CHAPLAINCY OF MARSEILLE, AIX EN PROVENCE AND THE LUBERON

FEBRUARY NEWSLETTER 2019



Water into wine – John 2:1-11.

Greetings everyone

We thought we ought to bring you all up to date with decisions made by the Chaplaincy Council at their meeting on 20th January. It was a harmonious meeting and good to have Church Warden Amanda with us after her prolonged stay in England caring for her poorly mother.

Here are some things that were noted or agreed.

- The Archdeacon has agreed that a new chaplain should be sought and hopefully be in post by September 2019, probably on a "house for duty" basis.
- The present interim chaplains Revs Stephen and Sue Goodwin have agreed to stay until the end of July 2019 (Brexit permitting).
- Both Church Wardens Amanda and Janet, and the Treasurer Michael are stepping down. They have done sterling work in keeping the Chaplaincy going through various inter-regna. We pray that suitable candidates will be prepared to step up to these roles.
- Our accounts are probably better than had been anticipated in the budget for 2018. These will be presented at the Council meeting on 17th February.
- The Council agreed to rotate the venues for their meetings so that one meeting each year would be held in the Luberon and one in Aix-en-Provence.
- A new Electoral Roll has to be compiled this year and application forms will be available in the next couple of weeks with additional information on them about what it means to be on the Roll. Completed forms need to be in by 10th March.
- Roxana will be ordained deacon this summer and the PCC are updating the Task List especially as Roxana does so much behind the scenes (as do many others). So we will be looking for volunteers to fill the gaps!
- It was agreed that we need to review our mission with seafarers and how we may support them, especially in light of the changing way modern cruise liners work today.
- It was agreed to buy 20 pew Bibles (English language NIV) for All Saints and Rev John Smith offered to source funding for this.
- Easter Sunday is on 21 April this year and it was suggested that the Aix and Luberon congregations be asked to join with All Saints at Marseille on that Sunday. Details later.
- A BBQ in the Luberon is proposed for Sunday 12th May in order to raise funds for the Chaplaincy. Tickets will be on sale in due course.

As you can see there is a lot for which to be thankful and much to pray for. We thank God that He is faithful and we ask Him to increase our faith to cope with the challenges ahead of us all.

Here is a precis of the various services coming up in February through to the beginning of Lent.

Sunday 3rd February – Candlemas – Presentation of Christ in the Temple.

10.00: Holy Communion at All Saints Marseille

Sunday 10thFebruary –4thSunday before Lent

10.00: Holy Communion at All Saints Marseille

10.30: Holy Communion at Oppede RC church

Sunday 17th February – 3rd Sunday before Lent

10.00: Holy Communion at All Saints Marseille

11.30: Chaplaincy Council Meeting.

Sunday 24thFebruary – 2ndSunday before Lent

10.00: Holy Communion at All Saints Marseille

11.00: Holy Communion at The Oratory, Aix-en-Provence Cathedral

Sunday 3rd March – The Sunday next before Lent

10.00: Holy Communion at All Saints Marseille

Ash Wednesday 6th March – The beginning of Lent.

19.30 Holy Communion with the Imposition of Ashes at All Saints Marseille.

Sunday 10th March – 1stSunday of Lent.

10.00: Holy Baptism & Communion at All Saints Marseille

10.30: Holy Communion at Oppede RC church.

During Lent Rev Sue will be writing a Lenten Reflection each week. If you want to receive it online please let her know. It will go on the chaplaincy website and Facebook page anyway.

As you pray for one another, for our three congregations and for our clergy and readers, please also pray for the Church Council as they prepare material for advertising for a new chaplain and for our Annual Chaplaincy Meeting on 7th April. Pray for new church wardens and a treasurer. Please pray for the UK Parliament as the Brexit deadline draws near and for negotiations between the Gilets Jaunes and the French Government. Also pray for those enquiring about Baptism and for the calling of a new chaplain to Marseille. Pray too for Roxana as she comes to the last 6 months of her training before ordination. Please pray for our relationship with the Seafarers Club, those who volunteer and their support of us.

With our love and prayers for you all

Stephen and Sue

Revs Sue and Stephen Goodwin can be contacted by phone on 0767098771. Or by email on <u>goodwinstephen22@googlemail.com</u> or <u>revsueg@gmail.com</u>

REMINDER: Don't forget to fill in an Electoral Roll form so you can have your say in the future of the chaplaincy.







CHAPLAINCY OF MARSEILLE, AIX EN PROVENCE AND THE LUBERON

LENT NEWSLETTER MARCH 2019

Greetings everyone

On 6th March, Ash Wednesday, we enter the penitential season of Lent and we begin the journey towards Holy Week and Easter (21st April). We mark the start with a special service, a solemn Eucharist with the imposition of ashes. The Common Worship Prayer Book says this about Lent.

"Lent may originally have followed Epiphany, just as Jesus' sojourn in the wilderness followed immediately on his baptism, but it soon became firmly attached to Easter, as the principal occasion for baptism and for the reconciliation of those who had been excluded from the Church's fellowship for apostasy or serious faults. This history explains the characteristic notes of Lent – self-examination, penitence, self-denial, study, and preparation for Easter, to which almsgiving has traditionally been added.

Now is the healing time decreed for sins of heart and word and deed, when we in humble fear record the wrong that we have done the Lord. (Latin, before 12th century)

As the candidates for baptism were instructed in Christian faith, and as penitents prepared themselves, through fasting and penance, to be readmitted to communion, the whole Christian community was invited to join them in the process of study and repentance, the extension of which over forty days would remind them of the forty days that Jesus spent in the wilderness, being tested by Satan."

Traditionally people have been encouraged to give something up for Lent perhaps abstaining from rich food or alcohol the practice of self-denial being good for the soul as well as the body!? In more recent times people have been encouraged to do something positive such as a daily act of kindness. This year the Archbishop of Canterbury has invited us to give up cynicism for Lent! However you choose to observe Lent I would suggest setting aside more time to read your bible and pray. We will be writing weekly reflections on the Cross during Lent which will go on our church website and our Facebook page. Copies will be available in church too but if you would like an email copy please let us know.

At the beginning of April we have our Chaplaincy AGM, which is particularly important this year. Not only is this when we appoint a new Chaplaincy Council, but this year both churchwardens and our Treasurer are all stepping down to focus on their families and work. All three, Amanda, Janet and Michael, have served the chaplaincy well and will be hard to replace. An outline of the duties of Chaplaincy Council members, Churchwardens and Treasurer are given below. Do have a look and see if God may be calling you to any of those tasks, through which you can serve – and have a say in – the life of the chaplaincy. If you would like to serve in any of these capacities, please tell Amanda (Warden) on <u>amanda.haste@sfr.fr</u> or Revd. Sue Goodwin <u>revsueg@gmail.com</u> as soon as possible, so your name can be included on the list to be circulated in advance of the AGM.





ELECTORAL ROLL

We have been making a new Electoral Roll and to have a say in the ministry and mission of the Chaplaincy you need to be on the roll. The deadline for signing up is Sunday 10th March so please grab a form and fill it in and return it to church or a Chaplain as soon as possible. Thank you.

WHAT CAN YOU OFFER THE CHAPLAINCY?

Our congregations are full of many gifted people with a multitude of life skills and professional expertise. We all have something to offer, whether it is a gift for flower arranging, experience in management, running our own business, or hosting social events. Please do consider taking on one of these roles.

The **Chaplaincy Council** meets 4-6 times a year, after a Sunday service, and discusses and makes decisions about chaplaincy life. The CC recently resolved to rotate the meetings around the congregations, with at least one meeting a year to be held in Aix and another in the Luberon. The CC comprises Wardens, Secretary, Treasurer, Safeguarding Officer, Aix Representative, Luberon Representative and Archdeaconry Synod Reps, as well as other lay congregation members who each contribute in their own way.

Essential requirements: A firm commitment to attend meetings, ability to speak and understand English well enough to participate in the discussion and voting, a willingness to further and nourish the life of our three congregations.

The **Churchwardens** are essential to the functioning of the chaplaincy, and are answerable not to the chaplain but to the Bishop of Gibraltar (Diocese in Europe) through his intermediary the Archdeacon of France. They are thus considered the leading lay members of the congregation, and are responsible for the day-to-day functioning of the whole chaplaincy, not just the maintenance of buildings, contents, contracts for usage of other worship venues, insurances, clergy accommodation etc, but also ensuring the smooth running of the church services, events, personnel etc. A general description of their duties can be found at <u>http://www.churchwardens.com/duties.html</u>, while terms specific to the Diocese in Europe are given at <u>https://europe.anglican.org/diocesan-policies-and-guidelines/the-lay-officers-of-the-church</u>

Please note that Churchwardens, while having the responsibility for the good functioning of the Chaplaincy, can delegate many of the tasks to others in the Chaplaincy.

Essential requirements: Faith, management skills, people skills, energy, willingness to work as part of a team, ability to communicate well in both French and English.

The **Treasurer** is of course responsible for the chaplaincy finances, including banking cash and cheques, paying bills, ensuring insurances etc are in place, accounting, filing returns to Diocese, providing regular financial reports to Chaplaincy Council.

Essential requirements: Secure grasp of financial matters, accounting practices, French law regarding associations cultuelles, tax requirements etc. And of course honesty!

NB The outgoing officers will be available to support their successors during the transition period.





Here are the services coming up in March and April:

Ash Wednesday 6th March

19.30 Holy Communion with the Imposition of Ashes at All Saints.

Sunday 10thMarch – The First Sunday of Lent. Electoral Roll Forms in by today please.

10.00: Holy Baptism of Akila Elisabeth Saint-Fleur-Felicin with Holy Communion at All Saints Marseille

10.30: Holy Communion at Oppede RC church

Sunday 17th March – The Second Sunday of Lent.

10.00: Holy Communion at All Saints Marseille

11.30: PCC Meeting in church.

Sunday 24thMarch – The Third Sunday of Lent.

10.00: Holy Communion at All Saints Marseille

11.00: Holy Communion at The Oratory, Aix-en-Provence Cathedral.

Sunday 31st March – Mothering Sunday – The Fourth Sunday of Lent.

10.00: Holy Communion at All Saints Marseille.

Sunday 7th April – The Fifth Sunday of Lent – Passion Sunday

10.00: Holy Communion at All Saints.

11.30 Annual General Meeting of the Marseille Chaplaincy – Everybody Welcome.

Sunday 14th April – Palm Sunday – the beginning of Holy Week.

10.00: Holy Communion at All Saints.

10.30: Holy Communion at Oppede RC church.

Thursday 18th April – Maundy Thursday

7.30pm Holy Communion of the Last Supper at All Saints.

Friday 19th April – Good Friday

12.00-15.00 The Church in Marseille will be open for quiet reflection and at

14.00-15.00: Meditation on the Last Hour at the Cross at All Saints.

Saturday 20th April – Holy Saturday

4pm Easter Eucharist at The Oratory, Aix-en-Provence Cathedral.

Sunday 21st April – Easter Day

10.00: Sung Eucharist at All Saints.

12 noon Ecumenical Easter Service outside the Cathedral at Aix-en-Provence.

Sunday 28th April – The Second Sunday of Easter.

10.00: Holy Communion at All Saints.

11.00: Holy Communion at The Oratory, Aix-en-Provence Cathedral (To be confirmed.)





Social Events coming up:

27th April : Concert in All Saints (details to follow).

12th May : BBQ in Oppede.

FOR YOUR PRAYERS

Please pray for our three congregations and for our clergy and readers, please also pray for willing candidates to step forward for our Chaplaincy Council and for our church officers.

Also pray for the search for a new Chaplain. It is now being advertised and we hope to interview candidates in May for appointment in September. The post is now a House for Duty post and so may be more difficult to fill so if you know of any recently retired French-speaking clergy you might encourage them to apply!!

Please pray for the Brexit votes in the UK Parliament this month and for all the EU nations.

Stephen and Sue

Revs Sue and Stephen Goodwin can be contacted by phone on 0767098771. Or by email on <u>goodwinstephen22@googlemail.com</u> or <u>revsueg@gmail.com</u>







CHAPLAINCY OF MARSEILLE, AIX EN PROVENCE AND THE LUBERON

EASTER-TIDE NEWSLETTER MAY 2019

Alleluia Christ is risen

He is risen Indeed Alleluia!

Greetings everyone, don't you just love the Easter greeting!

We trust that you all had a joyous Easter, whether here in Marseille, Aix or the Luberon or away with family or friends. After the austerity of Lent it was so good to be able to celebrate the joy of the resurrection and it was especially good this year to be able to offer services on Easter Day at All Saints church in Marseille, in the Oratory in Aix and at the RC church in Oppede. Thank you to the Rev David Pickering and Christine Portman and to the Rev John Smith for making this possible.

Before Easter, on 7th April we prayed for Florine Clomegah-Freitas before she left to work in Uganda under the auspices of the UNHCR co-ordinating refugee work. Please remember her in your prayers.

We had a positive Annual Chaplaincy meeting on Passion Sunday. Three Council members retired so we were pleased to elect four new members to the Chaplaincy Council Craig Faulds, Garry Quarmby, Gaston Roumieu and Gabriele Skelton. Both Amanda Haste and Janet Dodd have stepped down as Wardens and Jane Quarmby was elected as Chaplaincy Warden with her husband Garry taking over as Treasurer from Michael Hilton. Our sincere thanks to all those who have retired as Officers or Council members. Please pray for the new team as they settle in to their new roles.

We enjoyed a lovely concert on Saturday 28th April from "Concert en Trio" with Valérie Fragassi singing, Sabine Pizzicoli on the piano and Nicole Mison on the oboe who entertained us with a varied programme including Vivaldi, Bach, Strauss and Villalobos.

The Rev Sue Goodwin celebrated 25 years as a priest at the service on 28th April and it was lovely to share fellowship with friends after the service. Sue was among the first cohort of women to be ordained priest in the Church of England after the legislation had been passed by the General Synod in November 1992.

There are lots of good things coming up in the next few weeks and we hope to see you at some of them! On 12th May following the service at Oppede there is the Chaplaincy Picnic in the Rev John Smith's garden, near the church. If you are able to come please let Christopher Morgan know by emailing him on sansat1938@gmail.com

Some of you will know Mary Leone who has been worshipping with us at All Saints and Aix for a while. Mary has her final art exhibition at Aix in the Galerie Esdac 2 rue Irma Moreau from 13th-17thMay. Opening times: Monday to Friday 15h-18h, Tuesday and Thursday 10h – 13h, evening showing Tuesday at 18.00 -20.30. You might like to drop in and take a look if you are nearby. Mary and Rob's last Sunday with us will be on the 19th May then they head home to the USA for their wedding in August.





Archdeaconry Synod is being held in Lyon from 16th-18th May and our two Deanery Reps. Anne Roumieu and Helen Brooking will be attending together with ourselves (the Revs Stephen and Sue Goodwin).

The interviews for a new Chaplain are due to be held on 23rd-24th May so please keep that in your prayers too.

On Sunday 26th May the Rev Patrick Cassidy will be preaching and presiding at All Saints, Marseille ably assisted by one of our Readers, Jane Quarmby while the Rev David Pickering and Reader Christine Portman will be at Aix as usual.

On Ascension Day, Thursday 30th May there is the Deanery Communion and Picnic to which we are all invited. It is held in Peter Massey's home which is just outside Lorgues where he is the chaplain. Bishop Robert will preside and preach at the Communion. We do not have full details yet but we usually gather at around 11am for coffee. The Service is held in the garden followed by a Bring and Share lunch. We do hope some will make the journey to join the celebrations for the Feast of the Ascension.

The next Chaplaincy Council meeting is on 2nd June after the morning service at All Saints, Marseille when we might know if we have a new chaplain. So we do hope for a good attendance as the new Council settles in and prays and plans for the future.

Pentecost is on the 9th June and there will be Services at All Saints and Oppede that day as we celebrate the birthday of the church!

On 30th June we are looking forward to ordination of Roxana Teleman as a deacon at the pro Cathedral, Holy Trinity, Brussels. She will be curate in Nice and be ordained priest next year. Roxana has been a stalwart of the Chaplaincy for many years and will be greatly missed. Some of us are hoping to be there in person to support her but we also want to give her something to bless her as she goes forward in her journey of faith. We are hoping to compile a Chaplaincy Recipe Book full of our favourite recipes. If you would like to contribute to this please email Elisabeth Bernasconi with your recipe, a photo of the dish and of yourself if possible as soon as you can. Elisabeth's email is PALMIETO@aol.com

Here are the new contact details for you:

Interim Chaplains: Revs Stephen and Sue Goodwin Tel: 0767098771 or email: <u>goodwinstephen22@googlemail.com</u> or <u>revsueg@gmail.com</u> (here until the end of July).

Chaplaincy Warden: Jane Quarmby Tel: 00 44 771 4064141 email: <u>janequarmby0430@gmail.com</u> Chaplaincy Secretary: Tim Haste Tel: 04 86 56 44 35 email: <u>tim.haste@wanadoo.fr</u> Chaplaincy Treasurer: Garry Quarmby email: <u>garryjq@icloud.com</u>

Here are the services coming up in May:

Sunday 5th May- Third Sunday of Easter. 10.00 Holy Communion at All Saints, Marseille

Sunday 12th May – Fourth Sunday of Easter. 10.00 Holy Communion at All Saints, Marseille 10.30 Holy Communion at Oppede followed by 12 noon Chaplaincy Picnic.

Sunday 19th May – Fifth Sunday of Easter.

10.00 Holy Communion at All Saints, Marseille

Sunday 26th May – Sixth Sunday of Easter (Rogation Sunday).

10.00 Holy Communion at All Saints, Marseille 11.00 Holy Communion at the Oratory, Aix-en-Provence RC Cathedral.





Ascension Day – Thursday 30th May

11.00 for 12.00 Deanery Eucharist and Bring and Share Picnic with Bishop Robert at Lorgues.

Sunday 2nd June - Seventh Sunday of Easter.

10.00 Holy Communion at All Saints, Marseille followed by Chaplaincy Council Meeting.

Sunday 9th June – Pentecost / Whit Sunday.

10.00 Holy Communion at All Saints, Marseille.10.30 Morning Service with Holy Communion at Oppede.





Here is the Task List that Jane Quarmby is looking for volunteers to help her fulfil all the jobs around the Chaplaincy. Please let her know if you are willing to help in any way.

CHAPLAINCY TASK LIST April 2019

| TASK | ALL SAINTS MARSEILLE | AIX | LUBERON |
|--|----------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| Calendar of Worship | Chaplain | Chaplain | Chaplain |
| Rota of Ministry Team | Chaplain | Chaplain | Chaplain |
| Weekly Service sheet | Chaplain | David/Christine | Christopher/Duncan |
| (readings, hymns etc) | | | |
| Altar linen and laundering | | | |
| Purchasing of wine and wafers, candles etc | Garry | Garry | Garry |
| Flowers | | | |
| Hospitality | | | |
| Welcome and opening up | | | |
| Liaison with landlord | Not applicable | | |
| Repairs and maintenance | Jane/Gaston | Not applicable | Not applicable |
| Church cleaning | | Not applicable? | Not applicable? |
| Signage for services | | | |
| Fundraising | | | |
| Events oversight | Jane | Jane | Jane |
| Diocesan reports | Secretary | Secretary | Secretary |
| Mission statistics return | Secretary | Secretary | Secretary |
| Chaplaincy Annual Report | Jane with input from CC | Jane with input from CC | Jane with input from CC |
| Meeting minutes | Secretary | Secretary | Secretary |
| Website | | | |
| Newsletter | | | |
| Facebook | | | |
| Publicity | | | |
| Liaison with other churches | | | |
| Church histories | | Not applicable | Not applicable |
| Collections | Robin/Garry | ?/Garry | ?/Garry |
| Seaman's log | | Not applicable | Not applicable |
| Seaman's Mission grant | | | |
| application | | | |
| Pledged giving | | | |
| Electoral Roll | | | |
| Applications for grants | | | |
| European Anglican receive and distribute | | | |

CHAPLAINCY OF MARSEILLE, AIX EN PROVENCE AND THE LUBERON

NEWSLETTER JULY2019

Dear Friends, Greetings in the name of the Lord,

It's official, we have a new Chaplain, the Rev. Jamie Johnston. (See info about him



at the end of this newsletter). We are delighted with this appointment and Jamie will begin his ministry here on 8thSeptember. We have more good news to report in this, our last newsletter. Thank you for making us welcome and putting up with us for the last 10 months. It has been a privilege to serve this Chaplaincy and to get to know so many of you. It has been good to enjoy France's second city, Marseille and explore Provence. A special "thank you" to Jane and Garry Quarmby who provided us with a place to "be" while here and have definitely made a second home for Ella, our dog.

The Rev Jamie Johnston with Chaplaincy Warden, Mrs Jane Quarmby.

On Sunday 16th June Emmanuel Antwi was baptised. Many of his family were there at that weekend as there was also a family wedding. Please keep him in your prayers as he continues his journey of faith.

On 23rd June we said goodbye to Roxana Teleman prior to her ordination. She was presented with a beautiful recipe book with contributions from many of the

chaplaincy. (Thank you to Elizabeth and her grand-daughter for producing it). We also gave Roxana two stoles, one red and one green. We shared bubbly and cake together and it was a happy/sad occasion.

On 30th June many of us were able to witness the ordination of Roxana as a deacon at the pro Cathedral, Holy Trinity, Brussels. She now begins her curacy in the



Nice Chaplaincy and our love and prayers go with her.



Roxana with her family.



The new deacons with Bishop Robert and all the clergy

Thank you to all who responded to the Charity Appeal for old bras. We collected 39 which will be sent off to Africa to help protect women against rape. If you still have some to give please let Jane Quarmby know.

Here are the Chaplaincy contact details for you:

Interim Chaplains: Revs Stephen and Sue Goodwin Tel: 07 67 09 87 71 or email: <u>goodwinstephen22@googlemail.com</u> or <u>revsueg@gmail.com</u> (until 28th July).

Chaplaincy Warden: Jane Quarmby Tel: 00 44 7714 064141 email: <u>janequarmby0430@gmail.com</u> Chaplaincy Secretary: Tim Haste Tel: 04 86 56 44 35 email: <u>tim.haste@wanadoo.fr</u> Chaplaincy Treasurer: Garry Quarmby email: <u>garryjq@icloud.com</u> Safeguarding Officer, Christine Portman Tel. 0490 74 68 55 or 06 35 96 16 16, or email <u>pickport@gmail.com</u>

New Chaplaincy email address: anglican.marseille@gmail.com

Here are the Services through till the end of August.

Sunday 14th July – Fourth Sunday after Trinity (Sea Sunday / la Fête Nationale / Bastille Day).

10.00 Holy Communion at All Saints, Marseille. Guest speaker Gaston Roumieu. 10.30 Holy Communion at the RC Church in Oppede.

Sunday 21st July - Fifth Sunday after Trinity.

10.00 Holy Communion at All Saints, Marseille.

Sunday 28th July – Sixth Sunday after Trinity.

10.00 Holy Communion at All Saints, Marseille, Farewell to the Goodwins. (No Service in Aix today as they will be joining us at All Saints.)

Sunday 4th August – Seventh Sunday after Trinity.

10.00 Holy Communion at All Saints, Marseille.

Sunday 11th August – Eighth Sunday after Trinity.

10.00 Holy Communion at All Saints, Marseille 10.30 Holy Communion at the RC church in Oppede.

Sunday 18th August - Ninth Sunday after Trinity.

10.00 Morning Prayer at All Saints, Marseille.

Sunday 25th August – Tenth Sunday after Trinity.

10.00 Holy Communion at All Saints, Marseille. (No Service at the Oratory, Aix-en-Provence today.)

Sunday 1st September – Eleventh Sunday after Trinity.

10.00 Holy Communion at All Saints, Marseille

May you all know the provision and peace of Christ as you enter this new chapter of ministry in the Marseille Chaplaincy. With our continued love and prayers. <u>Stephen and Sue Goodwin.</u>

The Revd Jamie Johnston



Jamie was born in Kent and later moved to Salisbury in Wiltshire, where he attended the cathedral and developed a love of Anglican worship and choral music.

After studying modern languages at Oxford, he trained as a solicitor and worked for law firms in London and Paris, followed by a year with the European Court of Human Rights in Strasbourg. On returning to London he spent the next twenty years advising on wills and probate, particularly assisting clients who had family in both France and the UK. He is a fluent French speaker.

As a grandson and great-grandson of Anglican clergy, the church has always been part of his life, in city and rural parishes. In 1998 he joined the congregation of St Martin-in-the-Fields when they were embarking on a project to restore and develop their buildings. The impact of his involvement with St Martin's, including its outreach to homeless and vulnerable people and its care for those struggling with the pressures of 21st century city life, resulted in Jamie responding to a long-sensed call to ordination. He studied theology at St Mellitus College in London and was ordained in 2016, at which point he retired from legal work to take up a curacy at St Matthew's Westminster and St Mary le Strand.

Since studying French at university Jamie has spent most of his spare time in France. He is delighted to be joining the chaplaincy and is looking forward to getting to know the congregations.

Away from church Jamie does some freelance legal translation. He is a keen musician, plays the piano and organ and gets to concerts whenever he can. He also enjoys walking and is looking forward to exploring the coastline on foot.





CHAPLAINCY OF MARSEILLE, AIX EN PROVENCE AND THE LUBERON

NEWSLETTER AUGUST 2019

Dear Friends, Greetings in the name of the Lord.

At the end of July the Reverends Sue and Steve Goodwin, our long term locums, celebrated their last service with us at All Saints, Marseille. We said farewell with very many thanks for their sterling service over the last 10 months, and with the presentation of some gifts, followed by a very convivial bring and share lunch. Ella the labrador came too and shared in the lunch. They have now returned briefly to England before a planned holiday in France with friends and then they are looking forward to what the Lord has in store for them next.

Sue sent this message of thanks "Thank you to all the Marseille, Aix and Luberon Chaplaincy for the wonderful farewell that we had from All Saints last Sunday. We are delighted with the gifts and shall enjoy using them and drinking them! We had a good journey back to England with a very full car? It is cooler and wetter here of course but it is good to catch up with family and friends after 10 months in Provence. We shall continue to keep you all in our prayers as you prepare to welcome your new chaplain in September.



With our love and gratitude Sue, Steve and Ella."

Now we are looking forward to the arrival of our new permanent chaplain, the Reverend Jamie Johnston on the 8th September. He will be visiting all three of our congregations in September to meet everyone. His formal licensing will take place on Sunday the 29th September at All Saints church, Marseille and all are warmly invited. Archdeacon Meurig Williams will be conducting the service.





If anyone can help with the search for a 2 bedroom flat with parking as near as possible to All Saints for Jamie please let Jane or Gaston know.



Autumn Clean Up

In order that the church looks its very best for our new chaplain's licensing service, Jane Quarmby is organising a cleaning session on the Saturday 21st September. We'll start at 10.30 am and the more of us there are, the sooner we will finish! Please let her know if you can help.

Safeguarding

There is now a requirement for the details of every chaplaincy's and parish's safeguarding officers' contact details to be on the front page of their website. So now Christine's details are there on our website and if you need her, she will be easier to find.

Charity Appeal

Many thanks to those of you who have donated undies to the appeal – we sent off 59 bras in the end. The charity concerned is called "Smalls for All" and is based in Edinburgh, reducing the risk of violence to women and girls in Africa by allowing them to dress appropriately.

Christmas Fair

Helen Brooking is kindly organising this on the 30th November – all offers of help to Helen please (brooking.helen@orange.fr). More details to follow.

Planned Giving

Our chaplaincy, like all in the Diocese of Europe is entirely self funding – we provide the finance for the running of the churches, the stipends of incumbents, all expenses plus a contribution to the Diocese itself. None of which is cheap! We are therefore asking everyone to consider committing to a regular monthly, quarterly or annual direct debit payment so that we can have more visibility of our income. On the plus side, 66% of all donations by cheque or bankers order from French tax payers can be deducted from your taxes, up to a ceiling of 20% of your taxable income. Further details from our Treasurer Garry Quarmby (garryjq@icloud.com).





Guest Speaker in the Luberon

On October 13th Rev Doctor Marcus Braybrooke will be the guest speaker at the service at the Sacré Coeur church in Oppede. He is a well known priest, interfaith activist and author. All are welcome – service starts at 10.30.

Calling All Knitters

Our Mission to Seafarers needs woolly hats – Gaston Roumieu will be glad to hear from anyone who can knit some hats.

Dates for your Diary

Sunday 25th August - 10th Sunday after Trinity

10.00 am Holy Communion at All Saints Marseille

Sunday 1st September – 11th Sunday after Trinity

10.00 am Holy Communion at All Saints Marseille

Sunday 8th September – 12th Sunday after Trinity

10.00 am Holy Communion at All Saints Marseille

10.30 am Holy Communion at Sacré Coeur church in Oppede (led by Rev Johnston)

Sunday 15th September – 13th Sunday after Trinity

10.00 am Holy Communion at All Saints Marseille

Sunday 22nd September – 14th Sunday after Trinity

10.00 am Holy Communion at All Saints Marseille

11.00 am Holy Communion at the Oratoire, Aix en Provence

Sunday 29th September 15th Sunday after Trinity

10.00 Holy Communion and licensing of Rev Jamie Johnston at All Saints, Marseille, led by Archdeacon Meurig Williams.

Sunday 20th October – Chaplaincy Council meeting at All Saints Marseille after the service.

Saturday November 30th – Christmas Fair at All Saints Marseille.





CHAPLAINCY OF MARSEILLE, AIX-EN-PROVENCE AND THE LUBERON NEWSLETTER SEPTEMBER 2019

Dear Friends, Greetings in the name of the Lord.



Well at last we have our new Chaplain! A very warm welcome to the Revd Jamie Johnston who joined us on the 8th September and is busy getting to know all three congregations. We ask for God's blessing on his ministry amongst us.

Jamie can be contacted on the chaplaincy e mail, <u>anglican.marseille@gmail.com</u>. A new chaplaincy telephone number will shortly be available. Meanwhile, in an emergency, please contact Jane Quarmby on +44 7714 064141 who will pass on messages.

Jamie's licensing will be held at All Saints Church, 4 Rue de Belloi, Marseille at 10.00 a.m. on Sunday 29 September and all are welcome to attend this. The service of Holy Communion will be taken by our Archdeacon, Meurig Williams, and during the service members of the congregation will present Jamie with symbols of his ministry amongst us – water for baptism, oil for healing, a Bible, a stole, bread and wine, music, ministry with young people, the local community, and ecumenism.We will be serving drinks and nibbles afterwards for all – if anyone can help with this by providing food or drinks please let Jane Quarmby know by the 25th September (janequarmby0430@gmail.com).If you'd like to join Jamie for lunch afterwards at a local restaurant then please let Jane know - again by 25th September - so that we know the number for booking.

In order that the church looks its very best for our new chaplain's licensing service, Jane is organising a cleaning session on the Saturday 28th September. We'll start at 2 p.m. and the more of us there are, the sooner we will finish! Please let her know if you can help.

Journées du Patrimoine

All Saints Church will be open for this on 21st and 22nd September. If anyone can give an hour or so from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. on either date please let Gaston Roumieu know (roumieu2@gmail.com).





Christmas Fair

Helen Brooking is kindly organising this on the 30th November – all offers of help to Helen please. More details to follow.

Planned Giving

Our chaplaincy, like all in the Diocese of Europe, is entirely self funding – chaplaincies provide the finance for the running of the churches, any stipends and housing of incumbents, all expenses plus a contribution to the Diocese itself. None of which is cheap! We are therefore asking everyone to consider committing to a regular monthly, quarterly or annual direct debit payment so that we can have more visibility of our income. On the plus side, 66% of all donations by cheque or bankers order from French taxpayers can be deducted from your taxes, up to a ceiling of 20% of your taxable income. Further details from our Treasurer Garry Quarmby (garryjq@icloud.com).

Guest Speaker in the Luberon

On October 13ththe Revd Dr Marcus Braybrooke will be the guest preacher at the service at the Sacré Coeur church in Oppède. He is a well known priest, interfaith activist and author. All are welcome – the service starts at 10.30.

Calling All Knitters

Our Mission to Seafarers needs woolly hats – Gaston Roumieu will be glad to hear from anyone who can knit some hats.

Dates for your Diary

Sunday 29th September 15th Sunday after Trinity

10.00 Holy Communion and licensing of the Revd Jamie Johnston at All Saints Marseille, led by Archdeacon Meurig Williams

Sunday 6th October- 16th Sunday after Trinity

10.00 am Harvest Holy Communion at All Saints Marseille led by the Revd Jamie Johnston *Sunday 13th October– 17th Sunday after Trinity*

10.00 am Holy Communion at All Saints Marseille led by the Revd Jamie Johnston

10.30 am Holy Communion at Sacré Coeur church in Oppède led by the Revd John Smith with guest preacher Dr Marcus Braybrooke

Sunday 20th October – 18thSunday after Trinity

10.00 am Holy Communion at All Saints Marseille led by the Revd Jamie Johnston

Chaplaincy Council meeting afterwards – please let Jane and Jamie have any agenda items by the 13th October.

Sunday 27ndOctober – last Sunday after Trinity

10.00 am Holy Communion at All Saints Marseille led by the Revd Jamie Johnston11. 00 am Harvest Holy Communion at the Oratoire, Aix-en-Provence led by Canon David Pickering

The next newsletter will be written by our new chaplain. Thanks to all of you for your help through the summer. Jane Quarmby, Churchwarden





ANGLICAN CHAPLAINCY OF MARSEILLE, AIX-EN-PROVENCE AND THE LUBERON

NEWSLETTER OCTOBER 2019

It is hard to believe it is nearly a month since I was licensed as your Chaplain – the time seems to have gone extremely quickly! But Sunday, 29th September was a very happy occasion when Archdeacon Meurig Williams came to conduct the service and preach at All Saints. Representatives of the three congregations were present, along with guests from further away. We celebrated afterwards with generous quantities of wine and food provided by members of the congregation, organised by Garry and Jane Quarmby. Some of us then moved to a local restaurant to continue the conversations that had begun in church.





Thank you all for the very warm welcome I have received since arriving. Special thanks to Jane Quarmby and Gaston Roumieu for all their help in finding the new chaplaincy flat, to Jane and Garry for housing me until it was ready, and to many more of you for tips on how to enjoy the best of life in Marseille. I look forward to putting the good advice into practice.

Chaplaincy news

On 6th October we celebrated Harvest Festival in Marseille, collecting two large supermarket sacks of goods and toiletries for our local branch of Les Restaurants du Coeur in the Rue Sylvabelle. They were delighted with the gesture and the contents and asked me to pass on their thanks to all who contributed.

On 13th October the congregation in Oppède welcomed Dr Marcus Braybrooke as their guest preacher. A leading authority on interfaith dialogue, Dr Braybrooke was one of the founders of the Faith & Belief Forum (formerly the Three Faiths Forum), an organisation which 'works towards a connective and supportive society where people of different faiths, beliefs and cultures have strong, productive and lasting relations'. In his talk Dr Braybrooke shared reflections on his long experience of interfaith work, an area of particular relevance to us in a city as diverse as Marseille.





All Saints Patronal Festival

We will be celebrating our Patronal Festival at All Saints Marseille on <u>Sunday</u>, 3rd November at 10.00 am. This will be followed by a bring and share lunch in church. If you are able to help with preparations for this, please let me or Jane Quarmby know.

A new chaplaincy telephone number is now in place: **07 66 01 71 50**. The email address is unchanged: <u>anglican.marseille@gmail.com</u>. Jane's contact details are <u>janequarmby0430@gmail.com</u>; tel +44 7714 064141.

Remembrance Sunday

Our services for Remembrance Sunday, <u>10th November</u>, will be held at 10.00 am at All Saints Marseille and at 10.30 am at Oppède. There will also be an Act of Remembrance at the Mazargues Cemetery, though the date and time for this are still to be finalised. Details will be published on the chaplaincy website as soon as they are available.

Christmas Fair

Preparations are moving ahead for the Christmas Fair on 30th November, organised by Helen Brooking. Thanks to all those who have offered help to date. Raffle prizes and bottles for the game stall would be gratefully received.

Calling All Knitters

Our Mission to Seafarers needs woolly hats – Gaston Roumieu will be glad to hear from anyone who can knit some hats, which the seafarers value particularly in the winter months.

Services in Aix

Please note that services in Aix-en-Provence will in future be held on the <u>first</u> Sunday of each month instead of the fourth Sunday. This means that the service due to have taken place on Sunday, 27th October will now be held on <u>Sunday</u>, 3rd November at 11.00 am.

Dates for your Diary

Sunday, 3rd November – All Saints

10.00 am Holy Communion at All Saints Marseille led by The Revd Jamie Johnston, followed by bring and share lunch

11.00 am Holy Communion at the Oratoire, Aix-en-Provence led by Canon David Pickering

Sunday, 10th November – Remembrance Sunday

10.00 am Holy Communion at All Saints Marseille led by The Revd Jamie Johnston 10.30 am Holy Communion at Sacré Coeur church in Oppède led by The Revd John Smith

Sunday, 17th November – Second Sunday before Advent

10.00 am Holy Communion at All Saints Marseille led by the The Revd Jamie Johnston; Preacher – Jane Quarmby

Sunday, 24th November – Sunday next before Advent – Christ the King 10.00 am Holy Communion at All Saints Marseille led by The Revd Jamie Johnston

With every blessing, The Revd Jamie Johnston, Chaplain





ANGLICAN CHAPLAINCY OF MARSEILLE, AIX-EN-PROVENCE AND THE LUBERON

NEWSLETTER NOVEMBER 2019

Advent

As the days shorten, our thoughts turn once more towards Advent and the approach of Christmas. Advent is a time of watching and waiting for the coming of Christ in the incarnation, culminating in the joy of Christmas. It also looks ahead to the final advent of Christ as judge at the end of time. Some churches emphasise Advent as a time of prayer and fasting, not unlike Lent. This can be part of a general interest in rediscovering the practices of the early church. Nowadays, though, a message of abstinence in Advent is apt to make even devout churchgoers feel uncomfortable. Should they not take part in their child's end of term Christmas celebrations on the ground that they are happening too early? Should they boycott their employer's pre-Christmas festivities because, if the early church didn't indulge in them, neither should they? Are they not to accept offers of mulled wine and mince pies before 25th December? Or do they do all of the above and just feel guilty? This sort of dual pressure – of the church on the one hand proclaiming a discipline that feels almost impossible to keep (unless one has no family, friends, gainful activity or time pressure!) and, on the other hand, the lived experience of twenty-first century Christians – can sometimes leave people with a feeling of failure as they approach Christmas.

The real emphasis of Advent is on expectation rather than penitence. Even so, before I was ordained, I often found myself struggling with the church's assumptions about the amount of time its members had available during this season. If you are juggling multiple responsibilities and pressures, one way to approach Advent from a spiritual point of view can be to focus on its central symbol: the conquering of darkness by light. Why not spend some time each week this December in front of a lighted candle, reflecting on the ways in which darkness in your life has been dispelled by light, of how you might do something to dispel the darkness for others, and of how the light of Christ's coming makes the difference? I offer it as a suggestion to those who feel they have no time to 'do Advent properly'. And if in the end all you can see are crowded streets, a city overrun with extra people for whom there doesn't seem to be any room, then pause for a moment and look for Christ there. For that is where incarnation begins.

Almighty God,

give us grace to cast away the works of darkness and to put on the armour of light, now in the time of this mortal life, in which your Son Jesus Christ came to us in great humility; that on the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.







Chaplaincy news

On 3rd November All Saints celebrated its Patronal Festival at the 10.00 service of Holy Communion, followed by a bring and share lunch. On 10th November we marked Remembrance Sunday at All Saints and Oppède. This year the Act of Remembrance at the Commonwealth War Graves Cemetery in Mazargues is taking place later than usual, at **10.00 am on Thursday, 28th November**. If you are coming by car, parking is available behind the Cemetery in the rue Ernest Rouvier. Enter through the back gates and follow signs to the Commonwealth War Graves area. Or take Bus B1 to Obélisque followed by a short walk.

Christmas Fair

Our Christmas Fair will be held at All Saints, 4 rue de Belloi on **Saturday**, **30**th **November from 2.00 to 5.30 pm.** Please do come if you can and tell your friends. Huge thanks to Helen Brooking for organising the Fair and to all who have volunteered time and skills.

Deanery Advent Carol Service – St Paul's Monaco

Our Deanery Advent Carol Service is taking place this year on **Sunday**, **1**st **December at 4.30 pm** in St Paul's Monaco. If anyone wishes to attend, please let the Marseille chaplaincy know (anglican.marseille@gmail.com; 07 66 01 71 50) so that we can pass on numbers for catering purposes.

Carol Service

Our Chaplaincy Christmas Carol Service is being held on **Saturday, 14th December at 4.00 pm** at All Saints, 4 rue de Belloi. Please join us for this special celebration and bring your friends. The service sheet will be bilingual and there will be French readings and carols as well as traditional English ones. Mulled wine and mince pies will be served afterwards.

Offering hope at Christmas

Christine Portman writes:

Bibles, Birth Certificates and real Christmas presence

Finding the right Christmas presents for far-away family or friends sometimes leaves us scratching our heads for ideas. This year, however, three British charities are offering imaginative and practical gifts - presents that won't just bring a smile to those who receive them - but which will transform the lives of those they seek to help.

'No room at the inn' will be the reality for hundreds of thousands of our fellow humans this Christmas. Embrace the Middle East focuses its efforts on children trapped by poverty and war. From Syria in the north to Egypt in the south they work across the region. They offer to send in your name dozens of life-giving gifts, ranging from something as simple as a pair of shoes to malnutrition treatment for newborn babies. You can find them at <u>shop.embraceme.org</u> or ring them on 0044 1227 811646.

On the other side of the world, Toybox is working with street children - there are an estimated 670,000 children in El Salvador without birth certificates! The charity offers to help you register a child. These 'Invisibles' have no rights: schooling, medical care - everything we take for granted - are closed to them. But they are open to exploitation. Your gift could give them back their lives: www.toybox.org.uk or phone 0044 1908 360080.





Here in Europe we are used to dwindling congregations - but as I've witnessed for myself, the Church in China is growing fast. A million people come to faith every year. Whilst on pilgrimage David Pickering visited the fabulous Bible press in Nanjing. The biggest Bible press in the world, it prints one copy per second, but they need to buy the paper first! A generous donor has promised to match all donations like for like, and a gift of £12 would fund 32 new Bibles. They can be found at <u>bible society.org.uk</u> or you can call them on 0044 1793 418222.

This year there's no need to be stuck for ideas. Happy Christmas shopping!

Bishop's Advent Appeal 2019

Bishop Robert's Advent Appeal this year is for the work of the Anglican Communion Fund in empowering women. The Bishop writes: 'We know that women often both bear the heaviest costs of poverty or conflict and are also those whose empowerment can do the most to bring development that reaches grass roots and bring hope for the future.' Please do support this appeal, the full text of which is available at the link below:

https://europe.anglican.org/main/latest-news/post/1519-bishops-2019-advent-appeal-anglicancommunion-fund-empowering-women

Pastoral care

Would you know who to call, either in an emergency or if you knew someone in need of pastoral care? We'd like to be able to respond quickly to anyone in need of help from the church. This might be in cases of accident, illness or bereavement, or simply loneliness or the need for a listening ear. Perhaps someone you know needs assistance in organising a happier event - a wedding blessing or a baptism?

Anyone in need of help is welcome to contact me as Chaplain in the first instance. Although I am based in Marseille, we are able to offer support in other areas too. Over the coming months we're hoping to expand the list of people offering to be a first port of call.

| Clergy: | |
|---------------|--|
| Marseille | The Revd Jamie Johnston: 07 66 01 71 50; anglican.marseille@gmail.com |
| Pays d'Apt | The Revd Canon David Pickering: 06 35 96 16 16; portpick@gmail.com |
| Petit Luberon | The Revd John Smith: john.smith@4u-team.org |
| Readers: | |
| Pays d'Apt | Christine Portman: 06 35 96 16 16; pickport@gmail.com |
| Manosque | Jane Quarmby: 0044 7714 064141; janequarmby0430@gmail.com |





Dates for your Diary

Sunday, 1st December – Advent Sunday

10.00 am Holy Communion at All Saints Marseille led by The Revd Patrick Cassidy, with Reader Jane Quarmby preaching

11.00 am Holy Communion at the Oratoire, Aix-en-Provence led by The Revd Jamie Johnston

Sunday, 8th December – Second Sunday of Advent

10.00 am Holy Communion at All Saints Marseille led by The Revd Jamie Johnston

10.30 am Holy Communion at the Eglise Sacré Coeur, Oppède led by The Revd John Smith

Saturday, 14th December

4.00 pm Christmas Carol Service by candlelight at All Saints Marseille, followed by mulled wine and mince pies

Sunday, 15th December – Third Sunday of Advent

10.00 am Holy Communion at All Saints Marseille led by The Revd Jamie Johnston

Saturday, 21st December

3.30 pm Christmas Carol Service at the Eglise Saint-Sébastien, Goult, followed by reception

Sunday, 22nd December – Fourth Sunday of Advent

10.00 am Holy Communion at All Saints Marseille led by The Revd Jamie Johnston

Wednesday, 25th December – Christmas Day

10.00 am Holy Communion at All Saints Marseille led by The Revd Jamie Johnston

Sunday, 29th December – First Sunday of Christmas

10.00 am Holy Communion at All Saints Marseille led by The Revd Jamie Johnston, with Reader Jane Quarmby preaching

We are also hoping to hold a service at the Oratoire, Aix-en-Provence in the days leading up to Christmas - more details to follow.

With every blessing,

The Revd Jamie Johnston, Chaplain





ANGLICAN CHAPLAINCY OF MARSEILLE, AIX-EN-PROVENCE AND THE LUBERON

NEWSLETTER DECEMBER 2019

Christmas

Recently I was asked what difference I thought Christmas makes. It occurred to me that one difference is that it helps us reconnect with what matters most. For some that means family. For others it means goodwill, the generosity of spirit often encountered at this time of the year. For others it means meeting those we don't usually meet - relatives or friends we see only rarely but who are part of a Christmas tradition, without whom it wouldn't be the same.

Yet for every family happily reassembling around a Christmas table, there are others for whom there will be little joy. Any number of things can make this time of year feel bleak and alienating - bereavement, illness, loss of relationship, work or home, or simply the grinding struggle to make ends meet. Some Christmases are endured rather than enjoyed and, as always, our hearts are with those for whom this year will be especially hard.

One thing that unites us in our joys and struggles is the assurance that, however little we may understand it, somehow we matter to God. So much so that in love God came among us, suffered, died and rose for us, is with us now in Spirit and will be with us until the end of time. That's what makes the difference.

For many of us, last week's General Election result in the UK brings the prospect of Brexit uncomfortably close. The New Year will bring apprehension and, for some, life-changing decisions. The message which sounds insistently through the Christmas Gospel, which we hear each time the story of our redemption is retold, is 'Fear not'. It will be a good message to take with us into the New Year and to hold close in the months ahead.

What matters most is love. As the Letter of John reminds us, perfect love casts out fear. Perfect love was revealed in Bethlehem, incarnate in a manger.

May I wish all of you a blessed and peaceful Christmas, and a hopeful New Year.

Almighty God, you have given us your only-begotten Son to take our nature upon him and as at this time to be born of a pure virgin: grant that we, who have been born again and made your children by adoption and grace, may daily be renewed by your Holy Spirit; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.







Chaplaincy news

Christmas Fair

Jane Quarmby writes:

The Chaplaincy Christmas Fair on Saturday 30th November 2019 at All Saints was a great success. We raised nearly 1400 euros thanks to the generosity of those who gave cakes, bottles, handicrafts, brocante, Christmas cards and mulled wine, and the hard work of the team who organised the event and helped out on the day. It was a lovely atmosphere and many people came to support us.

Particular thanks to Helen Brooking for overseeing the planning and organising, ably aided and abetted by many volunteers. In addition to the active participation of many members of the congregation, special mention must be made of the involvement and attendance of two separate groups of people:

- AAGP (Anglo American Group of Provence) with its Marseille based members, coordinated by Lydia Arnold, and

- Marseille Autrement, an association providing social and cultural activities to its members. Thanks to Nicole Cadilhac, who belongs to both associations, we had the pleasure of welcoming more than 30 members of Marseille Autrement.

And we also had the visit of several members of Marseille Seamen's Club.

A magnificent example of how people can mix when they are united by a common interest.







Carol Service

The Carol Service in Marseille was held on Saturday, 14th December at 4.00 pm. A large group of regulars and visitors gathered to sing carols and hear readings in English and French, and the service was followed by mulled wine and mince pies. Thanks to all who took part and helped to prepare the church.

Ecumenism at ground level

Christine Portman writes:

For well over 40 years we Anglicans have been made welcome at Roman Catholic worship in France. Knowing that many of us find ourselves far from our nearest Anglican church, they have been more than happy to see us join them. Since our arrival in a tiny 'village perché' in the Grand Luberon, David and I have been happy to continue worshipping at Marseille, Aix and Oppède, but there are weeks when we stay at home and worship locally.

Like many small villages, ours sees only occasional services these days: clergy find themselves spread very thinly! But we are blessed with being only a few minutes away from a very special community where there is Sunday worship every week. Founded by Franciscan sisters many years ago, Berdine is a community which lives and breathes practical Christian service. People who have lost their way in life – whether through alcohol, drugs or a time living on the streets - make a positive choice. They come to Berdine to be a part of the community, renouncing any previous addictions. Living a simple life far away from malign influences, they become part of a working community, in the process rediscovering a sense of self-worth.

We have been privileged to worship with those who live in or support Berdine for ten years now, but sadly at the end of the summer their priest, Jean-Michel left us. One of the Petits Frères, he was a truly wonderful man, at the heart of the community and its spiritual strength. He is sadly missed by all, not least because as yet the local Catholic church is unable to offer a priest to lead Sunday worship. Our friends at Berdine have therefore invited us to lead Anglican Holy Communion services on the Sundays when we're not leading worship with our own congregations. Our Archdeacon is happy with the arrangement and we feel it's important to offer them our support at this difficult time. Jean-Michel's big shoes will take some filling, but please pray for the wonderful work of this community and that soon God will send a new leading light to support them as they expand their priceless work.

Réveillon solidaire

Our neighbours at the Eglise Protestante Unie in Marseille have invited us to join them in supporting an ecumenical project taking place over Christmas in the rue d'Aubagne, the street in which two apartment buildings collapsed just over a year ago.

A Christmas meal is being organised at a local school for residents who would otherwise be spending the evening alone. If anyone is interested in taking part in the event, or has time to spare on 26th December to help with the clearing up, please get in touch with the Chaplain who has details of who to contact.





Fr Patrick's (almost) birthday



On 8th December we were delighted to celebrate Fr Patrick Cassidy's 80th birthday after the Sunday service in Marseille. This was slightly in advance, as he wasn't due to be in church on the actual date, but the congregation were determined this shouldn't deprive them of cake...



Dates for your Diary

Saturday, 21st December

3.30 pm Christmas Carol Service at the Eglise Saint-Sébastien, Goult, followed by a reception

Sunday, 22nd December – Fourth Sunday of Advent

10.00 am Holy Communion at All Saints Marseille led by The Revd Jamie Johnston

Tuesday, 24th December – Christmas Eve

3.00 pm Holy Communion at the Oratoire, Aix-en-Provence led by The Revd Jamie Johnston

Wednesday, 25th December – Christmas Day

10.00 am Holy Communion at All Saints Marseille led by The Revd Jamie Johnston

Sunday, 29th December – First Sunday of Christmas

10.00 am Holy Communion at All Saints Marseille led by The Revd Jamie Johnston, with Reader Jane Quarmby preaching

Sunday, 5th January – Epiphany Sunday

- 10.00 am Holy Communion at All Saints Marseille led by The Revd Jamie Johnston, with Reader Jane Quarmby preaching
- 11.00 amHoly Communion at the Oratoire, Aix-en-Provence, led by The Revd Canon David
Pickering with Reader Christine Portman

Sunday, 12th January – First Sunday after Epiphany

| 10.00 am | Holy Communion at All Saints Marseille led by The Revd Canon David Pickering |
|----------|--|
| 10.30 am | Holy Communion at the Eglise Sacré Coeur, Oppède led by The Revd John Smith, |
| | with Reader Jane Quarmby preaching |

Sunday, 19th January – Second Sunday after Epiphany

10.00 am Holy Communion at All Saints Marseille led by The Revd John Smith

Sunday, 26th January – Third Sunday after Epiphany

10.00 am Holy Communion at All Saints Marseille led by The Revd Canon David Pickering

Sunday, 2nd February – Candlemas

| 10.00 am | Holy Communion at All Saints Marseille led by The Revd Jamie Johnston |
|----------|--|
| 11.00 am | Holy Communion at the Oratoire, Aix-en-Provence, led by The Revd Canon David |
| | Pickering with Reader Christine Portman |

With every blessing,

The Revd Jamie Johnston, Chaplain