



**Chaplaincy of All Saints' Marseille
with Aix-en-Provence and the Luberon
Newsletter – May 2026**

Eastertide: Living the Resurrection

After the depth and beauty of Holy Week—so prayerfully marked by the Triduum, both in church and online—and the joy of our well-attended Easter celebrations, we now find ourselves in Eastertide. This season invites us to linger with the resurrection, and to let its life take deeper root in us, day by day.



These past weeks have also been filled with welcome encounters.

Ecumenical friends joined us in celebrating the installation of the new Archbishop of Canterbury—many of them spoke of joy and hope for the wider Church.

Soon after Easter, we received a group of seminarians from the Catholic seminary in Aix, preparing for ordination and engaged in a course on ecumenism. We prayed Morning Prayer together, shared breakfast, and enjoyed a lively exchange of questions and insights. Their genuine curiosity about our tradition was a real encouragement, and we parted with a sense of friendship—and the hope of meeting again.

Music continues to enrich our common life in new ways. Our collection of recorded pieces is growing. Aidan has shared several works from the Eastern tradition:

https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLLpWh1NzfueMox_O_RzSzXg_nhy5yOVm6

and Stéphane Rigat, lecturer in Mathematics at the Aix-Marseille University, has recorded Bach toccatas on the new organ:

https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLLpWh1NzfueO1UN2v_zsEz8r1y3XehiSX

Both will be performing in concert at All Saints' in June—more details will follow in the next newsletter.

I was touched this week by words from Archbishop Sarah, shared during her pilgrimage to Rome, on the occasion of an audience with Pope Leo XIV. She spoke of hospitality not simply as a welcome, but as a form of ministry: a willingness to make space for one another as those created in God's image, and called to grow into his likeness.

This feels very close to our life at All Saints'. Many visitors and ecumenical friends remark on the warmth of the welcome they receive here. That is something to give thanks for—and something to continue nurturing. Hospitality, in this deeper sense, is part of our calling: a quiet, faithful way of sharing in the generous life of God.

As we continue through this Easter season, may we keep growing into that life—together.



Le temps pascal : vivre la résurrection

Après la profondeur et la beauté de la Semaine Sainte — marquée par la prière du Triduum, tant en église qu'en ligne — et la joie de nos célébrations pascales qui ont attiré de nombreux fidèles, nous entrons maintenant dans le temps pascal. Cette période nous invite à nous attarder sur la résurrection et à laisser sa vie s'enraciner plus profondément en nous, jour après jour.

Ces dernières semaines ont également été riches en rencontres réjouissantes.

Des amis œcuméniques se sont joints à nous pour célébrer l'installation du nouvel archevêque de Cantorbéry ; beaucoup d'entre eux ont exprimé leur joie et leur espoir pour l'Église dans son ensemble.

Peu après Pâques, nous avons accueilli un groupe de séminaristes du séminaire catholique d'Aix, qui se préparent à l'ordination et suivent un cours sur l'œcuménisme. Nous avons prié ensemble la Prière du Matin, partagé un petit-déjeuner et eu un échange animé de questions et de réflexions. Leur curiosité sincère pour notre tradition a été un véritable encouragement, et nous nous sommes quittés dans un esprit d'amitié – et avec l'espoir de nous revoir.

La musique continue d'enrichir notre vie commune de manière toujours nouvelle. Notre collection d'enregistrements s'enrichit. Aidan a partagé plusieurs œuvres issues de la tradition orientale de l'Église :

https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLLpWh1NzfueMox_O_RzSzXg_nhy5yOVm6

et Stéphane Rigat, enseignant chercheur en mathématiques à l'Université d'Aix-Marseille, a enregistré des toccatas de Bach sur le nouvel orgue:

https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLLpWh1NzfueO1UN2v_zsEz8r1y3XehiSX

Tous deux se produiront en concert à All Saints' en juin — plus de détails suivront dans la prochaine lettre d'information.

J'ai été frappé cette semaine par les paroles de l'archevêque Sarah, prononcées lors de son pèlerinage à Rome, pendant l'audience avec le pape Léon XIV. Elle a parlé de l'hospitalité non pas simplement comme d'un accueil, mais comme d'une forme de ministère : une volonté de faire de la place les uns aux autres en tant que créatures à l'image de Dieu, appelées à grandir à sa ressemblance.

Cela me semble très proche de notre vie à All Saints'. De nombreux visiteurs et amis œcuméniques soulignent la chaleur de l'accueil qu'ils reçoivent ici. C'est quelque chose dont nous devons rendre grâce — et que nous devons continuer à cultiver. L'hospitalité, dans ce sens plus profond, fait partie de notre vocation : une manière discrète et fidèle de partager la vie généreuse de Dieu.

Alors que nous poursuivons cette période de Pâques, puissions-nous continuer à grandir dans cette vie — ensemble.

Holy Week Chrism Eucharist

On the Wednesday in Holy Week, three of our Ministry Team, Roxana, Christine and David, attended the Diocesan Chrism service at Holy Trinity Chaplaincy in Nice. At this special Eucharist the bishop blesses the holy oils used for healing, baptism and confirmation. At the same time, those in lay or ordained ministry make a renewal of their commitment to ministry.

Our international diocese is the largest of the 42 dioceses in the Church of England. There are over 250 congregations in more than 30 countries across continental Europe, Turkey, Morocco and Russia. We were lucky in Nice that this year, our Suffragan Bishop, The Right Revd Andrew Norman, presided at the service. The previous day he'd been at a Chrism Eucharist in Budapest and the next day he was scheduled to officiate at St Michael's, Paris!



Archdeaconry Synod

The April Synod was largely a business meeting: during the previous year there had been much sharing of useful information in interactive workshops. The Archdeacon has worked hard to ensure that chaplaincies continue to operate and have improved flexibility following changes to French associations laws. Friends from the French Protestant churches have given much guidance and support, and in other welcome news of ecumenical co-operation: a new role has been created in the Roman Catholic church to improve liaison with the Anglicans in France. To find out more – not just about the synod, but also what's going on in other French chaplaincies, the archdeaconry website is well worth a visit at:

<https://anglicanfrance.fr/>

Members heard a brief report on the latest Diocesan Synod and on the General Synod held in London in February. For the first time our new Archbishop, Sarah Mullaly, was presiding. In her address she said: *'I do not carry the responsibilities alone. We serve God's Church together, lay and ordained, offering our richly varied gifts and diversity; treating one another with love, dignity and respect; setting our face to Christ. We should be one in our love of God and of one another.'* A good message for chaplaincies in Europe where we all need to contribute to the success of our widespread churches! To keep up to date with what's going on in the Church of England generally, do read through the report of the spring Synod. It can be found by clicking on this link:

<file:///C:/Users/pickp/AppData/Local/Microsoft/Outlook/Attachments/00a-88a719c7-dbe4-42b6-b430->

At the General Synod, homage was paid to Clive Billenness, a representative from the Diocese of Europe for many years. Although he lived in France, Clive contributed significantly to the church's work. Synods can sometimes seem far away – but any member on the Electoral Roll of our church is eligible to put themselves forward as a member of the Archdeaconry Synod – and from then on, to the Diocesan and General Synods.

At our AGM after church on Sunday 17th May, the meeting will have to elect two people to attend Archdeaconry Synod. Previous representatives, Readers Christine Portman and Jane Quarmby, will be stepping down after their 3-year term so you're warmly encouraged to take this opportunity to learn more about the life of our church in France. Meetings are held online, roughly three times a year, so there's no need to travel and there are opportunities to join valuable free workshops.

Dates for diary – May Services

Friday 1 st May	Evening Service with prayers for healing at 6 pm via zoom
Sunday 3 rd May	5 th Sunday of Easter Holy Communion at 10 am at All Saints' Marseille (Shared via zoom)
Wednesday 6 th May	Compline at 9.30 pm via zoom
Sunday 10 th May	6 th Sunday of Easter Holy Communion at 10 am at All Saints' Marseille (Shared via zoom) Holy Communion at 10.30 am at the Église du Sacré-Coeur, Oppède
Wednesday 13 th May	Compline at 9.30 pm via zoom
Sunday 17 th May	7 th Sunday of Easter Holy Communion at 10 am at All Saints' Marseille (Shared via zoom) Holy Communion at Manosque at 9.15 am at the Église Protestante Unie AGM at 11.30 am at All Saints' and on zoom
Wednesday 20 th May	Compline at 9.30 pm via zoom
Sunday 24 th May	Pentecost Holy Communion at 10 am at All Saints' Marseille (Shared via zoom) Holy Communion at Aix-en-Provence at the Église Protestante Unie at 5 pm

Wednesday 27th May Compline at 9.30 pm via zoom

Sunday 31st May Trinity Sunday
Holy Communion at 10 am at All Saints' Marseille (Shared via zoom)



If you have any safeguarding issues or concerns, please contact the
Chaplaincy Safeguarding Officer, Emily Roberts via her email.

safeguarding.anglican.marseille@gmail.com

Articles for the newsletter are always welcome. Please send to Peter Smith at the address
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