

St. John's Anglican Church, 31 Avenue Carnot, 06500 Menton, France

Website: <http://www.anglicanchurchmenton.com>

Sunday Service – Eucharist – 10.30

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The English Library, St. John's Church, Menton – Closed at present

Books available on loan in The Louvre on Saturday mornings from 9.30-11.30

Refreshments also available

The British Association, Menton Chair: Birgitt Nordbrink Tel. 04 93 28 10 02

A representative of the Association is present in the Louvre, Saturdays 9.30-11.30

The Anglican Community, Bordighera

The English Cemetery Chapel, Via del Campo, Bordighera, Italy

Eucharist Service: usually 2nd Wednesday of each month – 10.30

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The Church of the Holy Ghost, Genova

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Eucharist Service - Sundays 10.30

Holy Communion or Shared Prayers – Wednesdays 12.30

Website: www.anglicanchurchgenoa.org

THE CROSS BORDER

Newsletter
MARCH 2016

ST. JOHN'S ANGLICAN CHURCH
is closed at the moment awaiting restoration

EUCCHARIST SERVICE EVERY SUNDAY - 10.30am

in the Chapelle St. Roch, Place Saint Roch, Menton

ENGLISH CEMETERY CHAPEL, BORDIGHERA

EUCCHARIST 10.30am

WEDNESDAY 8 MARCH

THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY GHOST, GENOVA

EUCCHARIST EVERY SUNDAY - 10.30am

9th March - St. Savio 1842 - 57

The hit film Slumdog Millionaire touched millions of people with its story of a youngster triumphing against all the odds.

Dominic Savio did the same thing. In fact, he is a good patron 'child saint' for children today who struggle to get anywhere in life.

Savio was born into a poor family in Riva, near Turin. There were 10 children. The father was a blacksmith, the mother a seamstress. Somehow, they managed school fees, and when Dominic was 12, he was sent to the famous school of John Bosco at Turin.

A strict Roman Catholic school wasn't exactly the set for 'Who wants to be a Millionaire', but Savio loved it. He responded with enthusiasm to the wise and moderate spiritual guidance of Bosco, and began to grow. Instead of turning into a fanatic or prig, he was soon widely loved for his cheerfulness and friendliness to all. He was respected by fellow students for his mature, sound advice. Behind it all lay the key: Savio had discovered God for himself, and had responded with all his heart: - one story of him tells how he was rapt in prayer for six hours continuously.

Sadly, Dominic Savio contracted tuberculosis. Like AIDS today, it was incurable. He accepted his disease with dignity and composure. He did not fear death – his deep and radiant faith assured him that something far better lay beyond.

Savio died aged only 15. He had never been a millionaire; his riches lay in his faith in Jesus Christ. The memory of this lovable lad lived on, so deeply had he touched the hearts of the people who knew him. Over 100 years later he was still remembered – and made a saint by the Roman Catholic Church.

CLOCKS GO FORWARD - 26/27 MARCH

Don't be late for church on Easter Day !

Opportunity may knock once,
but temptation bangs on your door for ever.

3.

What Love means to a 4-8 year old

Touching words from the mouth of babes. A group of professional people posed this question to a group of 4 to 8 year-olds. "What does love mean?"

'When my grandmother got arthritis, she couldn't bend over and paint her toenails anymore. So my grandfather does it for her all the time, even when his hands got arthritis too. That's love.'
Rebecca – age 8

'When someone loves you, the way they say your name is different. You just know that your name is safe in their mouth.'
Billy – age 4

'Love is when a girl puts on perfume and a boy puts on shaving cologne and they go out and smell each other.'
Karl – age 5

'Love is when you go out to eat and give somebody most of your French fries without making them give you any of theirs.'
Chrissy – age 6

'Love is what makes you smile when you're tired.'
Terri – age 4

'Love is when my mommy makes coffee for my daddy and she takes a sip before giving it to him, to make sure the taste is OK.'
Danny – age 7

'Love is what's in the room with you at Christmas if you stop opening presents and listen.'
Bobby – age 7

'If you want to learn to love better, you should start with a friend who you hate.'
Nikka – age 6

'Love is when you tell a guy you like his shirt, then he wears it every day.'
Noelle – age 7

'Love is like a little old woman and a little old man who are still friends even after they know each other so well.'
Tommy – age 6

'During my piano recital, I was on a stage and I was scared. I looked at all the people watching me and saw my daddy waving and smiling. He was the only one doing that. I wasn't scared anymore.'
Cindy – age 8

'Love is when Mommy gives Daddy the best piece of chicken.'
Elaine – age 5

'When you love somebody, your eyelashes go up and down and little stars come out of you,'
Karen – age 7

The winner – a little boy, seeing an old man cry went into his yard and climbed onto his lap, and just sat there. When his mother asked what he had said to the neighbour, the little boy said, "Nothing, I just helped him cry."

8.

A PRAYER FROM MY DAUGHTER

Dear Lord,
I thank you for this day.
I thank you for my being able to see and to hear this new morning.
I'm blessed because you are a forgiving God, and an understanding God.
You have done so much for me and you keep on blessing me.
Forgive me this day for everything I have done, said, or thought that was not pleasing to you.
I ask now for your forgiveness.

Please keep me safe from all danger and harm.
Help me to start this day with a new attitude and plenty of gratitude.
Let me make the best of each and every day.
To clear my mind, so that I can hear from you.
Please broaden my mind that I can accept those that don't believe.
But I thank you that I believe.
I believe that God changes people and God changes things.

I pray for all my Sisters and Brothers, for each and every family member in their households.
I pray for Peace, Love, and Joy in their homes, that they are out of debt and all their needs are met.
I pray that every eye that reads this knows there is no problem, circumstance, or situation greater than God.
Every battle is in your hands for you to fight.
I pray that these words be received into the hearts of every eye that sees them and every mouth that confesses them willingly.
Lord, I love you, and I need you.

Come into my heart..... Please.

Amen

A DATE FOR YOUR DIARY THURSDAY 5th MAY 2016

We are invited to celebrate **Ascension Day** with a Communion Service, followed by a Bring and Share Lunch at hosts Peter and Shirley Massey at the Chaplaincy of Lorgues with Fayence, 1801 Chemin des Pailles, 83510 Lorgues, Arc-en-Provence.
This will be the third anniversary of the ACR (the eight Anglican Churches of the Riviera) meeting to share in worship and fellowship. Last year approximately 70 people from the Riviera Churches shared in this celebration.

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NEWS NEWS NEWS NEWS NEWS NEWS

Congratulations to George Owen, MBE and Angela Owen, MBE. On Thursday 4th February 2016 at The Queen's Birthday Honours Investiture at Buckingham Palace, Prince Charles invested George Owen, Omnibus Chairman, with an MBE for “*services to the arts and the community of Clapham*”. Angela had received an MBE in 2014 for her “*services to the Theatre and to the community of Clapham.*” She is a theatrical wig designer in London.
We feel honoured to have two distinguished community service leaders in our congregation. See photos on our website.

Liturgy

The following French liturgies have been authorised for use in respect of a baptism, marriage, funeral:-

- Liturgie Baptême et Confirmation
- Liturgie Anglicane du Mariage
- Liturgie des Funérailles

There are no other services authorised for use in French, although others are in preparation.

(From the Diocesan website)

MOTHERING SUNDAY - 6 MARCH

There is an old Jewish saying:

*God could not be everywhere,
and therefore He made mothers.*

Mother Church, Mother Earth, Mother of the Gods – our human mothers – all of them have been part of the celebration of 'Mothering Sunday' – as the fourth Sunday in Lent is affectionately known.

In Roman times, great festivals were held every Spring to honour Cybele, Mother of all the Gods. Other pagan festivals in honour of Mother Earth were also celebrated. With the arrival of Christianity, the festival became one honouring Mother Church.

During the Middle Ages, young people apprenticed to craftsmen or working as 'live-in' servants were allowed only one holiday a year on which to visit their families - which is how 'Mothering Sunday' got its name. This special day became a day of family rejoicing, and the Lenten fast was broken. In some places the day was called Simnel Day, because of the sweet cakes called simnel cakes traditionally eaten on that day.

2.

ECUMENICAL WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

FRIDAY 4 MARCH 2016

The service this year is prepared by the women of Cuba and has as its theme:

'Receive children. Receive me.'

Loving God,

Your son told his disciples to become like little children.

Lead us to work for the welfare and protection of all young people.

*May we respect their dignity that they may flourish in life
following the example of the same Jesus Christ our Lord.*

Amen

***The ecumenical service will take place Friday 4 March at 15.00
in the Lutheran Church, Corso Garibaldi, Sanremo.
Do come, learn more of Cuba and pray for its people.***

CUBA

Lord, you made Cuba,
you made the unsullied waters and shining beaches
where the liners sail to disgorge their hordes of tourists.
You made the clear blue skies through which the jets descend
to empty their passengers into marble-floored terminals.
You made the gardens where the wealthy stroll
and marvel at the riot of your colourful creation.

Lord, you made Cuba,
you made the people who live huddled together
in the crumbling glory of Havana appartments
chasing a job in an uncertain economy.
You made the children who play by the sea
on dirty beaches where tourists never come
where the land is strewn with yesterday's rubbish.

Generous Father, giver of all gifts,
creator of this island of contrasts,
move us to pray and care for Cuba
and give back to you, for them,
from the wealth you have entrusted to us.
Amen

Let us pray together through March

Heavenly Father,

1. we pray that we will continue to take time through Lent to grow spiritually
2. for the ill and those who care for them at home or in hospital
3. May we spend our time well to do the things we ought to do
4. Bless the World Day of Prayer; think especially of Cuba, its people and problems
5. all involved in the production of the Chaplaincy Newsletter and Cross Border
6. *Mothering Sunday – 'Worship the Lord with gladness, come before Him with joyful songs*
7. give thanks for the gift of memory
8. Bless all who take part in the 'Lent Soup' today, their meditations and fellowship
9. all those who work long hours away from their families
10. give thanks for the work of the British Association
11. make us aware of any prejudices we have and give us grace to overcome them
12. those who produce television programmes for children and young people
13. *Lent 5 – 'so I walk in the presence of God, in the light that shines on the living'*
14. grant us strength to resist any temptation in our world which leads us to sin
15. for those who work for an end to injustice in the world
16. our priest-in-charge David
17. the immigration situation – bring relief and hope to those in greatest need
18. for the peace of Jerusalem – reconciliation between Palestine and Israel
19. those who will be working during the Easter holidays
20. *Palm Sunday- 'Hosanna to the son of David. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord'*
21. those who struggle daily against depression
22. Bless the Chrism Eucharist with Bishop David Hamid, Holy Trinity, Nice
23. Give thanks for your family – the love and happiness you share
24. make us truly generous
25. *Good Friday – turn the hearts of all who wish to harm others*
26. for God's healing and wholeness in your own life
27. *Easter Day – 'Hallelujah Christ is Risen, He is Risen indeed.'*
28. give thanks for all the good things young people bring into life
29. the Prayer Circle
30. for all denominations of Christians in the Riviera
31. the leaders of the nations – may they desire wisdom and Your peace for all

Thank you for listening, Lord.
May we, too, listen and respond
Amen

BISHOP'S LENT APPEAL

Bishop Robert Innes has outlined his focus for the Diocesan Lent Appeal with an education project for Palestinian children in the Holy Land. He says, "It relates to our neighbouring diocese of Jerusalem and the Middle East. Education is of vital importance in attempts to secure a peaceful future for the Middle East. Education makes it easier for youngsters to stay in their home countries rather than embarking on the refugee trail and tangible help for Middle Eastern Christians expresses our solidarity with a community whose numbers have fallen from 20% to 2% of the land's total population in the last 60 years.

Donations to the appeal will help support the Arab Evangelical Episcopal School in Ramallah in the West Bank and the Anglican Diocese of Jerusalem in distributing bursaries to needy students. Full details of the appeal are on the diocesan website.

The appeal is linked with the Friends of the Holy Land (FHL) which was founded in 2009 to raise awareness of the situation of Christians in Israel/Palestine. Canon John Newsome, the Co-Ordinator for the Diocese in Europe writes, "In Europe we are at last becoming increasingly aware of the desperate plight of Christian communities in the Middle East including the West Bank and Gaza. Although all Palestinians are suffering from occupation, lack of social services, lack of water, high unemployment, poor healthcare and often poor housing, the Christian communities face particular challenges as a minority struggling for survival.

Fostering a direct relationship with Christians in the Holy Land helps mitigate the sense of isolation and helplessness on their side and for us it reminds us that pilgrimage is not just about retracing the footsteps of Jesus in a prayerful spirit but also about encountering the issues which are the daily lot of his contemporary followers there, 'the living stones'.

FHL is growing by over a third each year, is ecumenical and non-political. During the last financial year donations grew by 36%, to a little under 800,000 euros, grants increased by 40% and costs remained constant at under 15% of income.

Canon John commends a few practical moves:

- encourage regular prayers in our parishes for Christians in the Holy Land and for the work of FHL
- Parishioners could be updated with a twice-yearly Newsletter and the Monthly update
- A parish can sponsor a family, perhaps helping their education at one of the Anglican schools or at university

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- encourage some planned giving to FHL or an occasional fundraising event
- consider a pilgrimage to the Holy Land incorporating meetings with local Christians. FHL can offer help here.

(From the Diocesan website)

CHRISTIANITY TODAY

Two new books shown on the Church of England website:-

Steve Chalke, theologian and founder of the Oasis charity, says he believes parts of Islamic theology better reflect God's character than some Christian teaching. Speaking about the publication of his new book "**Radical**" Mr Chalke explains he has come to the conclusion "Muslims and Christians worship the same God".

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"The Servant Queen and the King She Serves"

This book is produced by the Bible Society churches' group HOPE and LICC (The London Institute for Contemporary Christianity) to celebrate the Queen's 90th birthday this year.

In the forward to the book HM The Queen writes "*I have been – and remain – very grateful to you for your prayers and to God for His steadfast love. I have indeed seen His faithfulness.*"

In other comments the Queen refers to the changes she has seen in her life, which has made her the longest-reigning monarch in British history:

"The extent and pace of change has been truly remarkable", she said. *"We have witnessed triumphs and tragedies".*

The monarch took the opportunity to allude to the current problems in the Middle East saying, *"the world is now experiencing terrible suffering on an unprecedented scale."*

The book is being released in April this year.

*'As the earth brings forth its shoots,
and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up,
so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise
to spring forth before all nations.'*

(Isaiah 61.11)

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