingle and Xmas Lunch photos; Restos de Coeur; "Singing round the Piano"; "No More Recipes Please"; Christmas lunch photos; Burn's Lunch photos



I received Christmas Greetings addressed to the congregation of All Saints Vendée from: Tim and Rosemary Bravington, Sally Mills and The Pughs (who are planning their move to France in March)





A big thank you to all for the recipes we have received.

We now hopefully have enough to start looking at producing some sort of small

Church Recipe Book



Dee at: c.parkyn@sky.com

Liz at: lizlapsley@aol.com

This received from Marian Rackham....

Dear Ex-Potter-on-ers,

I no longer have a list of previous seedling potters so please pass the word around: **Did anyone happen to lose a necklace last year?** I was potting a few seedlings using a mixture of old, new and bought, and recently made compost when I found a small pendant necklace in it! If it had diamonds in then I washed them away when cleaning it! Little red stones reminiscent of a butterfly perhaps, but a bit mangled. None of my family own it, and if it doesn't belong to any of you, then I will assume it came in the bought bag. Think it is, or rather was, just costume jewellery, but thought I'd ask in case it has sentimental significance....



....and feel free to call for coffee even though no potting this year.

Love and God bless and a Happy New Year to all those I haven't already said it to!

Marian xx

ASV LADIES' CIRCLE

For more information, please contact:

Joan Stewart: jpsmorandiere@outlook.com 02 51 00 34 70




The crèche at La Chapelle Palluau



ANGLES MEMORIAL – RUDLIN RAF

For many years some of us have visited the village of Angles, Vendée to remember the airmen who were killed when a Halifax bomber was shot down during a daring raid in 1941. When they were in the U.K. recently, Ken and Jean Miller visited the church in Coggeshall and there was a Book of Remembrance on display. They looked through it and on one entry they instantly recognized the photo of the memorial stone (stele) which was erected at the crash site and the photo of the Commonwealth War Grave site in the cemetery at Angles. In fact, we are now fairly certain these photos were taken by Jacqui and sent to the War Graves Commission some time ago. Ken brought a copy of the entry he saw back to France and it is reproduced here and gives a little more detail of this brave airman who died aged 27.

Doug Green



REGINALD THOMAS RUDLIN RAFVR
912084 Sergeant
35 Squadron Royal RAF

Reginald Rudlin was born in Coggeshall in 1914, the son of William Edward and Gertrude Grace Rudlin (nee Wade) on whose memorial stone he is also remembered. The family lived in Stoneham Street, Coggeshall and he was baptised at St. Peter-ad-Vincula on 9th August 1914; the entry in the Baptism Register records his father as a postman.



He joined the Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve (RAFVR) and trained as a Wireless Operator/Air Gunner. He was a member of 35 Squadron RAF, which was the first squadron to use the Handley Page Halifax.

Reginald Rudlin had a narrow escape during a plane crash in June 1941. Halifax L9498 had taken off from Linton on Ouse at 22.37 hrs on 12th June 1941 for Operations to Hüls in Germany. In the early hours of the morning of the 13th June the crew were returning to base early because of engine trouble and, when they arrived back at Linton on Ouse at 00:30 hrs, the aircraft overshot the runway. The undercarriage is believed to have collapsed and the aircraft was damaged beyond repair: the crew escaped injury.

Sergeant Rudlin was still with 35 Squadron, flying out of Stanton Harcourt, when he was killed on 24th July 1941. Halifax L9527, in which he was flying, was shot down by flak near Angles in France while part of a mission to attack the German cruiser Scharnhorst. He was 27 years old. Four other members of the crew also died that day and the remaining two were taken prisoner by the Germans.

He is buried at Angles Communal Cemetery, Vendée in France. His grave and those of his fellow crew members are the only commonwealth burials in the cemetery. He is also remembered on a monument erected by local villages at the crash site, on salt marshes along the D46b about midway between Angles and Conches.

Angles is a village 36 kilometres south-east of Les Sables d'Olonne. The cemetery lies on the right hand side of the road to Angles (N747), just before entering the village.





CHRISTINGLE SERVICE - 15th December 2020



Please bring your Christingle Money Boxes/Candles to Chris Green before the end of January



Ken Ferguson



***"Burns Night"
Luncheon Celebration***



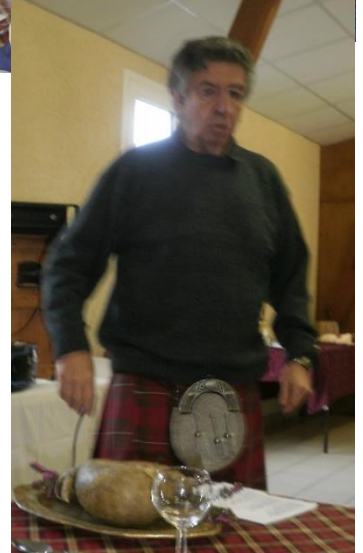
***The Toast to the Bard's
"Immortal Memory"
by Bill Condie***



Irene and Ken



Iain McGregor "Addressing the Haggis"

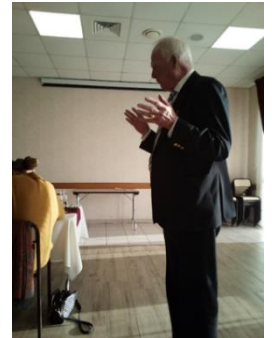




Mike Mylod is our link with
Restos du Coeur
 and will continue to collect gifts
 of dry goods, etc.,
 every 2nd Sunday of the month at
 Puy de Serre to be delivered
 to the local depot.



**Mike can be contacted by
 phone at: 02 51 51 07 36**
*(The photos were taken during the
 ASV Christmas Lunch at Le Lion d'Or)*



**“SINGING ROUND THE PIANO...AGAIN”
 ...&...AGAIN!**



Here is the date for our second
 “Singing round the piano....again”:

Wednesday 19th February.

We will meet at **14h30** at our home,
 1 rue du Moulin in Mouilleron-en-Pareds



If you would like to join us, please
email: sjfamily66@hotmail.com
if possible, adding your favourite hymns.



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

My thanks to all the Contributors.

Please send items for the **March edition to:**

Jacqui at: sjfamily66@hotmail.com

before 15th February 2020



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