



CONTACTS:

Chaplain & President:

Revd Hazel Door

Home phone: 05 49 87 71 45

e-mail: Rev.hazel@wanadoo.fr

Vicarage:

27 rue de Malvoisine,

85110 St Vincent Sterlanges:

Vicarage Phone: 02 51 31 23 71

Church Warden & Lay Vice-Chairman:

Doug Green: Phone: 05 49 72 18 46

e-mail: greensinfrance@yahoo.co.uk

Church Warden:

Margaret Kent: Phone: 05 49 72 27 72

e-mail: maguyjelley@gmail.com Lay

Minister:

John Matthews: Phone: 05 49

75 29 71, e-mail:

matthewsj@wanadoo.fr

Website:

www.allsaintsvendee.fr

March 2024

Some quotes about this month:

(If you're a little disappointed by the recent rain!):

"It has been observed by long experience, that late springs produce the greatest plenty..." *Samuel Johnson*

(Reminding us to get contributions in on time for the April issue?):

"Beware the Ides of March!" *Shakespeare, Julius Caesar*

***4 thought March
2024***

With thanks to Rev. Hazel

During the Lenten period, for some people, it is usual to use a daily time of reflection, either in silence or with some gentle music playing. Some people follow a Lent course either as individuals or in a fellowship or home group. I have been looking through some of my resource books to find something useful to focus on. I came across one of my older books called "Eggs and Ashes" written by Ruth Burgess and Chris Polhill, published by Wild Goose Publications part of the Iona community.

The book includes a Lent discipline for those who care about the environment, it covers the whole of Lent through to Palm Sunday and Holy week.

I make no apology for sharing the following, I shall be using it daily from Ash Wednesday. I commend it to you.....

A time of Turning Around by Jan Sutch Pickard.

Truly dust we are, and to dust we shall return; and
truly yours we are, and to you we shall return.
Help this to be a time of turning round and beginning again.
Through the forty days of Lent, help us to follow you and
to find you: in the discipline of praying and in the drudgery
of caring- in whatever we deny ourselves, and whatever we
set ourselves to learn or do. Help us to discover you in our
loneliness and in community, in our emptiness and our
fulfilment, in our sadness and laughter.
Help us to find you when we ourselves are lost .
Help us to follow you on the journey to Jerusalem
to the waving palms of the people's hope, to their
rejection, to the cross and empty tomb.
Help us to perceive new growth amid the ashes of the old.
Help us, carrying your cross, to be signs of your Kingdom. AMEN

March – a few thoughts

I'm sure readers know that March was named after Mars, the Roman name for their mythical god of war, as were other elements of Roman life : the Campus Martius in Rome was a racing circuit for chariots, and was the inspiration for the naming of the lovely open space in Paris where the Tour Eiffel was later constructed for the 1889 centenary of the high point of the French Revolution - the Champ de Mars.

March 15 is the Ides of March.^{[1][SEP]} As suggested in the quotations above, the Ides of March brought the assassination of Julius Cæsar and continues in legend to be thought of as an unlucky day.

March 17 is St. Patrick's Day.

I learn from the online *Random Times, February 2024*, that :

March 18 is St Edward the Martyr's Day.^{[1][SEP]} Murdered at the age of fifteen in the year 978, Edward the Saxon King of England's shrine is located in Shaftesbury Abbey.

March 20 is the March equinox, also referred to as the vernal or spring equinox in the Northern Hemisphere, marking the beginning of spring.

March 25 is the Feast of Annunciation.^{[1][SEP]} This is the celebration of the visit of the Archangel Gabriel to announce to Mary that she was to bear the Son of God.



Don't forget !

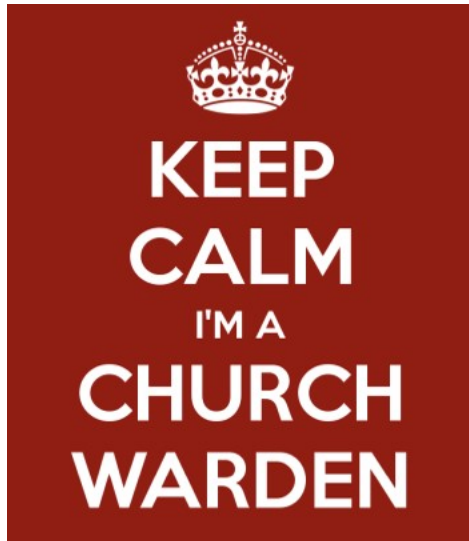
March 30 brings the change from winter to summer time, so 3 am becomes 4 am here in France.

Prayer List

Please remember in your prayers:

	Jo and Brian Colin and Hester Gini and Martyn Millie-Jean and parents, Tim and Sharmila Maureen Steve (Hazel and Martin's son-in-law) and Nicky	Nel (Mair & John's daughter) Pat and Roy Polly Bob and Caroline Chris and Ann
--	--	---

Thanks to David Pearson, as always



Churchwardens' Notes

For March 2024

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 have now fixed the date for the AGM and it will take place after the service on Sunday 10th March 2024. The revision has to be completed not later than 15 days before the AGM (i.e. 24th February) and not earlier than 28 days before the AGM (i.e. 11th Feb). 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. 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, or 05 49 72 18 46.

Chris Green
Electoral Roll Officer

NEW CHURCHWARDEN REQUIRED

In October this year, God willing, I will be 80 years old. I never envisaged being a Churchwarden for so long and I know I am slowing down and making mistakes. Churchwardens are only elected for one year but can seek re-election at the Church Annual Meeting (AGM). This year's AGM will take place in the Salle after the Service on Sunday 10th March and I am willing to stand for one further year but it would be better if someone else took over in March: I will assist them in anyway I can. I will not seek re-election in 2025 but I pray that I am still alive and able to serve ASV in some other way.

Can I encourage every member of the congregation who is not on the Electoral Roll to seek membership of this Roll, in order to take a full part in the life of ASV. Only those who are on the Roll can attend and vote at the AGM or take on an official position in the church. We need some "new blood" on Council - please consider if you can join. Elsewhere in Grapevine you will find an application form for the Electoral Roll.

Reminder - the AGM will be on Sunday 10th March 2024

With my best wishes
Doug Green

Grapevine Treasurer's report:

January 2024:

Income: 1660.33 €

Expenditure: 562.55 €

We have a positive balance for the month: + 1097.78 €

Thank you all for your continuing support for ASV. Financially, we had a very good start to the year. The income was augmented by a very well attended January Quiz, and there was little expenditure during the month.

I shall be sending out the tax rebate forms for 2023 for those who have contributed via the Planned Giving Scheme in the next month or two.

Iain McGregor (Treasurer)

Sunday Club

"No one will be turned away, everyone
is welcome

Calling all children, including holidaymakers, to attend Sunday Club.

Do *please* let us know a couple of days in advance, if you'd like to
come,

so that we can prepare something special for you."*

*Please contact Jenny if you require more
information: email:*

jennywilkinson213@gmail.com

There is a Sunday Club Story on page 14

ASV Fun QUIZ

Date: Friday 15th March 2024 at 18.00 hrs Place:
The Salle at Puy de Serre.

Cost: 10€ to include the meal

Booking: By Monday 11th March at the latest
(with details of food allergies / vegetarian option)

Fiona McGregor mcgregor@lalogette.com 02 51 53 82 55 Please
let me know if you can donate a dessert or a raffle prize for any
of our quizzes

All are welcome!

- so please invite your family, friends and neighbours!

Maggie and Geoff Kent are our Quizmasters, with lots of easy to
answer questions (we hope!), and Jenny and her team are providing
the meal.

There will be tables of 5-6, so if you want to enter with a group, please let me
know, alternatively if you want to come alone or as a couple, I can put you into a
group - a great way to make new friends!

Please bring any 'nibbles' you want to sustain you during the
first few rounds before the meal, and your own **cutlery,**
drink and glasses.

Dates for your Diary

March 2024

1st Friday

3rd Sunday 11hr00 **Holy Communion** at La Chapelle Palluau

7th Thursday **Ladies Group Sewing Meeting**

10th Sunday 11hr00 **Holy Communion** at Puy de Serre – Mothering Sunday followed by AGM in the Salle.

15th Friday 18hr00 **Quiz – Final one of the season !** Names to Fiona please

24th Sunday 11hr00 **Holy Communion** at Puy de Serre **Palm Sunday**

29th Friday Good Friday – Private devotion

31st Sunday 11hr **Holy Communion** at Puy-de-Serre **Easter Day.**

April 2024

Grapevine March 2024

1st Monday

4th Thursday **Ladies' Sewing Group Meeting**

7th Sunday 11hr00 **Holy Communion** at La Chapelle Palluau

14th Sunday 11hr00 **Holy Communion** at Puy de Serre and donations for Restos du Cœur

21st Sunday

25th Thursday **Ladies' Circle Meeting**

28th Sunday 11hr00 **Holy Communion** at Puy de Serre **Palm Sunday**

May 2024

1st Wednesday

5th Sunday 11hr00 **Holy Communion** at La Chapelle Palluau

East & West Vendée – Church Service

Rota

March 2024

If you find you are unable to be at church on “your” day,

DATE 2024	VENUE	TIME	SERVICE	PRESIDENT	PREACHER	WORSHIP LEADER	ORGANIST	INTERCESSOR	READERS	NOTES
Sunday 25th February	Puy-deSerré	11.00	HC	HD	HD	MK	AM	CM	WL MK	Lent 2
Sunday 3rd March	La Chapelle Palluau	11.00	HC	HD	HD		SS-J			Lent 3
Sunday 10th March	PDS	11.00	HC	HD	HD	IMG	SS-J	SP	DP JW	Lent 4
Sunday 17th March										Lent 5
Sunday 24th March	PDS	11.00	HC	HD	HD	JM	AM	JW	CM AC	PALM SUNDAY
Friday 29th March										GOOD FRIDAY
Sunday 31st March	PDS	11.00	HC	HD	HD	DG		CG	MK GK	EASTER SUNDAY
Sunday 7th April	LCP	11.00	HC	HD	HD					
Sunday 14th April	PDS	11.00	HC	HD	HD	CG		IMG	AH CH	
Sunday 21st April										
Sunday 28th April	PDS	11.00	HC	HD	HD	MK		DP	SP GK	
Sunday 5th May	LCP	11.00	HC	HD	HD					

Grapevine March 2024

Sunday 12th May	PDS	11.00	HC	HD	HD	AC		MM	KS BC	
Sunday 19th May										PENTECOS T
Sunday 26th May	PDS	11.00	HC	HD	HD	JM		DG	WL JM	

...please try to arrange a swap and inform the Worship Leader

Forward Planning March 2024

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)	10th March Puy de Serre 11hr00	24th March Puy de Serre 11hr00
Refreshments after the service (Jenny Wilkinson at PdS)	Jenny W.	Jenny W.
Flower Rota (Barbara Matthews)		

	<p style="text-align: center;">Did you know PREVIOUS SERMONS and TALKS can be read at: www.allsaintsvendee.fr See : John Matthew's recent Talk</p>	
--	--	--

Les Restos du Cœur

A reminder that, as usual, Mike and Dominique Mylod will be delighted to accept any non-perishable foods and personal hygiene products, on the **second Sunday in March at the Puy-de-Serre service**, for this excellent charity.

Also, a big thank you to Trudy Coates for doing the February run whilst dad's car is 'hors de combat' !

Sunday Club Story

Jenny Wilkinson

Ignatius goes fishing

Ignatius is a church mouse mad about fishing. Every Saturday when he has finished sweeping the leaves out of the church porch, he gets his fishing rod out of its hiding place in the tower, puts on his wellingtons and his fishing hat, and goes down to the river. One Saturday, when he was sitting there absolutely still on the bank, with ten packets of crisps still unopened at his side, all of a rush up galloped Arfa the Camel. "Oh Ignatius," he said, as he clattered to a standstill, "I don't know what to do! The council have offered me a new house, but it's miles away, and I've to see it this afternoon! Can you come with me? I would like your help!"

"Fraid not, old man," said the mouse. "Any other time yes, but I am fishing now!" So Arfa went away with a sad and worried face.

Later that afternoon, when there were only five packets of crisps left, Ignatius saw a peculiar shape in the water coming towards him. "My goodness," he thought, "it must be the cassock 'n' onion flavoured crisps, going to my head!". To his amazement, out of the river came his old friend Harvey the octopus, "Oh Ignatius" said Harvey as he dripped all over the crisps, "I'm so glad to see you! My Mum has tied herself in a knot and I don't know what to do. Can you come and help us?"

"What a pity," said the mouse. "Any other time I would, but today I am fishing." So Harvey went away with a sad face.

As the sun was going down, and Ignatius had just one soggy bag of curry 'n' woodwork crisps left, there came through the gloom a long, pointed, furry nose and just behind it Harold the mole. "I thought I would find you here," said the mole, "I am feeling a bit fed up tonight on my own. Do you fancy joining me for a cup of cocoa and a couple of juicy *antburgers*?" "Oh dear," said the mouse, "It'll have to be another night as I am about to finish fishing, and I have to get back and see the big match tonight." so Harold went away with a sad face. So Ignatius packed up his fishing gear and raced back home to see the match. He hadn't caught a single fish.

Next morning, Ignatius was patrolling as usual underneath the bench where the choirboys sit, trying to decide which ankle to bite! Suddenly, he heard the magic word 'fishing' and stopped to listen. It was a story about two brothers who went fishing, when all of a sudden up came Jesus! And he said to them, "Can you come with me? I need your help," and straight away they dropped their fishing rods and followed Jesus.

Ignatius felt dreadful. He remembered the day before, when his friends asked for his help, but he stayed and carried on fishing.

So the following Saturday, he decided not to go fishing, but instead to go and see the friends he had let down the previous week. So now in future he decided he would help his friends when they needed help, and not when he felt like it.

Prayer for today

Heavenly Father, make us ready to help other people when they ask for help, not just when we feel like it.

Amen.

Jenny Wilkinson

Noah's Ark Complaints Department



YOU ONLY
BROUGHT
TWO ANTS?



Thanks to Trudy Coates for the illustrations

ASV LADIES' CIRCLE

The Ladies' Circle Meeting and Sewing Group

Women's Fellowship – Ladies' Group

Sewing meetings are every 2nd Thursday of the month and

Ladies meeting is every 4th Thursday.

The next **Sewing** meeting is on 4th April. New members very welcome

Contact jennywilkinson213@gmail.com or

Joan Stewart jpsmorandiere@outlook.com

Sewing Group notes...

Last year we completed our charity quilt, and another smaller quilt was completed at home with shared instructions online, because of the covid restrictions.

We are pleased to announce the winner of the first prize went to Mike Mylod. and the second prize quilt to Kate Slater.

Congratulations to you both.

Monies raised for the church was 110.00 euros.

et pour finir...

In finishing the March 2024 issue of Grapevine, I thank all who have contributed to it, and indeed, in the past, to all issues. In particular ,thanks must go to Jacqui Stainton-James for her 20 years of editorship and her encouragement to me as I rather hesitantly take the reins !

Please consult the website for updates: www.allsaintsvendee.fr Next issue contributions, please, to me, Nigel Pearce, at njp78@hotmail.com **before March 15th 2024 !**



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 Vialièrre, 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.