

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



November 2023

DIOCESE IN EUROPE
THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND



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4-Thought November 2023



November is the last month of the church year and Advent begins on Sunday 3rd December. In keeping with recent 4 thoughts, these are the Saints days commemorated in the Church of England:

- 1 All Saints' Day
- 2 Commemoration of the Faithful Departed (All Souls' Day)
- 3 Richard Hooker, Priest, Anglican Apologist, Teacher of the Faith, 1600
- 6 William Temple, Archbishop of Canterbury, Teacher of the Faith, 1944
- 8 The Saints and Martyrs of England
- 11 Remembrance
- 19 Hilda, Abbess of Whitby, 680***
- 25 Isaac Watts, Hymn Writer, 1748****
- 29 Day of Intercession and Thanksgiving for the Missionary Work of the Church
- 30 Andrew the Apostle

***Hilda** is a significant figure in the history of English Christianity. As the abbess of Whitby – a monastery for both men and women – she led one of the most important religious centres in the Anglo-Saxon world. In 664 Hilda’s monastery hosted the Synod of Whitby, which set the course for the future of Christianity in England. Hilda was seriously ill for the last six years of her life and died in her monastery at Hackness, 14 miles from Whitby in 680 at the age of 66. She was buried at Whitby, though her remains were later moved to Glastonbury. There are many legends about St Hilda. Folklore claims that St Hilda freed Whitby of all evil snakes by flinging them from the Abbey cliffs. It is thought that this is the medieval explanation for all the [spiralled ammonite fossils](#) that



Fossil Ammonite Hildoceras

can be found along this coastline. The snake tale was so prevalent that you can still see relics of it today. The Whitby coat of arms still proudly displays three of Hilda’s snakes. There’s also a fossil named after the abbess: ammonite hildoceras.



Whitby Coat-of-arms

****Isaac Watts**, hymn writer extraordinaire. In the south choir aisle of Westminster Abbey is a marble mural monument to non-conformist minister and hymn writer Isaac Watts. It shows a relief of Dr Watts seated in his study, with an angel guiding his pen, with his bust above. The monument is signed by sculptor Thomas Banks. The inscription reads:

Isaac Watts D.D. [Doctor of Divinity]

Born July 17 1674. Dyed Novr. 25 1748 ⇨⇨⇨⇨⇨

Some of his hymns are among my favourites today, though he is thought to have written over 750. His best known hymn is probably “O God, Our Help in Ages Past” (on the theme of Psalm 90); other favourites include “Jesus Shall Reign Where’er the Sun” (Psalm 72), “Joy to the World” (Psalm 98), “This is the Day that the Lord Hath Made” (Psalm 118); and probably the most loved, as well as being one of the most concise theologically and profound evangelistically, is “When I Survey the Wondrous Cross”. I like to speak them aloud from time to time and find it is very refreshing.



Hazel.

Grapevine Treasurer's Report: September 2023:

Income: 1472.50 €
Expenditure: 620.37 €

We have a **positive** balance for the month: 852.13 €

We have overcome last month's deficit, due in very large part to the quiz, and the vide-sous collections. More quizzes are planned! Getting rid of your small change contributed over 35 € - it is much easier to pay in now than it was to the Banque Postale!

Thank you so much to everybody who contributes so generously to the running of the church.

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

...and there's much more...
So.....
KEEP READING.....

Prayer List

Please remember in your prayers:



Colin and Hester
Gini and Martyn
Heidi and **Millie-Jean** and
their parents, Joël and Jo
Maureen
Steve (Hazel and Martin's
son-in-law) and Nicky

Nel (*Mair & John Pugh's
daughter*)
Pat and **Roy**
Polly
Bob and **Caroline**

...and for the bereaved:

The family and friends of
Malcolm Butcher

The family and friends of
Dick Hardwick

The family and friends of
Allen Rothwell

The family and friends of
Jean Gibbs

The family and friends of
Eelan Hodgson

The family and friends of
Bill Stocking

*[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]*



Churchwardens' Notes For November 2023

We have been so blessed this Autumn with such lovely warm weather. It's been delightful to be able to sit outside and watch the beautiful colours as the sun has been setting in the west. So now let's hope we are all ready to welcome the shorter, cooler days as we approach Christmas.

We know that many of you attend your local ceremonies on 11 November, but don't forget our annual **Remembrance Service on 12 November** held during the normal Holy Communion service at Puy de Serre. It's frightening to think that there are still horrendous conflicts and acts of terrorism being performed today in many parts of the world.

We hope that you will be able to make up a team to participate in the **Quiz** to be held in the **Salle at Puy de Serre on 17 November**. Our quizzes have always 'gone down well' with all who attend and are good value at 10 euro a head, including a meal. *(for details: see page 13)*

Just a quick reminder too of two more dates for your diary planned for early December - **Advent Sunday is on 3 December** this year and will be held at **La Chapelle Palluau at 11.00 a.m.** The congregation there is always very welcoming and usually provide a facility for a 'bring and share' lunch afterwards. A **Christingle service** will be held by **ZOOM at 4.00 p.m. on 10 December**. It's not just for children! Adults can have fun making their Christingles too.

In our September Report, we wrote of the participation of several of our church members in local choirs and the uplift that singing can provide. **Choraline**, the choir we sing with in La Châtaigneraie, is performing in two concerts in November and December, both **in the church at La Châtaigneraie at 4 p.m.** The first is on **Sunday 26 November** and the second is on **Saturday 16 December**. We would love to see you in the audience - we promise that we have been practising hard!

With love and blessings,

Your Churchwardens,

Margaret and Doug



Dates for your Diary

November 2023



1st November Wednesday All Saints Day

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

11th Saturday Armistice Day

12th Sunday 11hr00 **Remembrance Holy Communion Service** at Puy de Serre



16th Thursday **Ladies Circle** - Jane will be showing us how to “clean green”

17th Friday **Quiz & Meal** 18hr00 The Salle at Puy de Serre (Contact Fiona to confirm)

19th No service

26th Sunday 11hr00 **Holy Communion** at Puy de Serre

16hr00 **Choraline Choir** at La Châtaigneraie church

30th November Thursday St Andrew's Day

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



Dates for your Diary



December 2023

1st December Friday

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

6th Wednesday **St Nicholas Day**

10th 11hr00 **Holy Communion** at Puy de Serre
16hr00 **Christingle Service on ZOOM**

16th Saturday 16hr00 **Choraline Choir** at La Châtaigneraie church

17th Sunday 11hr00 **Carols** at **VOUVANT** Church

24th Sunday 11hr00 **Christmas Eve - Holy Communion** at Puy de Serre

25th Monday **Christmas Day**

26th Tuesday **Boxing Day/St Stephen's Day**

28th Wednesday **Holy Innocents**

31st December Sunday **New Year's Eve/St Sylvester's Day**

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

EAST & WEST VENDÉE – CHURCH SERVICE ROTA

NOVEMBER INTO DECEMBER

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

DATE 2023	VENUE	TIME	SERVICE	PRESIDENT	PREACHER	WORSHIP LEADER	ORGAN-IST	INTERCESSOR	READERS	NOTES
Sunday 5 th Novemberr	La Chapelle Palluau	11.00	HC	HD	HD		SS-J			
Sunday 12 th November	Puy De Serre	11.00	HC	HD	HD	AC	SS-J	DG	AH/CH	Remembrance Sunday
Sunday 19 th November	No Service									
Sunday 26 th November	Puy De Serre	11.00	MW		JMD	JM	AM	SP	DP/GK	
Sunday 3 rd December	La Chapelle Palluau	11.00	HC	HD	HD		SS-J			Advent Sunday

FORWARD PLANNING

NOVEMBER INTO DECEMBER

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)	12 th November Puy de Serre 11hr00	26th November Puy de Serre 11hr00
Refreshments after the service in Salle at Puy de Serre (Jenny Wilkinson at PdS)	(Please note: No Bring & Share Lunch)	(Please note: No Bring & Share Lunch)
Flower Rota (Barbara Matthews)	-	-



These are YOUR pages.....

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



Quiz ; The Remnants; Ladies Circle; Resto du Cœur; Keeping in Touch; Sunday Club



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 Mouilleron-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



	<p>Did you know PREVIOUS SERMONS and TALKS can be read at: www.allsaintsvendee.fr See : Revd Martyn Crompton's recent sermon</p>	
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Sunday Club



Something to chew over...



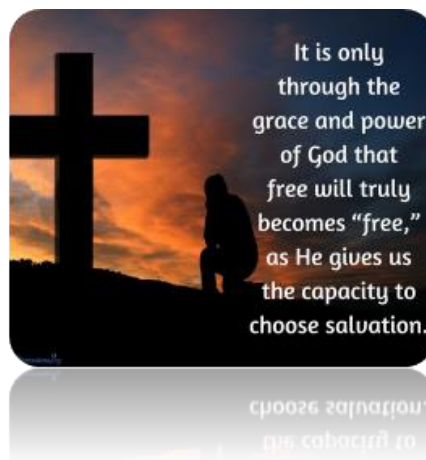
Do we have free will? And what is it anyway?

Opinions on what free will might be and its consequences vary widely from those who think we don't actually have free will because everything is determined by the inexorable laws of physics, to those who think it means we can do anything we like as long as we have the will to do it.

We may think we can do what we like, but most people interact with others and that interaction has consequences, good ones, if it means loving your neighbour, not so good if it means starting wars or destroying the environment, and in return we are subject to the actions of other people for good or ill.

We are determined by our genetic make-up, our environment, our experiences and our culture, but we don't have to be shackled by them, we still have choices. We can blame our parents, the government, the weather, the colour of the wallpaper for what's going wrong in our lives and « do our own thing ».

But if we have had the good fortune to have been introduced to Jesus through the Scriptures, or by the people around us, we have a Guide and a Teacher, to show us the Way to make the choices that will give us true freedom. ***Do you agree ?***



Trudy



Sunday Club



Something more to chew over...

*'Glance at the Sun. See the Moon and Stars.
Gaze at the beauty of Earth's greenings.
Now think.*

*What delight is given to human kind
with all these things.*

*All Nature is at the disposal of humankind.
We are to work with it. For
Without it we cannot survive.*

*'Humanity, take a good look at yourself.
Inside you have heaven and earth
and all creation. You are a world!
Everything is hidden within you.'*



Hildegard of Bingen . 1098-1179.

Hildegard von Bingen was a German Benedictine abbess and polymath active as a writer, composer, philosopher, mystic, visionary, and as a medical writer and practitioner during the High Middle Ages. She is one of the best-known composers of sacred monophony, as well as the most recorded in modern history. She has been considered by scholars to be the founder of scientific natural history in Germany.

Trudy



ASV LADIES' CIRCLE

The Ladies' Circle Meeting and Sewing Group

Women's Fellowship - Ladies Group -

We're always happy to receive new members – Everyone is welcome

November 16th Thursday

- Jane will be showing us how to "clean green".

Contact either Joan Stewart or Jenny

Jennywilkinson213@gmail.com

Jpsmorandiere@outlook.com

The Remnants

September 2023

La Chapelle Palluau



One meeting of the Remnants this month, at my place in La Roche. Three of us, Linda and Nigel and myself. Covid is once more with us. In spite of our vaccinations Ian and Jo and Christine all had Covid.



I am now writing from Montréal, Canada where I am visiting my son and his wife. The autumn colours are beautiful, and the trees so tall and elegant. Grey squirrels are rushing about everywhere collecting and hiding their stores before winter hibernation.



Many houses are decked with pumpkins, skeletons, spiders, bats and tombstones as Halloween approaches.

It seems so far from all the troubles of the world, but brought closer by the repeated announcement that President Joe Biden has landed in Israel to try and persuade a column humanitarian in place of the massive invasion everyone knows is planned in Gaza. The Old Testament tells us that God was with the Hebrews as they progressed towards the Promised Land in their battles when they were greatly outnumbered. Now we hold our breath and pray, we hardly know what for, but God knows and we put our faith in Him.



Joyce

ASV Fun



Date: **Friday 17th November at 18.00 hrs**

Place: **The Salle at Puy de Serre.**

Cost: **10€** to include the meal

Booking: **By Monday 13th November** 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 new 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.

It's a real joy to hear from our ASV friends....Keeping in touch....



Hello folks,

We had a party here for the Curé's birthday.

You have to guess who is the Curé who are the other three priests, who is the Russian Orthodox, who are the two nuns.

Today we had a lunch here for 7 people. Pragma, my Indian student, cooked...we have enough food over from the two events to last forever!

Bisous,
Anne (Brechet)

This from Carole Stocking now living in the Isle of Wight....

I thought you might like a laugh today....

My crossword yesterday:
Clue : Primate. (10 letters)
I put : CHIMPANZEE
Wrong..
It was : ARCHBISHOP

Carole



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

Please send your items and comments for the **December edition**

to: Jacqui at:

sjfamily66@hotmail.com **before 15th November 2023**

