

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

 *The Grapevine* 

August 2017

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Interregnum.

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President

Barbara Kenyon Phone no: 02 51 40 51 59, email: bandrkenyon@orange.fr

Church Wardens:

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Lay Reader:

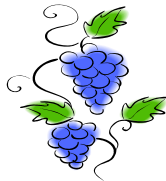

John Matthews: Phone no: 05 49 75 29 71, e-mail: matthewsj@wanadoo.fr

Website: www.allsaintsvendee.fr

Once again, my thanks to John Matthews for contributing our August Preface.

Preface

Dear Friends,

 August is a month which we usually associate with 'getting away from it all' - and what a lot there is to get away from! Terrorist attacks, the calamity of Grenfell Tower still on our minds, turmoil in national governments and in their relationships with other nations, uncertainty about our own future due to Brexit, extremism in politics and faiths seemingly rampant . 

It's quite in order for us to doubt our ability to affect these seemingly mega - issues. All of us probably get irate at injustices or the truth-bending which come to our attention - and don't we sometimes throw our hands up and think, 'What can I do?' But what's that phrase about 'evil wins when good men, and women, do nothing'? Jesus was born into a world where society was torn apart by many of the issues which face us today. But did he simply leave it to others to try to effect change?

Of course not! He was aware of the scale of the problems but knew that, in his earthly ministry, he couldn't be everywhere at once; change could only start from where he was. So he talked to the people around him. He took the environment, and other situations with which they were familiar, as the basis for the teaching parables (short stories using earthly analogies to illustrate a spiritual truth) which he used, to get them to think about God's Kingdom, His love and His values.

So we find references to sheep, vines, fig trees, wheat, fishing, vineyard workers, money, servants, the Good Samaritan, weddings, debts etc. being used to stimulate thinking-to help others to take their own decisions about following him and living as he did. Over 2000 years later we are still faced with deciding whether or not we subscribe to God's thinking, as expressed by Jesus and, if so, the implications for our own lives.

As I write this, it's the day after my being involved in a Service of Holy Communion during which the All Souls' Orchestra accompanied our singing. Their individual musical gifts and Christian conviction contributed enormously to a time of worship which led many to feel closer to God and renewed in their determination to serve him. This morning, walking along the riverside in Niort, I was moved by the sight of grey wagtails, blue damselflies, and bathing woodpigeons. On the footpath two cyclists (grandfather and granddaughter) were clearly enjoying their ride in the sun, while dodging other people walking their dogs.

Across the river, the Pré-Leroy park has been converted into a holiday activity area (complete with beach), principally for families, and individuals, of modest means who cannot afford to go to the coast and to provide appropriate activities for youngsters during the long school holidays. Throughout the weekend, local rural roads have been busy with combined harvesters, tractors and trailers, all intent on getting the harvest completed before rain, predicted to arrive in a few days. All local examples of God's creation and mankind's privileged involvement in its development.

We know that Jesus wants us to live as he did - but he also promised to be with us, 'to the end of the age', and that the Holy Spirit would support and guide us. The wider world's problems may be beyond our immediate influence but, as we refresh ourselves during this holiday period, let's also reflect on our experience of God's powerful influence in our own lives, and renew our commitment to keeping in touch with him - so that our energies and time can be best used on our return, to fulfil his commandment that we love our neighbour, as we try to make a difference in the area of France to which we have been called.

John

* * * * *



Sunday Club



Sunday Club takes place 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.

Barbara

[Please contact Barbara if you require more information:

Phone 02 51 40 51 59, email: bandrkenyon@orange.fr]

AUGUST into September 2017

CHURCH SERVICES with LECTIONARY READINGS

HC = Holy Communion; WW = Word & Worship
LCA = La Chapelle Achard LCP = La Chapelle Palluau PdS = Puy de Serre
(The Psalm for each week is included to guide your reading at home)

6th August Holy Communion La Chapelle Palluau 11h00 Transfiguration of our Lord
Daniel 7 : 9-10,13-14 2 Peter 1 : 16-19 Luke 9 :28-36 (Psalm 97)

or, if Transfiguration not celebrated :
Genesis 32 :22-31 or Isaiah 55 :1-5 Romans 9 :1-5 Matthew 14 : 13-21
(and either Psalm 17 :1-7, or Psalm 145: 15-21)

13th August Service of the Word Puy de Serre 11h00
Genesis 37 : 1-4, 12-28 Romans 10 :5-15 Matthew 14 : 22-33
plus Psalm 85 : 8-13

20th August Holy Communion La Chapelle Achard 11h00
Genesis 45 :1-15 or Isaiah 56 :1,6-8 Romans 11 :1-2a,29-32
Matthew 15 : (10-20)21-28 (Psalm 67)

27th August Service of the Word Puy de Serre 11h00
Exodus 1 : 8-2 :10 or Isaiah 51 :1-6 Romans 12 :1-6 Matthew 16 :13-20
(Psalm 124 or 138)

3rd September Type of service not yet decided La Chapelle Palluau 11h00
Exodus 3 :1-15 or Jeremiah 15 : 15-21 Romans 12 : 9-21
Matthew 16 :21-28 (Psalm 105 :1-6,23-26,45b or Psalm 26 :1-8)

(If you are reading, please check with the Worship Leader for any last minute changes)

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Please join us ...

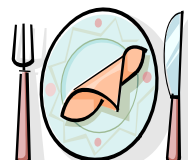
...for **Tea, Coffee & Biscuits** after our services,

followed by a **Bring & Share Lunch**.

Everyone is welcome to join us

- even if you have not brought anything, there is always enough to go round!

Unfortunately, when there is a service on the fifth Sunday in the month, the hall is not always available







Dates for your Diary



August 2017

- 1st
2nd
3rd
4th
5th
6th **Sunday 11.00 HC La Chapelle Palluau**
7th **Monday - Deux-Sèvres Bible Study Group** at the home of Bill and Carole Stocking
(As it is holiday-time, please phone: 05 49 06 05 85)
8th
9th
10th **Thursday 2.30pm Sewing Circle** - Contact Joan Stewart
11th
12th
13th **Sunday 11.00 WW Puy de Serre** 
14th **Monday - Deux-Sèvres Bible Study Group** at the home of Bill and Carole Stocking
(As it is holiday-time, please phone: 05 49 06 05 85)
15th
16th
17th
18th
19th
20th **Sunday 11.00 HC La Chapelle Achard**
21st **Monday - Deux-Sèvres Bible Study Group** at the home of Bill and Carole Stocking
(As it is holiday-time, please phone: 05 49 06 05 85)
22nd
23rd
24th **Thursday 2.30pm Ladies Circle** - Annual lunch and shopping trip - venue tba.
Contact Joan Stewart
25th
26th
27th **Sunday 11.00 WW Puy de Serre**
28th **Monday - Deux-Sèvres Bible Study Group** at the home of Bill and Carole Stocking
(As it is holiday-time, please phone: 05 49 06 05 85)
29th
30th
31st

September 2017

1st	
2nd	
3rd	Sunday 11.00 HC La Chapelle Palluau
4th	Monday - Deux-Sèvres Bible Study Group at the home of Bill and Carole Stocking (Please phone: 05 49 06 05 85)
5th	
6th	Wednesday 7 for 7.30pm Faites le Plein Speaker: Thomas Cauchebrais
7th	Thursday 2.30pm Sewing Circle (Contact Joan Stewart)
8th	
9th	
10th	Sunday 11.00 W&W Puy de Serre 
11th	Monday - Deux-Sèvres Bible Study Group at the home of Bill and Carole Stocking (Please phone: 05 49 06 05 85)
12th	
13th	
14th	
15th	
16th	
17th	Sunday 11.00 HC La Chapelle Achard
18th	Monday - Deux-Sèvres Bible Study Group at the home of Bill and Carole Stocking (Please phone: 05 49 06 05 85)
19th	
20th	Wednesday 10.00 Ministry Team Meeting at The Vicarage
21st	Thursday 2.30pm Ladies Circle - Craft with Jen & Olga (Contact Joan Stewart)
22nd	
23rd	
24th	Sunday 11.00 Puy de Serre
25th	Monday - Deux-Sèvres Bible Study Group at the home of Bill and Carole Stocking (Please phone: 05 49 06 05 85)
26th	
27th	
28th	
29th	
30th	

and looking ahead:

1st October Sunday- Harvest Festival LCP followed by Special Harvest Bring & Share Lunch afterwards.

7th October Saturday - decorating PdS for Harvest

8th October Sunday- Harvest Celebration PdS with Harvest Bring & Share Lunch afterwards.

The **ASV Winter Fete** is booked in St Hilaire de Voust for 18th Nov 2017 with access available on Friday 17th afternoon/evening for set up. For more information, please contact David Martin. davidpat.martin@orange.fr

For dates, times and updates of events,
please consult the Contact Person or the Website Calendar



Notes from your Churchwardens

By the time you read this the closing date for applications for the post of Priest in Charge for The Vendée will have passed. We need to continue to pray there have been people moved by the Holy Spirit to apply. We need to give thanks for the ministry of Tim, Hazel and Martyn over the last nine months, which has meant that we have almost been able to have Communion Services throughout this time.

However, it is important to remember, our inability to offer any form of stipend (salary) leaves us on the ‘back foot’ when trying to attract applicants to The Vendée. That is why everyone needs to prayerfully consider their ‘planned giving’ to All Saints Vendée. This applies not only to those who are resident in France, but also to those who are who are resident in the UK but attend ASV when in France. Remember that all ‘Planned Giving’ is confidential to the Planned Giving Officer and the Treasurer. If we are able to have an increase in our income, then the Church Council could consider offering some form of stipend to our Priest in Charge.

It is also timely to send our ‘good wishes’ to Caroline, as she takes up her new position in the UK.

We wish you a happy and relaxing summer.

Keith and Polly

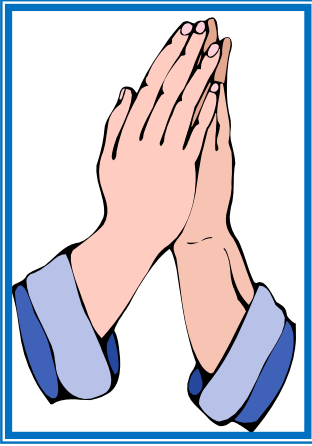


AUGUST FORWARD PLANNING

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.

Responsibility (Organiser)	6th August HC LCP	13th August W&W PdS	20th August HC LCA	27th August W&W PdS
Welcomers (Polly Ward)				
Salle Setup/ Clearing away (Chris Green at PdS)		Condie/ Kent		Kent/ Green
Refreshments after the service (Jenny Wilkinson at PdS)		Dee & Curtis		Jenny & Malcolm
Musicians +/- Organist (Polly Ward)		Stuart		Stuart
Readers (Polly Ward)				

Prayer List



In our prayers this month, we remember:

David and Chris (friends of Richard & Marian)

Ken and Irene

Joëlle and Bernard

Evelyn

Maddy, her parents Barbara and Jo and sister Molly (friends of David & Sally)

and for the recently bereaved:

Anne, Mike and Nolan.

David Pearson



Don't forget.....

if you missed last week's service,
it is possible to read the sermon on line.

Simply go to the website and click on

PREVIOUS SERMONS

It was decided at the AGM that we should include numbers in congregations along with total income and expenditure for the previous month and publish them in the Grapevine ...so, here are the figures for June:



June 2017 Income and Expenditure for All Saints Vendée

The total combined number of congregation present at Puy de Serre, La Chapelle Achard and La Chapelle Palluau throughout the month of June 2017 was

119

The total income, collections and planned giving, amounted to
1224 euros

The total expenditure amounted to
805.73 euros

During the month of June, quiz money of
250 euros
was also credited to the account.

Thank you all for your contributions.

Suzanne Patterson - Treasurer ASV

Deux-Sèvres BIBLE STUDY GROUP



*We are now studying The Acts of the Apostles
We meet each Monday afternoon at 3.00pm at our house
at La Barangerie, La Chapelle Thireuil (79).
Our phone number is 05 49 06 05 85.*

EVERYONE IS WELCOME

Please give us a ring if you would like to join us and we will give you directions to the house if you don't already know where we are.

Carole and Bill Stocking.



Sadly,

There will be no "Faites le Plein !" meeting in August

BUT

You are warmly invited to our next "Faites le Plein !" meeting
on Wednesday 6th September, 2017
from 7pm for refreshments, for a 7.30pm start.

Our Guest Speaker will be Thomas Cauchebrais
who is a journalist with RCF Christian Radio in La-Roche-sur-Yon

"Faites le Plein !" offers a time of sung worship,
an interesting talk from a guest speaker, as well as
an opportunity to gather with other Christians from different backgrounds.

We also offer **Prayer Ministry** to those who feel they would like to receive it.

These meetings are held in La Roche-sur-Yon at
the Maison du Diocèse, 62 rue Maréchal Joffre
(the entrance to this site is opposite the Boulangerie Potier,
through the large gateway, into the car park).

Look out for the "Faites le Plein" signs directing you towards the restaurant.
If you require further information about this meeting or about "Faites le Plein !" in general,
please contact Jan Gordon : jangrdn1@gmail.com

As a newcomer, you'll be made very welcome !

Jan Gordon for the "Faites le Plein !" team



These are YOUR pages.....

Once again, my thanks to all the Contributors of notices and articles for this month's "Grapevine" so, read on, and see what you can discover.

Your comments will be much appreciated.



You will discover:

Messages and Notices received from friends of ASV, including:

**"Who am I?" from Revd Gareth, and
Photos of recent events**



Sunday Club



The Sunday Club children celebrated the start of their summer "vacances" with lots of party food (most of which they made themselves) and games like pick-up-the-apples-from-a-bowl-of-water, New-Testament-memory-cup-building and pass-the-parcel.

A good time was had by all. God Bless. Jenny

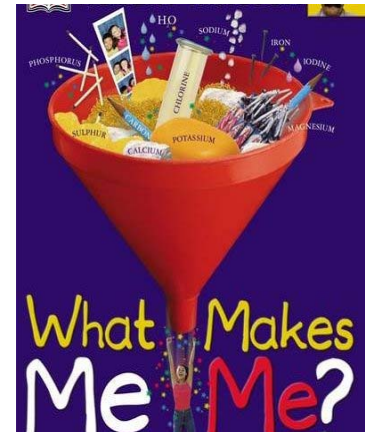


This photo was taken at the Vide Grenier which raised funds for ASV.

(Thanks to Jacqui, the local photographer at Thiré)

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Who am I ?



'Who am I ?'

Do you ever wonder who you are ? Do you ever ask yourself: 'Where do I come from ? What makes me me ? What really defines the sort of person I am ?'

Well, in the 350 odd words that usually make up my regular my contributions to the ASV monthly magazine, I doubt if I could even scratch the surface of such a profound question. But it would be good, if you, like me, like spending a little quality time reflecting and these few paragraphs, these few brief words, could encourage one train of thought.

My name is Gareth. My mum was from the Rhondda Valley, the eldest daughter of a Welsh miner, who came to work in service in London. Having a Welsh name, growing up in London in the Fifties, did set me apart. With first Gareth Edwards, then Gareth Bale, the name Gareth is now not that unusual. But the good news back then was it did enable me to sit a closed Welsh scholarship for an Oxford College to read English but, sad-to-say, as a young Christian, Jesus rejected me !

But if not my name, then one word I use in the privacy of my own kitchen sets me apart from other English speakers with whom I mix – the way I pronounce the word 'saucepan'. I had no idea that I was saying it differently till someone in my congregation was kind enough to point it out. I was simply imitating the way my mum used to say it at home. And, if you are familiar with Welsh folk speaking English, then you'll know exactly what I mean. Well, it does make me smile and tells me where my roots are.

So what makes you who you are and are you confident enough to write it up for Jacqui to share ?

Gareth Randall,

Priest-in-charge,

St Bartholomew's Dinard



Do you **pay** French **taxes**?



If so, did you know that for every 100 euros that you give to our Church the taxman will reduce your tax bill by 60 euros thus a 100 euro donation will only cost you 40 euros (and you will be able to increase your donation!!!)

You simply need to make your donation in a recordable manner. You can put your donation in numbered envelopes in the collection box, set up a standing order (virement) or send money to the planned giving officer (Mike Mylod) giving your name and address. At the end of the year your contributions will be totted up and a certificate issued. You enter this amount on your tax return (no need to send proof, just keep your certificate in case you are asked for it) and the taxman will reduce your tax bill by a figure equal to 60% of your donations.

Donations to the vicarage renovation can also qualify for tax relief if made through ASV.

Start Planned Giving now.....

.....and let the taxman help our Church!

Contact..... Mike Mylod 02 51 51 07 36 (joseph.mylod@wanadoo.fr)
or..... Colin Grimshaw 02 51 98 67 91 (colingrimshaw@orange.fr).....

.....to find out how easy it is!!!



For more details and updates of all Church events, please visit the ASV website where you can also view the Photo Gallery, Sermons you may have missed, Church Notices and Minutes and Reports of meetings.

www.allsaintsvendee.fr

To view the newsletter of DIET – "Diocese in Europe Times" click here:
<http://europe.anglican.org/resources/diet-newsletter>



I hope you have enjoyed this edition of "Grapevine".
My thanks to all the Contributors and
I look forward to hearing from you next time

Please send your contributions and comments to:
Jacqui at: **sjfamily66@hotmail.com**
[before 15th August](#)



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