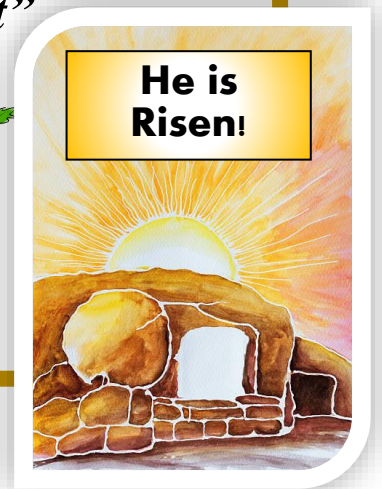


Church of All Saints in the Vendée  
"To know and to share Jesus Christ"

*The Grapevine*

April 2023

DIOCESE IN EUROPE  
THE CHURCH  
OF ENGLAND



**CONTACTS:**

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**4-Thought  
April 2023**



So the spring equinox has been and gone, and we look forward to increasingly longer hours of daylight. So I got curious, (yes I know, one day that will get me into trouble!!)

What I wondered is the connection between the spring equinox and Easter, well I hope you are sitting comfortably.....

Easter occurs on the first Sunday after the "paschal full Moon." Put simply, this is the first full Moon immediately following the vernal (spring) equinox.

However, that's not the full story because Easter isn't based on the actual Moon or equinox date! There is a curious connection between the Moon and Easter. Easter is what's known as a "movable feast"—in other words, a religious holiday that may fall on a different calendar date from year to year.

Officially, Easter is observed on the Sunday following the first full Moon that occurs on or after the March equinox. Occasionally, the Church's dates will not coincide with the astronomical dates, in which case this basic rule would not apply. For example, if the equinox were to occur on March 21 and the full Moon were to occur two days later, on March 23, Easter would be observed on the first Sunday after March 23. But, thanks to the motions of our planet and the Moon, as well as the inelasticity of calendars, calculating Easter's date can get more complicated sometimes!

The full Moon nearest to Easter can change. Sometimes, it's the full Moon that occurs in March and sometimes it's the full Moon that occurs in April. In 2023, April's full Moon (April 5-6) will be nearest to Easter (April 9).

Through the Gospels, we can determine that Sunday was the day that Jesus was raised from the dead. In John 20 verse 1, the resurrection story starts with "Early on the first day of the week..." According to the Jewish way of calculating days, the first day of the week was Sunday. It's actually because the resurrection occurred on Sunday that Christians observe Sundays as the Sabbath or holy day to honour God. Up until this point, Saturdays were considered holy.

Jesus came into the world as God and man to bring light, life, and a way for people to have a close relationship with God. God's plan was for Jesus to be crucified on the cross to put to death the power of sin in us. But it was also His plan for Jesus to be raised to life, allowing us to live in unity with him for eternity.

If Christ was not raised from the dead, there would be no Christianity! The death and resurrection of Jesus are so important that all of the Bible from Genesis to Revelation point to this event. It is the pinnacle moment in God's plan, for us to be alive in Christ.

Easter is not just about Jesus coming to life. Easter is about celebrating OUR new life through him! "Now if we died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him" (Romans 6:8). We are free from condemnation, sin, and death! Through Christ, we can call God our Father.

There is nothing wrong with celebrating with eggs, chocolate, and whatever else. Do so without condemnation, but remember what Easter is really about. Bunnies, eggs, and Easter dresses come and go, but the spiritual meaning of Easter is a delight that will last forever.

May you each have a very blessed Easter.

Hazel.

Alleluia! He is Risen!

# Prayer List

*Please remember in your prayers:*



**Colin** and Hester  
**Ann** and Peter (*friends of  
David and Sally*)

**Dick**  
**Gini** and Martyn  
**Heidi** and **Millie-Jean** and  
their parents, Joël and Jo  
**Maureen**

**Steve** (*Hazel and Martin's  
son-in-law*) and Nicky  
**Liam** (*Polly's nephew*)  
**Nel** (*Mair & John Pugh's  
daughter*)  
**Pat** and **Roy**  
**Polly**  
**Bob** (*Rev'd Caroline's  
husband*)

*...and for the bereaved:*

The family and friends of  
**Peter Somerville**

The family and friends of  
**Bill Stocking**

The family and friends of  
**Eelan Hodgson**

The family and friends of  
**Jean Gibbs**

*[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: [davidlpearson@orange.fr](mailto:davidlpearson@orange.fr)]*



## Churchwardens' Notes For April 2023

Here is a reminder of what has happened and what is coming up:

**QUIZ** - Friday 17th March was the last quiz for now. Many thanks to Iain and Fiona for organising, Curtis and Dee for the questions and Jenny, Trudy and helpers for the catering.

Would anyone like to organise a **Summer social event**? Perhaps a walk, an afternoon tea?

**Christingle 2022** - we raised £220 and a thank you letter is published elsewhere in Grapevine. Thank you to everyone who contributed to this worthy cause.

**Easter Services** - as we come to the end of Lent the services are

**Palm Sunday** 2nd April at LCP, 1100

**Good Friday** 7th April at PDS at 1130, please note time as the service traditionally spans 12 noon.

**Easter Day** 9th April 1100 at PDS. Please try to attend this service which celebrates our Risen Lord!

As it is the second Sunday of the month there will also be a collection of goods for **Restos de Coeur**.

**AGM** - our Annual Meeting is scheduled to take place after the service at PDS on Sunday 14th May. This is the chance for Electoral Role members to put themselves forward for any of the offices of the church or to vote at any elections. The Electoral Roll Officer, Chris Green, has to revise the Roll each year and "freeze" the Roll within set dates before the AGM. This year she proposes to close the Roll after the service on 23rd April. If anyone wishes to join the Roll, please contact her [greensinfrance@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:greensinfrance@yahoo.co.uk) or anyone on Council.

Thank you everyone for your support over the winter and we hope with the return of (hopefully) warmer weather we will see the congregation growing again.

With love and blessings  
Margaret and Doug

## **REVISION OF THE ASV ELECTORAL ROLL**

The Electoral Roll of a church is completely updated every six years - this was last done in 2019. Once updated, the Electoral Roll Officer is required to revise the Roll each year shortly before the Annual Meeting (AGM). The Council has now fixed the date for the AGM and it will take place after the service on Sunday May 14th 2023. The revision has to be completed not later than 15 days before the AGM (i.e. April 29th.) and not earlier than 28 days before the AGM (i.e. April 16th). Once it has been revised, the Roll is "frozen" until after the AGM has taken place.

If anyone wishes to join the ASV Electoral Roll, please complete an Application form and return it to me as soon as possible. An application form can be obtained from me or you can download the copy found elsewhere in Grapevine. Completed Application forms will be approved by Council and names added to the Roll. If anyone wishes to have their name removed from the Roll, please contact me. If you are on the Roll, and wish to remain on the Roll then there is nothing you need to do.

Only people on the Electoral Roll are allowed to nominate or stand for Churchwarden or a Council Member. Again, only Roll members may attend the AGM and vote in elections or for motions at the AGM. In other words, membership of the Electoral Roll is the way to be able to take an active part in the life of the church. If you need more information please contact me, [greensinfrance@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:greensinfrance@yahoo.co.uk), or 05 49 72 18 46.

Chris Green  
Electoral Roll Officer



**The Diocese in Europe**  
The Church of England

**Application for Enrolment on the Church Electoral Roll of All Saints, Vendée**

**Please use capitals** and complete as appropriate.

Full Name.....

Full Normal Address .....  
.....  
.....

Email Address.....@.....  
(optional)

***I declare that***

1. I am baptized, am a lay person and am aged 16 or over  
(or, become 16 on .....)

AND (tick only ONE of boxes 2A, 2B or 2C)

2A I am a member of the Church of England (or of a Church in communion with the Church of England) and have my name entered on the electoral roll of a parish or chaplaincy in the Provinces of Canterbury or York. (ASV is in the Province of Canterbury).

2B I am a member of the Church of England (or of a Church in communion with the Church of England) and I have habitually attended public worship in the chaplaincy during the period of six months prior to enrolment.

2C I am a member in good standing of a Church not in communion with the Church of England which subscribes to the doctrine of the Holy Trinity and also declare myself to be a member of the Church of England and I have habitually attended public worship in the chaplaincy during the period of six months prior to enrolment.

**I declare that the above answers are true and I apply for inclusion on the church electoral roll for the chaplaincy.**

Signature..... Date.....

Please return by hand or by post to the Electoral Roll Officer, Chris Green, La Vialière, 79240 Largeasse – or by hand to the Chaplain, a Warden or any Council Member.

Notes. 1. Like many churches in France we enjoy active participation of people who spend part of their time back in the UK or elsewhere. Accordingly we follow the advice of the Diocese in Europe and adopt a generous interpretation of the six month rule.

2. If you have any problem with this form, please approach any member of the Church Council who will be pleased to help you.



# Dates for your Diary

April 2023



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1<sup>st</sup> April Saturday

2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday 11hr00 **PALM SUNDAY Holy Communion** at La Chapelle Palluau

6<sup>th</sup> April **Maundy Thursday** - No service

7<sup>th</sup> April 11hr30 **GOOD FRIDAY** Devotional Quiet Service

9<sup>th</sup> Sunday. 11hr00 **EASTER DAY Holy Communion** at Puy de Serre (Resto Collection point)

16<sup>th</sup> Sunday No Service

23<sup>rd</sup> Sunday 11hr00 **Holy Communion** at Puy de Serre

27<sup>th</sup> Thursday **Ladies Meeting** will be with Jane Lock. This has to be confirmed.  
Contact Jenny for details

30<sup>th</sup> April Sunday No Service

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Please check with the website and/or the Churchwardens in case of any alterations.



# Dates for your Diary



May 2023

1<sup>st</sup> May Monday

7<sup>th</sup> Sunday. 11hr00 **Holy Communion** at La Chapelle Palluau

14<sup>th</sup> Sunday 11hr00 **Holy Communion** at Puy de Serre

***MAY 14<sup>th</sup> AGM – After the service at Puy de Serre***

18<sup>th</sup> Thursday **Ascension Day**

21<sup>st</sup> Sunday No service

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

31<sup>st</sup> May Wednesday

Please check with the website and/or the Churchwardens in case of any alterations.



# EAST & WEST VENDÉE – CHURCH SERVICE ROTA

## APRIL INTO MAY

DATE 2023	VENUE	TIME	SERVICE	PRES-IDENT	PREACHER	WORSHIP LEADER	ORGAN-IST	CHALICE	INTER-CESSOR	READERS	WEL-COMERS	NOTES
Sunday 2 <sup>nd</sup> April	La Chapelle Palluau	11.00	HC	HD			SS-J					<b>Palm Sunday</b>
Friday 7 <sup>th</sup> April	Puy de Serre	11.30	Devotional, quiet service		Not available							<b>Good Friday</b>
Sunday 9 <sup>th</sup> April	Puy de Serre	11.00	HC	HD		CG	SS-J		JM	BC CM		<b>Easter Day</b>
Sunday 16 <sup>th</sup> April	No service											
Sunday 23 <sup>rd</sup> April	Puy de Serre	11.00	HC	HD	Not available		SS-J	Not available				
Sunday 30 <sup>th</sup> April	No service											
Sunday 7 <sup>th</sup> May	La Chapelle Palluau	11.00	HC	HD	Not available		SS-J	Not available				

IF YOU FIND YOU ARE UNABLE TO BE AT CHURCH ON "YOUR" DAY,  
PLEASE TRY TO ARRANGE A SWAP AND INFORM THE WORSHIP LEADER

## FORWARD PLANNING

## APRIL INTO MAY

Responsibility (Organiser)	9 <sup>th</sup> April Puy de Serre 11hr00	23 <sup>rd</sup> April Puy de Serre 11hr00
Salle Setup/Clearing away (Chris Green at PdS)	No B&S Lunch	No B&S Lunch
Refreshments after the service in Salle (Jenny Wilkinson at PdS)	Jenny	Jenny
Flower Rota (Barbara Matthews at PdS)		

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.

# Grapevine Treasurer's Report:

## February 2023:

Income: 640.00 €

Expenditure: 825.58 €

We have a negative balance for the month: -185.58 €

Thank you all for your continuing support for ASV. We have a small deficit this month.

I shall be sending out the tax rebate forms for 2022 in the next month or two.

Iain McGregor  
(Treasurer)

\*\*\*\*\*



## *Sunday Club*

No one will be turned away,  
everyone is welcomed

We are now open for children to attend Sunday  
Club activities including Holidaymakers.

*Please contact Jenny if you require more information:*

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



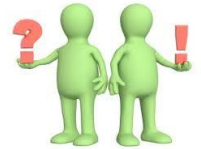
...and there's much more...

SO

KEEP READING.....



# These are YOUR pages.....



*My thanks to all the Contributors of notices and articles for this month's "Grapevine".*

*The Remnants & World Day of Prayer; Letter from The Pughs; New Organ Thanks; Christingle – an acknowledgment; Ladies Circle; Resto du Cœur; Sunday Club.*



Dear Friends,

Well, we are on the final leg of our sojourn in France. It is 20yrs next week since we arrived. We had hoped to stay a bit longer but it was not to be.

Recently Nel's mental health has improved enough for her to look for work and she has just completed 5 weeks at our local Wetherspoons in Harrogate. It is good to see her getting washed and dressed smartly for work .. and she is enjoying the social side of the job as well as the financial incentive! We are not sure what turned the tide.. but are grateful for what we are seeing and hoping for it to continue. However many challenges remain.

Our time in France has been a very significant part of our life, tying in to our time in Africa too. It will be a challenge to settle back in the UK but we know that there is a place for us to be and God still has work for us to do.

Everyday we are thankful for a warm bed, food to eat and a flushing toilet... also very aware of the awful situations in the Ukraine and Turkey+Syria, and so whatever our present circumstances we try to give thanks to God at the end of each day.

Next Friday, March 10th, John is having a malignant lesion removed from his face under a general anaesthetic.. so leaving an actual piece of himself in France! It is the reason for our return this time and so we are not socialising so as to shield him before the op and avoiding all bugs etc

So, adieu and bientot... for now.

Thank you for being part of our French/Africa journey.. for supporting us prayerfully and financially during our time in mission.

We can always be contacted on [pughsnews15@gmail.com](mailto:pughsnews15@gmail.com) so please keep in touch

Sending our love,

Mair and John xx

# The Remnants – March 2023

## World Day of Prayer



Concentrating on Taiwan and the particular stresses and blessings on living there by its people. The service on the 11th March left its participants with a message of hope and encouragement and fellowship. Music was supplied by Stuart and the joyous noise of singing attempted to match it. Our house is bijoux but there were enough chairs and sofa space (just). We learnt a lot and postal strikes could not prevent the service sheets getting through. A total of €160 was raised on the day which will be sent through to the WDP.

Thank you to everyone who took part and travelled from different parts of the Vendee it was a truly ecumenical Meeting.





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**

..... and just to add:

With the rising cost of living, there are more folk than ever in need of basic food, cleaning materials and toiletries. Collections are made at Puy de Serre at the first service of the month there (i.e. the second Sunday of each month).

The local group that we support at Coulonges-sur-l'Autize say that, in particular, they have need for tins of ready meals like Ravioli and Cassoulet.

Please continue to help. Many, many thanks for your continued support.

Maggie K



Did you know  
PREVIOUS SERMONS and  
TALKS  
can be read at:

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

*26th February 2023*

*TALK given by  
Lay Minister, John Matthews,  
at Puy de Serre*







## *Sunday Club*



*It's almost Easter time....*

EASTER is filled with hope and joy. Good news is why we celebrate Easter please read Matthew 28: 1-10

But why do we celebrate Easter with eggs???

Eggs represent new life and birth and it is though that this ancient custom became part of Easter celebrations. In the medieval period, eating eggs was forbidden during Lent (the 40 days before Easter) So, on Easter Sunday, tucking into an egg was a real treat, and nowadays we are so fortunate to have Chocolate Easter eggs



Prayer for Easter

Dear Lord it is such a joy to celebrate Easter and to remember how you rose from the grave to live within us. Help us to follow in your footsteps, because you are the the Light, the Truth, and the way of life.

AMEN

*Jenny Wilkinson*

...and this from Trudy....



Michelangelo Merisi da Caravaggio wasn't a very nice man: he was frequently brawling and even committed murder. Yet, in his painting, *The Supper at Emmaus*, he captured the extraordinary moment when the disciples recognised

**The Risen Christ,**  
that moment between our perishable realm and an eternal one that lies beyond.

Here is the acknowledgment and thank you email from the Children's Society for our donation following the Christingle service and collections 2022/3.

**From:** Anya Auguste  
**Date:** 15 March 2023 at 17:01:02 GMT  
**To:** greensinfrance  
**Subject:** Thank you from The Children's Society



Dear Mrs Green.

Thank you so much for your Christingle celebration this year and this amazing donation of **£220.00** to The Children's Society.

It's thanks to the money raised in churches and congregations like All Saints Anglican Church Vendee that we are able to be here for children and young people when they need us most, and we're so grateful to you for standing alongside us. Please extend our thanks to everyone who contributed towards this.

We know how much work goes into organising a Christingle and this year supporters like you have gone to extraordinary lengths to celebrate and raise money with us. We are so grateful for all the effort you have put into making sure the Christingle tradition continues. It means the world to us and to young people.

Your support really does change lives – together, our volunteers, supporters and campaigners make The Children's Society's work possible. When you attend a Christingle service, you are standing alongside young people and letting them know that a brighter future is possible.

Last year more than 2,000 celebrations raised nearly £600,000 for children and young people. Every penny raised at your Christingle helps change lives. You can read more about the impact your support has at [childrenssociety.org.uk/impact](http://childrenssociety.org.uk/impact).

Thank you once again for Christingling with us this year to make a difference for children and young people.

Yours sincerely  
Anya

Anya Auguste  
*Senior Supporter Care Coordinator*  
**The Children's Society**



## ASV LADIES' CIRCLE

### The Ladies' Circle Meeting and Sewing Group

always welcome newcomers.

**Sewing Club Meetings have been postponed until Joan returns in June**

Venues to be arranged so please contact Jenny Wilkinson for details  
[Jennywilkinson213@gmail.com](mailto:Jennywilkinson213@gmail.com)

## KORG SP280

It is difficult to believe that it is 8 years since the old church keyboard was written off due to the damage caused by the excessively damp conditions in the Vestry at Puy de Serre. Some of you may remember the crackling sound when the volume was increased or the time it played on its own during a sermon!



Extra life was gained by using external speakers plugged into the earphone socket but this was short-lived and since the lockdown, Ann and I have used our own keyboards for the services.

An unexpected donation from an old friend of ours (unconnected with ASV) triggered an appeal for a new instrument with the proviso that a suitable strong, waterproof case should be provided.

The result, making its entrance at Puy de Serre on the 12<sup>th</sup> of March, was the Korg SP280 – the successor to our old Korg SP250.



**May I thank the members and friends of All Saints Vendée for their generous contributions which have made this acquisition possible.**

It is 20 years since I started playing for services for All Saints Vendée, initially at La Merlatière following the untimely death of George Nichols.

When La Merlatière's congregation moved to La Chapelle Achard, Allan Rothwell became the fulltime Organist. From 2005 with the departure of Neville Dilkes, I took over playing for services at Puy de Serre.

I shall still use my own Keyboard at the monthly service at La Chapelle Palluau.

We are always looking out for Musicians, and as the Korg SP280 is, technically speaking, a "Performance Piano", any pianists would find it a pleasure to play. Please feel free to view the new keyboard and try it out if you are interested.

Once again, a big "Thank You" to all those who contributed, knowing that instrumental music will continue for many years to enhance the worship in our services.

*Stuart Stainton-James*



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 and comments for the **May edition** to:  
Jacqui at: [sjfamily66@hotmail.com](mailto:sjfamily66@hotmail.com)

**before 15<sup>th</sup> April 2023**

