

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

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

Sunday Service – Eucharist – 10.30am

Priest-in-charge: Vacant

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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 – 10.30am

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The Church of the Holy Ghost, Genova

Piazza Marsala 3, 16122 Genova, Italy Tel. #39 010 88 92 68

Eucharist Service - Sundays 10.30am

Holy Communion or Shared Prayers – Wednesdays 12.30

Website: www.anglicanchurchgenoa.org

THE CROSS BORDER

Newsletter

NOVEMBER 2017

ST. JOHN'S ANGLICAN CHURCH

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

EVERY SUNDAY - 10.30am

REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY 12 NOVEMBER 2017

BRITISH & COMMONWEALTH WAR GRAVES CEMETERY

BORDIGHERA

REMEMBRANCE SERVICE

THURSDAY 9 NOVEMBER - 10.45

THE ANGLICAN CHURCH OF THE HOLY GHOST, GENOVA

EUCHARIST EVERY SUNDAY - 10.30am

HOLY COMMUNION or SHARED PRAYERS every Wednesday 12.30

On the ferocity of the church's Bridge drive

My dear Nephew Darren

Your suggestion that we should hold a sponsored hymn-singing bicycle ride through the village as a way of raising money was well-meant, but I am not wholly convinced it would suit our clientele here at St. James the Least. While you certainly raised some money, I feel that £5.43, along with assorted foreign coins no longer in use, may mean that the purchase of your pneumatically adjustable stage for liturgical dance, along with equipment for producing holograms of the Holy Land to illustrate sermons, may be somewhat delayed. It makes our fund-raising to repair the tea urn seem somewhat mundane.

You may have musical bike rides, but we have Bridge drives, which are generally as amiable and peaceful as bear baiting. Half of those attending will see the afternoon as an opportunity to catch up on local gossip and to exchange knitting patterns, the game of cards being a minor hindrance to these other activities. The other half arrive primed for a battle to the death, reluctantly conceding that eye-gouging is not allowed. They will demand total silence – which is wholly ignored by those at the tables discovering what Mrs. Trumpington confided to Lady Driver half way through “Onward Christian Soldiers” at last Sunday's Mattins. The congregation is eternally grateful to Mrs. Mitchell, who as a former mill worker is able to lip read.

Refreshments are regarded by one half as an opportunity to put jam on the cards, spill tea on the score cards and make sure that the other tables get the egg and cress sandwiches while they corner the boiled ham; the others see it as an unwelcome interruption to the serious business of slaughtering their opponents.

Drawing the raffle is the adult equivalent of ringing the school bell at going-home time. Half the players will immediately dash off to relay newly-mined seams of gossip throughout the village, leaving the others holding reproachful post-mortems with their partners over their bidding mistakes.

Reproaches are never too violent, however, since the chances are that they will all be meeting again the following afternoon round card tables at another location for yet another re-enactment of the slaughter at Agincourt, the only difference being that the French and English were not entertained with tea and sandwiches at half time.

Your loving uncle,
Eustace



**Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you; let not your hearts be troubled.
neither let them be afraid** (John 14:27) (5)

Locum The Revd. Neville Griffiths and his wife Siân remain with us for the month of November.

Gardening with Barbara Need some exercise? Come and help tidy up St. John's garden with Barbara Corry during the afternoons of the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of each month. Tools supplied. Check with Barbara when she will be there.

Remembrance Service in the **British & Commonwealth Military Cemetery, Bordighera** will be held on Thursday 9 November at 10.45am followed by light refreshments. Fr. Neville will officiate at the service of peace and remembrance.

Diocesan Developments given the Go-Ahead Members of Bishop's Council Meeting in London on 19 October have agreed a new financial plan which will strengthen some major functions of the diocese and pave the way for the recruitment of two more full-time paid Archdeacons over the next three years.

In the initial debate Bishop Robert explained that the current year's budget relied on using historic financial reserves, but that could not continue indefinitely. To function efficiently in future, he said, we need three full-time paid Archdeacons rather than relying on busy parochial clergy, who functioned as Archdeacons in addition to leading churches. The Archdeacons of North-West Europe and of France gave accounts of the pressures they face in practice.

At present there is one full-time paid Archdeacon, who oversees Archdeaconries of the East and of Germany and Northern Europe.

As well as plans for two new full-time archdeacons the new budget allows for an increase in staffing and support of safe-guarding and a new structure to develop Diocesan Communications from the end of the year.

Bishop's Council members acknowledged the impact of the budget on churches who each contribute to diocesan costs through what is known as “Common Fund” (similar to what UK based parishes pay in “Diocesan Share” payments). They agreed a phased increase from the present 5% of a church's annual income to 10% over the next three years.

Bishop Robert welcomed the decision to be able to equip the diocese to develop its ministry and mission in the next few years. He is to prepare a video message to explain to congregations and church members about the opportunities of the new budget and the effect of increased Common Fund contributions. The message is also to be taken to each Archdeaconry in a series of 'Diocesan Development Roadshows'.

(Complete report from the Diocesan website)
(2)

READINGS for SUNDAY SERVICES in NOVEMBER 2017 - YEAR A

November 5 All Saints' Sunday	First Reading Psalm Second Reading Gospel	Revelation 7. 9-end 34. 1-10 1 John 3.1-3 Matthew 5. 1-12
November 12 Remembrance Sunday	Gospel	Matthew 5. 1-12
November 19 2 nd before Advent	First Reading Psalm Second Reading Gospel	Zephaniah 1.7, 12-18 90.1-8, (9-11), 12 1 Thessalonians 5. 1-11 Matthew 25. 14-20
November 26 Christ the King Sunday next before Advent	First Reading Psalm Second Reading Gospel	Ezekiel 34.11-16, 20-24 95. 1-7 Ephesians 1. 15-end Matthew 25. 31-end
YEAR B – 3 December ADVENT 1	First Reading Psalm Second Reading Gospel	Isaiah 64. 1-9 80.1-7, 16-18 1 Corinthians 1. 3-9 Mark 13. 24-37

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BAPTISMS, CONFIRMATIONS, MARRIAGES, FUNERALS

arrangements may be made by contacting
the churchwardens

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The Church of England invites to Holy Communion all baptized persons who are communicant members of other Churches which subscribe to the doctrine of the Holy Trinity, and who are in good standing in their own church. Those who are prevented by conscience or the rules of their own Churches from receiving the Blessed Sacrament are invited to receive a blessing.

(1)

150th Anniversary of the Hanbury Gardens

Who hasn't been to the Hanbury Gardens? Now is the time to put that right if you haven't. The Gardens created by Sir Thomas Hanbury have had a very special year celebrating its inception 150 years ago. Its most important celebration took place in May when Prince Albert of Monaco and HM Ambassador in Rome, Jill Morris CMG together with the Hon. Consul in Genova, Denise Dardani, visited the Gardens to celebrate its importance in our area.

In October the Anglican Church of the Holy Ghost, Genova opened its doors in welcome to commemorate that day with an Exhibition of Photographs taken by Fulvio Gazzoli. Friends of the Hanbury Gardens, which included our churchwarden Carolyn, went to the Exhibition. It was a warm, friendly gathering with HM Ambassador, the Hon. Consul, University and business people from Genova, members of the Church of the Holy Ghost, who provided memorable refreshments, and many other people interested in the Gardens.

The Church was decorated fittingly in red white and blue with the flag of Italy and the Union Jack in prominent positions. It is the University of Genova which is now responsible for the Gardens. Its Botanical building was donated by Sir Thomas and students from the University continue the useful study of the plants which were brought to the Gardens from all over the world to acclimatise.

Another important anniversary falls next year – 100 years since the death of Clarence Bicknell. Like Sir Thomas he was born and educated in England and after ten years of service in the Anglican church in England and for a short time in Bordighera, he discovered his true calling, that of recording in water colours the wild flowers and plants growing in the hills and mountains behind Bordighera. He published a book 'Flowering Plants and Ferns of the Riviera and Neighbouring Mountains'. The Visitors' Book in his refuge at Fontanalba, has been reproduced faithfully to commemorate this 100th Anniversary and it is now available to buy. Clarence painted a wild flower on each page of the book, signed on the back by the visitors staying in his refuge. Genova University has more than 3,300 of his drawings and watercolours.

After the 150th Anniversary of the Hanbury Gardens, much is being planned for the 100th Anniversary of Clarence Bicknell. Both men were typical Victorians. Wherever they were they involved themselves in the local communities and with enthusiasm made known their discoveries of the area they lived in. Sir Thomas, a Quaker, built schools for children, in La Mortola itself, in Shanghai where he worked, and elsewhere. Clarence built the Hall in Bordighera, which is now a Museum, where conferences, meetings, concerts, plays and other took place and still do. Two men, with a common but different interest in Botany, left their footprints in the Province of Imperia for us to discover, learn about and enjoy.

(6)

Remembrance - First World War Victims

One hundred years ago, on the 17 November 1917, a Serviceman of the Black Watch Regiment was the first Serviceman to be buried in the British & Commonwealth War Graves Cemetery in Bordighera. Private William Coubrough was 19 years old and was in Bordighera with others who had fought in the Italian Campaign on the Austrian Border. He died in the Villa Sylvia Hotel, then a British Military Hospital. Other Hotels in Bordighera used as hospitals during WWI were Hotel Angst, Park Hotel, Miramare, and the Belvedere.

Up until March 1919, a total of 68 British, 3 West Indians, 1 Indian, and 12 Prisoners of War from the Austrian Infantry Regiment were buried in the Cemetery.

We will remember them in our Service of Peace and Remembrance at the Cemetery on Thursday 9 November 2017 at 10.45am.

**"Standing as I do, in view of God and eternity,
I realise that patriotism is not enough.
I must have no hatred or bitterness towards anyone.**

(Edith Cavell on the eve of her execution)

Having been a leader in the Scout and Guide Association in Italy for many years I was interested and pleased to read the following:-

Kent, South East England - First Muslim Scout Group

The first Muslim Misbah Group in Kent opened recently. Their Director Faheem Anwar said on BBC his reason in starting the group was he wished to introduce Muslim parents to Scouting as they were mainly unaware of Scouting as such, and that he wanted the children to benefit from all that Scouting brings including catering for their religious and cultural needs. The Cub Scouts begin their meetings with a prayer to Allah instead of The Lord's Prayer, and have a link back to Islam when they learn to look after the environment, to protect wildlife and care for the earth and its resources. He said otherwise their activities are the same as any other Cub Scout group.

Chief Scout Bear Grylls said on BBC that "Scouting is a big wide family with wide arms and big hearts. It's about including people in the community from all different backgrounds and faiths. It's what we do really well – it's what we are proud of - and to see Muslim Scout Groups growing is really wonderful." (3)

PRAYERS FOR NOVEMBER

Heavenly Father,

We praise You and

give thanks for, and enjoy, the awakening of these autumn days, the dawn, the brightening sky, the deep blue sea, the vermilion horizon and a glimpse of Corsica...

give thanks for the freedom we have

remember those Christians, now with God, who accompanied us on our Christian journey and influenced us for good

O Lord, help us to share your love in word and deed

Give us strength as we face loss and grief, especially when the death was sudden.

for all servicemen/women who have died in the service of their country, especially those who gave their lives for us in WWI and are buried in Bordighera British & Commonwealth Military Cemetery - Let perpetual light shine upon them

Pray for all who live in areas of conflict and fear

At a time when financial cuts are necessary, we pray for those who have to make difficult decisions – may they have insight and wisdom

give us greater understanding and tolerance of those of other faiths and those who profess no faith at all

pray for anyone you know who is ill, at home or in hospital

pray for those who care for a sick loved one at home

pray for all who live in poverty

pray about the opportunity the Internet opens up – pray for the wise use of the worldwide web.

Pray for those who will sleep 'rough' on the streets tonight – migrants on the border

pray for the safety of members of the emergency services

open our lips to your praises so that the words we speak are full of Your kindness

remember and give thanks for all the good things this month has brought

.... Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer

**Eat and drink together; talk and laugh together; enjoy life together;
but never call it Friendship until you have wept together.**

(An African saying)

(4)