

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

 *The Grapevine* 

DIOCESE IN EUROPE  
THE CHURCH  
OF ENGLAND



**November 2021**

**CONTACTS:**

**Chaplain & President:**

**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:

Vicarage Phone no: 02 51 31 23 71

**Church Warden & Lay Vice-Chairman:**

**Doug Green:** Phone no: 05 49 72 18 46

email address: greensinfrance@yahoo.co.uk

**Church Warden:**

**Margaret Kent:** Phone no: 05 49 72 27 72

Email address: maguyjelley@gmail.com

**Lay Minister:**

**John Matthews:**

Phone no: 05 49 75 29 71,

e-mail: matthewsj@wanadoo.fr

**Website:**

www.allsaintsvendee.fr

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*4-Thought  
November 2021*



One morning this week, I woke early, expecting the nurse to come to take blood for testing; thankfully she was late. I say thankfully because it meant that I was able to watch the sunrise. Not much given to poetry, nevertheless a line popped into my head, which then frustrated me no end because I could not remember which poet had written the line! "Season of mists and mellow fruitfulness, Close bosom-friend of the maturing sun;"

Subsequent searches, courtesy of Google, reminded me that it was a poem by John Keats, (of course!).

The leaves are changing colour, the hour changing will have caused its usual body clock disruption. We shall soon be commemorating the Armistice, and Remembrance-tide.

It seems to me that this year, despite its ups and downs and ins and outs caused by the pandemic, has flown by, we begin a new church year at the end of this month! We will have heard a lot of fine words, no doubt, from the climate conference COP26. The politicians are already posturing, strikes me that most of the CO<sub>2</sub> will be emissions from them? Billionaires are striving for headlines in a private space race. We have a French presidential election looming next year, how many promises will be made to be broken????

One promise that has never been broken was made by Jesus,  
**Matthew 28.verse 20.**

*Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen.*  
As we remain faithful to Him, so he remains faithful to us.

Some years ago, when I struggled to sustain a prayer life, I was given the following advice, to read through the psalms, out loud if possible. I still do that when I'm feeling isolated from my faith. I commend the old testament to anyone who is seeking clarity, or solace. Here are a few suggestions:

"Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths."  
**-Proverbs 3:5-6**

"Delight yourself in the LORD, and he will give you the desires of your heart.  
Commit your way to the LORD; trust in him, and he will act."  
**-Psalm 37:4-5**

"Our soul waits for the LORD; he is our help and our shield. For our heart is glad in him, because we trust in his holy name. Let your steadfast love, O LORD, be upon us, even as we hope in you."  
**-Psalm 33:20-22**

This last one, from the book of Isaiah sums it all up for me:  
"Behold, God is my salvation; I will trust, and will not be afraid; for the LORD GOD is my strength and my song, and he has become my salvation."  
**-Isaiah 12:2**

Takes me back to the days when the most popular of sayings was "Let go, and let God".

Hazel



## *Churchwardens' Notes*

### *for November 2021*

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As we write, we are pleased to report that four Holy Communion services have been held 'in person' recently, - three at Puy de Serre and one at la Chapelle Palluau. The last one was held at Puy de Serre on 10 October and was our Harvest Festival service, with non-perishable goods being given through Mike Mylod to Resto du Coeur. For those goods we thank all of you who provided a 'boot full' for Mike to take. Another Holy Communion service will have also been held on 24 October at Puy de Serre.

It may seem to you that we are proceeding very slowly with getting fully 'back to normal' in our worship, but we feel that taking things one step at a time is the prudent way to continue. Hazel and your Church Council would appreciate your thoughts about our services to date, so please feel free to give us your feedback.

We were very sorry to hear that Barbara Kenyon had died and thank Hazel and Martyn for their sensitive funeral service. Our thoughts and prayers are with Barbara's family. She has been an active member of our Church for many years and for several years she was one of our Churchwardens as well as later running the Sunday Club.

In the near future we will be putting together a new rota for readers, intercessors, chalice bearers and worship leaders. We hope that you will be happy to continue in your role/s if you have given your services in the past. Also, if anyone else wishes to help in one or more of these ways, please, please let us know - you would be very welcome. If you're a little hesitant, talk to one of us.

Keep safe and well.

Blessings to you all.

Doug and Margaret

# LECTIONARY READINGS **November into December 2021**

*Our Lectionary Readings are included so you can use them for your personal devotions*

*As and when the Covid-19 Restrictions are lifted, please refer to the Church Wardens or website for service times.*

## 7<sup>th</sup> November **3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday before Advent**

Jonah 3.1-5, 10  
Hebrews 9.24-end  
Mark 1.14-20  
*Psalm 62.5-end*

## 21<sup>st</sup> November **Christ the King**

### **Sunday next before Advent**

Daniel 7.9-10, 13, 14  
Revelation 1.4b-8  
John 18.33-37  
*Psalm 93*

## 14<sup>th</sup> November **2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday before Advent**



### **Remembrance Sunday**

Daniel 12.1-3  
Hebrews 10.11-14 [15-18] 19-25  
Mark 13.1-8  
*Psalm 16*

## 28<sup>th</sup> November **Advent 1**

Jeremiah 33:14-16  
1 Thessalonians 3:9-13  
Luke 21:25-36  
*Psalm 25:1-10*

## 5<sup>th</sup> December **Advent 2**

Malachi 3:1-4; Baruch 5:1-9  
Philippians 1:3-11  
Luke 3:1-6  
*Luke 1:68-79*

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## *Sunday Club*



"Sunday Club is still under review until  
further notice"

**No one will be turned away, everyone is welcomed**

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

*Please contact Jenny if you require more information:*

*email: [jennywilkinson213@gmail.com](mailto:jennywilkinson213@gmail.com)*

*Now turn to the end of this edition of Grapevine to find our November message*



# Dates for your Diary



November 2021

Please check with the website and/or the Churchwardens in case of any alterations following changes in the Pandemic Restrictions.

1<sup>st</sup> November Monday **All Saints Day**

2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday **All Souls Day**

7<sup>th</sup> Sunday 11hr00 **Service** at La Chapelle Palluau

11<sup>th</sup> Thursday **Remembrance Day**

2pm **Ladies' Circle Sewing Group** Contact [jpsmorandiere@outlook.com](mailto:jpsmorandiere@outlook.com)

14<sup>th</sup> Sunday 11hr00 **Service** at Puy de Serre  
(Poppies will be available)



**Remembrance Sunday**

21<sup>th</sup> Sunday **Christ the King**

28<sup>th</sup> Sunday 11hr00 **Service** at Puy de Serre

30<sup>th</sup> November Tuesday



# Dates for your Diary

## December 2021



Please check with the website and/or the Churchwardens in case of any alterations following changes in the Pandemic Restrictions.

1<sup>st</sup> December Wednesday

5<sup>th</sup> Sunday 11h00 **Service** at La Chapelle Palluau

9<sup>th</sup> Thursday 2pm **Ladies' Circle Sewing Group - Friendship Star Quilt** continues.

*Contact [jpsmorandiere@outlook.com](mailto:jpsmorandiere@outlook.com)*

12<sup>th</sup> Sunday 11hr00 **Service** at Puy de Serre

16<sup>th</sup> Thursday 12hr30 **Ladies Circle - Christmas Party, Bring & Share Lunch & Secret Santa.**

*Contact [jpsmorandiere@outlook.com](mailto:jpsmorandiere@outlook.com)*

19<sup>th</sup> Sunday

24<sup>th</sup> Friday **Christmas Eve** 16hr00 **Communion Service** at Puy de Serre

25<sup>th</sup> Saturday **Christmas Day**

26<sup>th</sup> Sunday **St Stephen's Day/Boxing Day**

31<sup>st</sup> December Friday

# Prayer List

*Please remember in your prayers:*



**Ann**, Brian and family  
**Anne**  
**David** and Chris  
**Dick**  
**Heidi** and **Millie-Jean** and  
their parents, Joël and Jo'.

**Ken**  
**Malcolm**  
**Pat** and Roy  
**Peter**

*....and for the bereaved:*

## *The family and friends of:*

**Richard Batten** (Maggie Kent's brother)  
**Barbara Kenyon**  
**Nan Rothwell**

*[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]*

### **Memories of BARBARA KENYON (1938-2021)**

We will all have our own memories of Barbara, and you may wish to share yours in the next edition of "Grapevine". Barbara and I have known Barbara Kenyon since she and husband Robin bought their home in France.

As a teacher in Lancashire, Barbara had been particularly interested, and involved, in her school's drama programme and, along with husband Robin, had a life-long interest in music. She had written many scripts for the school's musical and drama productions.

Barbara was happy to be known as 'the woman who gets things done', whether it be producing a musical or dealing with insecure or problematic pupils. In addition, she was always happy to be involved in school trips - and could (for instance) recount in detail her memories of taking pupils to the Houses of Parliament.

Coming up to retirement, Barbara and Robin, both teachers, had bought a home in France, Les Drillières, in Les Essarts in the Vendée. They were regular visitors for some years, gradually transforming their home, and were able to settle here permanently following retirement.

They were very happy here and became deeply involved in the development of worship centres in the Vendée - initially working closely with Revd. Brian Davies, and his wife Pam, to establish "The Vendée Fellowship"; which became "The Chaplaincy of All Saints Vendée"(ASV) following the appointment of Revd. Hazel Door (whom Barbara and Robin had known since their early days in France).

Barbara became a Church Warden and, with fellow-Church Warden Joan Stewart, was instrumental in acquiring for ASV the house in St. Vincent Sterlanges, which became 'The Vicarage'. With Robin, in his role as a Reader (licensed many years earlier in the UK), she ensured the success of regular services of Evensong for a couple of years and, when Stuart & Jacqui Stainton-James organised 'Singing round the Piano', there was Barbara again. Later she set up, and chose the name of, ASV's 'Sunday Club' for the children of worshippers in Puy de Serre, then led the group for some time.

In addition to her interest in music, Barbara had a lifelong interest in crafts. In her early years in France, she held regular craft sessions in her home and then became involved with the ASV Women's Fellowship when it was established. When the church needed funds, there was Barbara organising the making and sale of cards to swell the coffers. As a pet-lover, Barbara always welcomed them into her home and many of us remember her dogs Freddie and Lottie with deep affection.

Barbara loved life, gave her all to the passions she held, served the church faithfully, and will be deeply missed by her many friends

*John & Barbara Matthews*

## Grapevine Treasurer's Report:

September 2021:

Income: 1587.96 €

Expenditure: 580.01 €

*Once again, the major part of our income was through Planned Giving contributions, for which many thanks. It was wonderful to be able to begin to have services in church again, and to receive the collections.*

*This month, a large rebate from EDF has boosted our finances, and, with no big bills coming in, we have had a surplus of 1007.95 €.*

*If anyone else wishes to join the Planned Giving Scheme, please contact me.*

*Keep smiling, keep safe!*

*Iain McGregor  
(Treasurer)*

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### EAST & WEST VENDÉE – CHURCH SERVICE ROTA

DATE 2021	VENUE	TIME	SERVICE	PRESIDENT	PREACHER	WORSHIP LEADER	ORGANIST	CHALICE	INTERCESSOR	READERS	WELCOMERS	NOTES
7 <sup>th</sup> November	La Chapelle Palluau	11.00					SS-J					<span style="color: red;">3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday before Advent</span>
14 <sup>th</sup> November	Puy de Serre	11.00					SS-J					<span style="color: red;">2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday before Advent/ Remembrance Sunday</span>
21 <sup>st</sup> November												<span style="color: red;">Sunday next before Advent/Christ the King</span>
28 <sup>th</sup> November	Puy de Serre	11.00					SS-J					<span style="color: purple;">Advent 1</span>
5 <sup>th</sup> December	La Chapelle Palluau	11.00					SS-J					<span style="color: purple;">Advent 2</span>

### WEST VENDÉE – FORWARD PLANNING ROTA

Date 2021		Salle Setup/ Clearing away (Chris Green at PdS)	Refreshments after the service (Jenny Wilkinson at PdS)
7 <sup>th</sup> November	LCP		
14 <sup>th</sup> November	PdS		
21 <sup>st</sup> November			
28 <sup>th</sup> November	PdS		
5 <sup>th</sup> December	LCP		



# These are YOUR pages.....



My thanks to all the Contributors of notices and articles for this month's "Grapevine":  
"Walking St Cuthbert's Way"; "Women's Fellowship";  
"Resto du Coeur", "Sunday Club"



## ASV WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

Hi Girls,

Just a reminder that I am off to the UK for several weeks on the 21<sup>st</sup> October.

I shall be returning on 29<sup>th</sup> November and have arranged a meeting for the sewing group on **Thursday, 9<sup>th</sup> December**. I'm hoping that some of us will have made a start on the Friendship star, the pattern chosen for our collective quilt!

And we couldn't possibly miss our **Christmas party**, which will take place on the following Thursday, **16<sup>th</sup> December**. This will be a Bring and Share Lunch and Secret Santa. So, I'm proposing we meet at 12.30pm, instead of the usual 2pm

I am returning to the UK on 18<sup>th</sup> December and may not be back until March when we shall organise ourselves for next year. I hope this is OK with everyone – unless there is a volunteer to get everyone together from time to time!

Love, Joan

These photos from the Craft Group at the end of September are from Irene Ferguson



"Glass Painting"



Contact : Joan Stewart, or Jenny Wilkinson  
[Jpsmorandiere@outlook.com](mailto:Jpsmorandiere@outlook.com)  
[Jennywilkinson213@gmail.com](mailto:Jennywilkinson213@gmail.com)



# *Sunday Club*

## *November 2021*



### **Messy church**

**Bible story**  
**Read Mark 10. 46-52**



The story of Bartimaeus (Bart) on the surface appears to be a story of physical blindness and healing, but take a deeper look reveals it to be a story of persistence, compassion for those on the fringes and new beginnings.

Bart is an alternative disciple. He teaches the twelve disciples about faith.

Bart was persistent. He asked more than once for what he wanted and what he needed. He was not deterred by the people shushing him, He was not afraid to seek something he needed.

This is an example of Jesus having compassion and mercy for those who are considered "LESS THAN". He treated Bart, whom other people despised, with respect.

Jesus teaches us to see the world with new eyes - to see and feel the world differently.

If nobody in your church seems to be desperate to get closer to Jesus , could you pray for some shouting??

What amazing things has happened when you have had faith in God?

Have you ever been afraid to seek something you needed?

Have you had encounters on your spiritual journey, that have helped you see or feel differently about something?

How does this session help people grow in Christ? 🤔

In life we often beg and plead having doubts God will hear us or respond to our needs. All God asks of us is TO TRUST.

When we have faith in God, as Bart did, we are made whole. This session provides an opportunity to explore fresh start, seeing the world anew, when we truly trust in God.

God Bless everyone.

Jenny Wilkinson

## Walking St. Cuthbert's Way Melrose to Lindisfarne

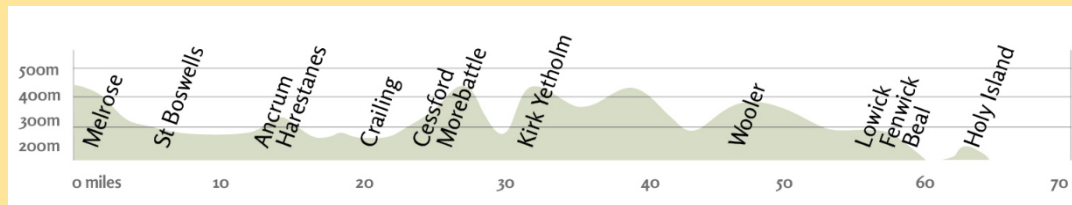
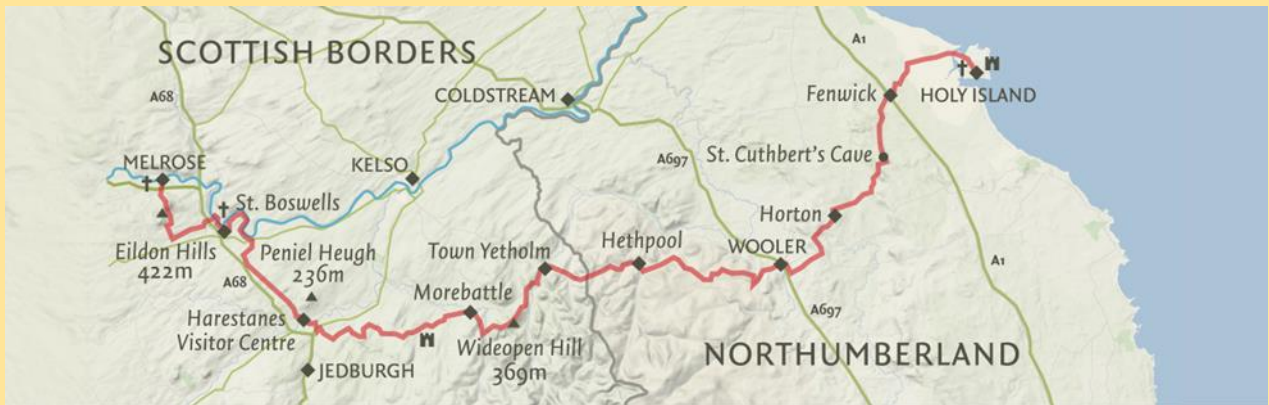


This September I walked St. Cuthbert's Way together with four friends from my days at theological college in Durham. We met in 1982 and have supported each other with prayer and fellowship and by sharing an annual retreat ever since. The walk was for us a pilgrimage to give thanks to God for His love, our friendship and the privilege of over 180 years ordained ministry, shared between us.

The way runs from Melrose to Lindisfarne, a distance of some 60 miles, following the life of St. Cuthbert from Melrose Abbey where he became a monk to the Holy Island to which he returned to die. It climbs steeply out of Melrose, runs between the Eildon hills, follows the course of the beautiful river Tweed then the Roman Road, Dere Street, before climbing to high ground over Wideopen Hill, crossing the top end of the Pennine Way near Kirk Yetholm, skirting the Cheviot, passing Ad Gefrin, where St. Paulinus once baptized 3000 Northumbrians, St. Cuthbert's Cave, where legend states monks fleeing the Vikings hid with his body to descend to the coast via Fenwick and ends by crossing the sands or the causeway when exposed by the falling tide to Holy Island.

We were blessed by the weather. After torrential rain on our first afternoon, it remained fine for the rest of the week, offering us spectacular views from the high ground and it was even warm and sunny on the last day as we crossed the sands barefoot before celebrating Communion on St. Cuthbert's Island.

Each of the five of us is different. We have followed different paths in ministry in different parts of the world, from the Isle of Wight to Yorkshire, Oxford to Essex, Worcester to Wolverhampton with times in India, different parts of Africa and Bangkok. We have known and shared joys and sorrows, praying for one another for nearly 40 years and each in our own way felt blessed on our pilgrimage.



Blessing takes many forms. For me it began with simple thanksgiving to God – for the physical strength to be able to walk, not without the odd ache and pain these days, or the need to stop and look at the view when climbing hills, and enjoy the beauty of His creation. Then there was the sense of belonging by God’s grace to a greater company of pilgrims, all the Christians who have walked in God’s way since Jesus Himself trod this earth. This was particularly strong as we crossed the sands to Holy Island and as we knelt in prayer where St. Cuthbert himself once did. The angels and archangels felt very close. God reminded me that we never walk alone. He is always with us and so are brothers and sisters in Christ, even when they are unseen. God has a purpose for each of our lives. We can look back and see some of it, but He tells us to keep on walking, following where He leads and trusting in Him for each day as it comes until we reach the end of our journey. So my final thought expressed in my prayer on St. Cuthbert’s island was that God brought each one of us there because He loves us and wants to bless us, so we can share His love with others. As my eyes followed the golden pathway traced by the setting sun across the sea to the mainland, I felt enfolded in His love, rested in

His peace and was blessed indeed – ready for the next stage of the journey.



*Martyn Crompton*




Mike Mylod is our link with **Restos du Coeur**



He will continue to collect your gifts of dry goods, etc. which are particularly important now and which will be delivered to the local depot at Coulonges-sur-l'Autize.


Please phone Mike before leaving goods with him at Moulleron-en-Pareds: 02 51 51 07 36





**Did you know it's possible to read  
PREVIOUS SERMONS and TALKS  
at:**

[www.allsaintsvendee.fr](http://www.allsaintsvendee.fr)





*This from Doug.....*

REFLECTION

**TECHNICALLY,  
MOSES WAS THE FIRST MAN TO  
DOWNLOAD FILES FROM THE CLOUD  
USING A TABLET.**



I hope you have enjoyed this edition of "Grapevine".  
My thanks to all the Contributors.

Please consult the website for updates at  
[www.allsaintsvendee.fr](http://www.allsaintsvendee.fr)



Send your items for the **December edition** to:  
Jacqui at: [sjfamily66@hotmail.com](mailto:sjfamily66@hotmail.com)  
**before 15<sup>th</sup> November 2021**