

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

Website: 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 #33(0)4 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

Telephone for confirmation

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The Church of the Holy Ghost, Genova

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Priest-in-charge: Revd. Canon Tony Dickinson

Tel. #39 010 88 92 68

Eucharist - Sundays 10.30am

Holy Communion or Shared Prayers – Wednesdays 12.30

Website: www.anglicanchurchgenoa.org

T H E

CROSS BORDER

Newsletter

June 2019

ORDINARY TIME

ST. JOHN'S ANGLICAN CHURCH

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

(until restoration of St. John's Church is completed)

EUCCHARIST

EVERY SUNDAY - 10.30am

**THE ENGLISH CEMETERY CHAPEL
BORDIGHERA**

EUCCHARIST

WEDNESDAY 12 June 2019 - 10.30am

THE ANGLICAN CHURCH OF THE HOLY GHOST, GENOVA

EUCCHARIST EVERY SUNDAY - 10.30am

HOLY COMMUNION or SHARED PRAYERS every Wednesday 12.30pm

READINGS for SERVICES in June 2019 - YEAR C

June 2 Easter 7	First Reading Psalm Second Reading Gospel	Acts 16.16-34 97 Revelation 22.12-14, 16-17, 20-21 John 17.20-26
June 9 Pentecost - Whitsun	First Reading Psalm Second Reading Gospel	Acts 2. 1-21 104.25-35, 37 Romans 8.14-17 John 14.8-17,
June 16 Trinity Sunday	First Reading Psalm Second Reading Gospel	Proverbs 8.1-4, 22-31 8 Romans 5.1-5 John 16.12-15
June 23 1st after Trinity	First Reading Psalm Second Reading Gospel	1 Kings 19. 1-15a 43 Galatians 3. 23-29 Luke 8. 26-39
June 30 2nd after Trinity	First Reading Psalm Second Reading Gospel	2 Kings 2. 1-2, 6-14 77. 11-20 Galatians 5. 1, 13-25 Luke 9. 51-62

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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.

Well, I didn't quite mean that!

The following sentences actually appeared in parish publications, or were announced in church services:-

- The Fasting & Prayer Conference includes meals.
- Our youth basketball team is back in action on Wednesday at 8pm in the recreation hall. Come and watch us kill Christ the King.
- Ladies, don't forget the jumble sale. It's a chance to get rid of those things not worth keeping around the house. Bring your husbands.
- Don't let worry kill you off – let the church help
- Miss Charlene Mason sang “I will not pass this way again”, giving obvious pleasure to the congregation.
- For those of you who have children and don't know it, we have a nursery downstairs.
- The Rector will preach his farewell message, after which the choir will sing: “Break Forth into Joy”.
- At the evening service tonight, the sermon topic will be “What is Hell?” Come early and listen to our choir practice.
- Scouts are saving aluminium cans, bottles, and other items to be recycled. Proceeds will be used to cripple children.
- Please place your donation in the envelope along with the deceased person you want remembered.
- The church will host an evening of fine dining, super entertainment, and gracious hospitality.
- Potluck supper Sunday at 5.00pm – prayer and medication to follow.
- The year eight pupils will be presenting Shakespeare's Hamlet in the Church basement on Friday at 7.00pm. The congregation is invited to attend this tragedy.
- Weight Watchers will meet at 7.00om at the Presbyterian Church. Please use the large double door at the side entrance.
- The Associate Minister unveiled the church's new tithing campaign slogan last Sunday: “I Upped My Pledge – Up Yours”.

Life at St. James-the-Least

*The Rectory
St. James the Least*

On simply getting to church now that petrol's gone up

My dear Nephew Darren,

Since your parishioners live in an area of half a square mile, where their only concern in getting to church is whether to take the underpass, or to risk a dash across the ring road, you may have little understanding of the problems our folk have in travelling miles along country lanes to church, now that it requires a loan from the International Monetary Fund to fill the car with petrol.

Several now only arrive half way through the Service, having underestimated the time it takes to park a pony and trap and the noise they make at the back of church, removing waterproofs, propping up whips and looking for somewhere to stow travel rugs even drowns out "Onward Christian Soldiers".

Those who arrive on horse, leaving them to graze in the churchyard, have had to be reminded that flowers in memorial vases are not fodder; neither were the imitation ones on Lady Metropole's straw hat, left in her open topped car. But having our verger standing outside for an hour holding the reins of half a dozen horses is not, as he loudly points out, part of his job description. Apart from which, restraining his amorous charges from visiting the local stables during Mattins is beyond his strength.

Major Crompton's discovery that the fuel for his sit-on lawnmower is considerably cheaper than petrol has inspired him to travel to church on it. Since he is unable to uncouple the mowing apparatus, the tarmac on his 4 mile drive is acquiring interesting patterns. His drive at 2 miles per hour along narrow lanes means he arrives leading a procession of cars with drivers given the opportunity to exercise their gifts of Christian tolerance and forgiveness. It doesn't help that he uses his stately journey to finish his breakfast of bacon and eggs, with his wife walking by his side with the coffeee pot.

The majority, naturally, arrive on foot, having negotiated fields, stiles and assorted cattle. The countryside may well praise God, but one does wish they wouldn't bring quite so much of it into church with them.

Lord Lipton who "is in oil" - which makes him sound like a sun-dried tomato – is apparently trying to come to some private arrangement with a Shiekh of his acquaintance. Should he be successful, while life in your city may grind to a halt, rural Evensong will be able to continue on its serene way, floating on an ocean of cut-price petroleum.

Your loving uncle,

Eustace

NEWS NEWS NEWS NEWS NEWS NEWS

Locum We welcome back Revd. Neville Griffiths and his wife Siân for the month of June.

St. John's restoration See the church website for photographs of the interior work continuing. Exciting times!

The English Cemetery Chapel, Bordighera The roof of the chapel has been cleared of all the weeds, roots and mud which had collected in the gutters and under the roof tiles – an amazing amount.

Archdeaconry of France and Monaco Please see the Synod Report on the pages in the centre of this issue of the Cross Border. Plenty to think about.

**If the Spirit is the source of life
let the Spirit also direct our course.**
(Galatians 5 : 25)

It seems the cloudy, wet, dreary weather of May is leaving us to give place to

**Brother Sun
Praised be You, My Lord,
in all Your creatures,
especially Sir Brother Sun,
who makes the day and enlightens us through You.
He is lovely and radiant and grand;
and he heralds You,
his Most High Lord.**

St Francis of Assisi

A thought to ponder

'To forgive is to set the prisoner free and then discover the prisoner was you'

Let us pray together through June.....

Heavenly Father, We pray / give thanks for:-

1. pray for the UK parliament and the newly elected European Parliament
2. *'He will judge the world with righteousness and the peoples with his truth'* (Psalm 96.13)
3. pray for the work of US, former owners of our church
4. give thanks for anyone who has told you the good news of God's love
5. for those who are persecuted for their faith.
6. Lord help us to foster reconciliation and bring your peace where we see conflict in the people around us.
7. for those who serve in the armed forces
8. those from other countries struggling to find acceptance here
9. *'Praise the Lord, O my soul! I will praise the Lord as long as I live'* (Psalm 146)
10. for young people taking exams at this time in school, college, university
11. for all who teach
12. take time today to appreciate the beauty of God's creation
13. give thanks that we can freely practice our faith
14. pray for those whose lives are burdened with poverty
15. and for the agencies and individuals who seek to relieve it
16. *'You are not a God who takes pleasure in wickedness and evil cannot dwell with you'* (Psalm 5.4)
17. for all new fathers as they take on responsibility for a new vulnerable life
18. give thanks for those who work with the elderly and house-bound.
19. for those who work in the media
20. and for those who watch or read the work they produce
21. pray for the peace (and justice) of Jerusalem
22. give thanks for long sunny days
23. *'Why are you so full of heaviness, O my soul? And why are you so disquieted within me?'* (Psalm 42.5)
24. give thanks for the love of family and friends
25. for those who feel misunderstood, unloved, or unwanted – show us how to reach them with support and encouragement
26. give thanks for the organisations who work to protect our natural environment
27. give thanks for the gift of music to enrich our lives
28. Bless the leaders of our church; keep them steadfast in faith and united in love
29. Heavenly Father, fill us with fresh purpose to share your love, your peace, your joy with all we meet
30. *'I will meditate on all your acts and ponder your mighty deeds. Your way, O God is holy; who is so great a god as our God?'* (Psalm 77.12,13)

Lord, thank you for talking to us in our prayers
may we listen and act. Amen

THE NEW TESTAMENT Acts of the Apostles – the Gospels – the Epistles

The Acts of the Apostles forms an essential link between the gospels and the epistles: *'In many ways the Epistles are not fully intelligible until they are read against the background of the book of Acts. The book shows effectively the main trends in the development of Christianity and presents in effect samples of the continuing work of Jesus'* (Donald Guthrie)

Its author Luke was a physician-friend and fellow-traveller of Paul. Acts compliments his gospel, both being written for Theophilus (Luke 1:3; Acts 1:1). It was probably written around 63, during Paul's first Roman imprisonment and just before Nero's persecution (AD 64).

While Luke's gospel records what Jesus began to do and teach, Acts tells us what Jesus *continues* to do and teach through his disciples who are empowered by the Holy Spirit (1:1-3). Luke's purpose is:

To present a history. Acts records the founding of the Church and the spread of the Gospel across the Roman Empire. Christianity has a firm historical foundation. The life and teaching of Jesus Christ are recorded in the Gospels; Acts goes on to provide an account of the spread of the Church as the result of the work of the risen Lord and the Holy Spirit through the apostles.

To give a defence. We read speeches made to both Jews (eg. 4:8-12) and Gentiles (eg. 25:8-11), showing us how the Early Church coped with pagan and Jewish thought, the Roman government and Hellenistic society.

To provide a guide. We see basic gospel principles being applied to specific situations in the context of problems and persecution. These same principles are applicable for us today.

To depict the triumph of Christianity in the face of bitter persecution. The success of the Church carrying the Gospel from Jerusalem to Rome and planting local churches demonstrates that Christianity is not just a human work. It operates under the rule of the exalted Christ and through the power of the Holy Spirit.

The theme and content of Acts is best summarized in 1:8: *'But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.'* Just as the Holy Spirit empowered the first Christians in their witness, he can do the same for us today!

(The Beacon)

WORKSHOPS

Synod representatives were given the opportunity to attend two of four workshops:

- Welcoming the Stranger: Kirrilee Reid
- GDPR: Clive Billeness
- Safeguarding: Majeon Griffith and Katherine Harris
- Communication: Damian Thwaites, Amaris Cole, Liz Morgan

BREXIT

The UK's proposed departure from the European Union is causing many British citizens who belong to our chaplaincies anxiety and uncertainty. We were delighted that Matthew Lodge, Minister at the British Embassy in Paris, was able to join us again and update us on the latest developments. With such a fluid political situation, and (at the time of writing) two further extensions to the British departure timetable, there was little he could say with any certainty. Nonetheless, his clear explanation of the process so far, and the likely effects on British citizens was appreciated.

MEETINGS OF THE HOUSE OF LAITY & HOUSE OF CLERGY

During the Synod the Archdeacon led Synod's thanks to Kate Giry-DeLoison who retired after 20 years as Chair of the House of Laity. Dianne Murray was elected to serve as Chair of the House of Laity. Following meetings in individual houses, a plenary session of the Synod voted unanimously to send a motion to the Diocesan Synod to seek a debate on the authorisation for the training and commissioning of lay pastoral assistants. It arose from an expressed need for a local form of pastorally-focussed ministry.

The Archdeacon thanked the Archdeaconry Standing Committee for its time and skill in planning the Synod, and all members of Synod for the energy, vision and experience they bring to our time together each year.

Thank You, Lord, for your presence here,
 thank You, Lord, thank You, Lord.
 Thank You, Lord, You remove all fear,
 thank You, Lord, thank You, Lord.
 For the love that You showed as You poured out Your life,
 we thank You, we bless You,
 Christ Jesus our Lord,
 we thank You, Lord, thank You, Lord.
 Thank You, Lord . . .

Hymn © 1986 Roland Fudge

a day to remember 17 June
Samuel and Henrietta Barnett
(1844-1913 & 1851-1936)

Born into a Bristol manufacturing family in 1844, Samuel Barnett was educated at Wadham College, Oxford reading Law and Modern History. In 1867 he was ordained to a curacy at St. Mary's Bryanston Square in Marylebone where he met, and in 1873 married, Henrietta Rowland (born 1851), the daughter of a wealthy London businessman. With a deep practical faith of her own Henrietta was working with the housing reformer Octavia Hill. Later in 1873 the Barnetts moved to London's East End when Samuel became Vicar of St. Jude's, Whitechapel. The bishop had told them that it was, "The worst in the diocese, inhabited mainly by a criminal population." They were both deeply affected by the squalid conditions in which their parishioners lived and became involved in promoting social reform both locally and on the national stage. Active Christian socialists, they sought to ensure that social reform was based on Christian principles and that Christians were actively involved in social reform. In 1885 they jointly wrote *Practical Socialism*.

Samuel was unafraid to experiment in worship and educational practice and even to borrow ideas from urban Nonconformity in order to bring the gospel to those who would not normally attend church services. He lobbied for the Artisans' Dwelling Act of 1875. He served on the Whitechapel Board of Guardians and was one of the first in England to propose universal pension provision. Henrietta was also involved in various projects of her own, mainly involving education and the welfare of children. She was an initiator in the setting up of the Children's Country Holiday Fund, which gave children from the slums of London a chance to breathe fresh air and come to terms with the world of nature. She was also a founder of Whitechapel Art Gallery.

Perhaps their best known legacy is that of Toynbee Hall, the first of the 'university settlements', based on the principle that those with money and education should live and work amongst the poor. Samuel was its first Warden from 1884 to 1896. After a visit in 1884, George Clemenceau, later Prime Minister of France, remarked that Samuel Barnett was one of the 'three really great men' he had met in England.

In 1906 Samuel was appointed a canon (and later sub-dean) of Westminster and the couple moved to leafy Hampstead. The contrast with Whitechapel inspired Henrietta to create a model suburb in which decent housing, open spaces and recreational amenities would be available to people of modest incomes. This was the origin of Hampstead Garden Suburb, which developed after 1907. When completed the development featured special housing for the old and disabled, modern schools and new churches. After Samuels' death at Hove in 1913, Henrietta continued her work and became a Dame of the British Empire in 1924. She died in 1936. (4)

Valerie Aucouturier has kindly shared with us this year's Archdeaconry Synod Report :-

The Archdeaconry Synod of France and Monaco of 2019 gathered in a new location, over a shorter time, with a more focussed agenda, as it met in Lyon from 16th to 18th May. Due to unforeseen circumstances, the Bishop was unable to be present but sent a message to synod via video.

A NEW LOCATION

Domaine Lyon St Joseph, once a Roman Catholic Diocesan seminary for Lyon, is in a delightful location on the outskirts of the city, providing comfortable facilities, welcome hospitality and good food. A real bonus was having a spacious and inviting chapel separate from our main conference hall. Worship and Bible study was the framework within which we engaged with issues of communication, conflict, safeguarding, and the wider mission of the Diocese, as well as an update on Brexit. The worship was led by a variety of clergy and lay ministers, with the Archdeacon sharing presidency of the Eucharist (and preaching) with the three Area Deans. Tonie Chandler was also Commissioned by the Archdeacon as Diocesan President of the Mothers' Union. The worship was greatly enhanced by the musical leadership of Andrew Shaw and his team.

CONFLICT & GOVERNANCE

In his opening address, the Archdeacon welcomed our visiting speakers, before addressing a pressing issue for many of our chaplaincies: the degree to which conflict was evident in a number of places; and how this is undermining the Church's mission. The strain this is placing on both clergy and lay representatives, and how much of this was rooted in unhelpful models of governance, was explored in the rest of his address. The majority of chaplaincies ensure that their constitution is virtually identical to the constitutional framework that is a pre-requisite of belonging to the Diocese in Europe. The Archdeacon, speaking from his recent (and immediate) experience of engaging with situations of conflict, was clear that when chaplaincies formulate their own constitution, and wilfully disregard the constitutional requirements of the Diocese, trouble is inevitable. It leads to unrealistic and confused expectations around roles and responsibilities. He also reminded the Synod that clergy holding the Bishop's Licence were primarily responsible to the Bishop for their ministry. In this respect, the Archdeacon outlined how a priest's accountability is expressed through the Ministry Development Review. The Archdeacon also emphasised that the constitutional expectations of the Diocese, as well as our identity as part of the Church of England, was not a menu from which individual chaplaincies could pick and choose to suit their own purposes. It is a *prix fixe!* With an awareness of the close and dynamic ecumenical relationships we have with other churches in France, he said it was especially important that (5)

we are clear about the doctrinal, liturgical and constitutional factors that have shaped our identity as Anglicans over many centuries.

Aware that some of these issues may be new, or unfamiliar territory, the Archdeacon said that a 'pack' was being prepared to help chaplaincies bring their governance into alignment with the rest of the Church of England, and hoped it would be especially useful for chaplaincies preparing to welcome new chaplains – not least to avoid conflict arising out of confused expectations.

THANKFULNESS

Our Bible Studies were led by Brother Matthew of the Taizé Community. Originally from Yorkshire, Brother Matthew helped us to explore passages from Matthew 11.25-30 and Philippians 3.4b-16, focussing on mission, reconciliation and thankfulness. These were participatory, and included song, silence and discussion in groups.

COMMUNICATION

Our new Diocesan Director of Communications, Damian Thwaites, was joined by Amaris Cole and Liz Morgan from the Digital Media Team at Church House, Westminster (the HQ of the Church of England), as he explored how our chaplaincies can extend their on-line presence, both through the use of social media and the free web-hosting service 'A Church Near You' (ACNY), which is freely available to all chaplaincies in the Diocese in Europe, in particular, he highlighted how the Church of England, centrally, is investing £10m to develop ACNY, which means individual churches do not need to spend money in developing their own website, and can easily link to ACNY.

DIOCESAN RESOURCING AND STRATEGY

The Archdeacon welcomed Mr Andrew Caspari to his first Synod as Chief Operating Officer of the Diocese (Diocesan Secretary). Andrew explored many of the challenges and opportunities in resourcing the mission of the Diocese, and emphasised the partnership between the Diocesan Office and chaplaincies across the Archdeaconry. He was also keen to understand the pressures individual chaplaincies face, and to be a source of encouragement and support.

SAFEGUARDING

We were joined by Majeane Griffith and Katherine Harris from the Diocesan Safeguarding Team. They brought members of Synod up to date on the latest requirements of the Diocesan safeguarding policy, as well as developments and opportunities for training across France and the Diocese. In emphasising the need for our chaplaincies to be places of safety for all, especially children and vulnerable adults, they offered helpful advice and encouragement to enable chaplaincies to employ the Diocesan policies to best effect.

Continued on page 7(6)