

St. John's Anglican Church, 2 Avenue Pigautier, 06500 Menton, France

Website: www.anglicanchurchmenton.com

Sunday Service – Eucharist – 10.30am

Priest-in-charge: Vacant

Locum: Fr. David Houghton

Tel. #33 (0)4 93 57 20 25

Wardens: Valerie Aucouturier

Tel. #33 (0)4 93 57 36 53

email: anglicanchurch.menton@gmail.com

Carolyn Hanbury

hanbury.carolyn@gmail.com

Communications: Suzanne Prince

prince.suzanne06@gmail.com

Finance: Robert Edwards

bob.edwards@premiertapeconverters.co.uk

Council Members: Ennis Cardew

ennis.cardew@wanadoo.fr

Barbara Corry #39 0184 38 450

nichol.barbara31@gmail.com

George Owen

george.owen@omnibus-clapham.org

John Wason

johnandjillwason@aol.com

The English Library, St. John's Church, Menton

Books & DVDs available 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

Contact: Barbara Corry

Tel. #39 0184 38 450

nichol.barbara31@gmail.com

Finance: Barbara Caula

Tel. #39 339 66 89 122

bmrobinson1933@gmail.com

Editor: Elizabeth Cordone

eacordone@gmail.com

The Church of the Holy Ghost, Genova

Piazza Marsala 3, 16122 Genova, Italy

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

THE

CROSS BORDER

Newsletter

MARCH 2020

LENT

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 11 MARCH 2020 - 10.30am

**THE ANGLICAN CHURCH OF THE HOLY GHOST, GENOVA
Piazza Marsala 3, (near Piazza Corvetto)**

EUCCHARIST EVERY SUNDAY - 10.30am

HOLY COMMUNION or SHARED PRAYERS every Wednesday 12.30pm

READINGS for SERVICES in MARCH 2020 YEAR A

Please note there will be no New Testament readings during Sunday Services in Lent

March 1 LENT 1	First Reading Psalm Gospel	Genesis 2.15-17; 3.1-7 32 Matthew 4.1-11
March 8 LENT 2	First Reading Psalm Gospel	Genesis 12.1-4a 121 John 3.1-17
March 15 LENT 3	First Reading Psalm Gospel	Exodus 17.1-7 95 John 4.5-42
March 22 LENT 4 Mothering Sunday	First Reading Psalm Second Reading Gospel	Exodus 2.1-10 34.11-20 Colossians 3.12-17 John 19.25b-27
March 29 LENT 5	First Reading Psalm Gospel	Ezekiel 37.1-14 130 John 11.1-45

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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.

ST. PATRICK

Everyone has heard of St. Patrick – the patron saint of Ireland, who we commemorate on 17th March. If you've ever been in New York on St. Patrick's Day you'd think he was the patron saint of New York as well ... the vast, flamboyant parade is full of American/Irish razzmatazz.

It's all a far cry from the hard life of this 5th century humble Christian who became in time both bishop and apostle of Ireland. Patrick was born the son of a town councillor in the west of England, between the mouth of the Severn and the Clyde. But as a young man he was captured by Irish pirates, kidnapped to Ireland, and reduced to slavery. He was made to tend his master's herds.

Desolate and despairing, Patrick turned to prayer. He found God was there for him, even in such desperate circumstances. He spent much time in prayer, and his faith grew and deepened, in contrast to his earlier years, when he “knew not the true God”.

Then, after six gruelling, lonely years he was told in a dream he would soon go to his own country. He either escaped or was freed, made his way to a port 200 miles away and eventually persuaded some sailors to take him with them away from Ireland.

After various adventures in other lands, including near-starvation, Patrick landed on English soil at last, and returned to his family. But he was much changed. He had enjoyed his life of plenty before; now he wanted to devote the rest of his life to Christ. Patrick received some form of training for the priesthood, but not the higher education he really wanted.

But by 435, well educated or not, Patrick was badly needed. Palladius' mission to the Irish had failed, and so the Pope sent Patrick back to the land of his slavery. He set up his see at Armagh, and worked principally in the north. He urged the Irish to greater spirituality, set up a school, and made several missionary journeys.

Patrick's writings are the first literature certainly identified from the British Church. They reveal sincere simplicity and a deep pastoral care. He wanted to abolish paganism, idolatry, and was ready for imprisonment or death in the following of Christ.

Patrick remains the most popular of the Irish saints. The principal cathedral of New York is dedicated to him, as, of course, is the Anglican cathedral of Dublin.

A Prayer from the 'World Day of Prayer' Site

All-seeing, all-knowing Lord Jesus,
you discern the true motives and desires of our hearts,
no secrets are hidden from you.
When we plan our celebratory meals and dinner parties,
we consider who is influential and pleasant to know;
who will provide introductions that could help with our career plans;
who will reward us with a return invitation.
We, too, make our excuses when we consider people who have little to offer us,
and that hurts those planning the occasion.

When you were on earth, you didn't 'cherry pick' your invitations;
you mixed with people from all walks of life.
If you were here today, you would meet the decision makers and business people
who had made their millions.
You would also share a cup of tea with the old and lonely, and visit those in hostels
for the homeless, the transients in bed and breakfast accomodation and the convicted
in prison.
You would be at the soup kitchens.
You would be there at the food banks; you would be talking to people sitting on
their sleeping bags in doorways.
You would be at the housing office with the angry and frightened who turn up each
day looking for social housing before they are turned out on the street.
You would wait patiently with those who are waiting for their benefits to be restored.
You would help those with mental illness, disability and visual impairment.
You would be alongside drug adicts and alcoholics.
Help us to offer no excuses and follow your example.

When you call us to follow you, you ask us to love unconditionally for your sake and
your kingdom.

Anthea Allan.

All in the month of: March

It was 100 years ago on 8th March 1910 that John Moore-Brabazon became the first
person in the UK to qualify as a pilot.

It was 80 years ago on 6th March 1930 that Clarence Birdseye first launched frozen
food for sale – in Springfield Massachusetts. It was a success from the start.

It was 40 years ago on 5th March 1970 that the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of
Nuclear Weapons came into effect, having been ratified by 43 nations. (9)

NEWS NEWS NEWS NEWS NEWS NEWS

Locum Fr. David Houghton continues to be with us through the month of March.

Venue – Lemon Festival Due to the Lemon Festival taking place until 3 March,
please note the Sunday service on 1 March will be held in the **Church of the
Penitents Noirs, Rue Général Galliéni.**

Eucharist, Bordighera Chapel Please note this month's service will take place
on **Wednesday, 11 March at 10.30am**

THE BAROMETER SIGN outside our Church of St. John. It is advertising the
need for **Funds to Complete the Church Renovation.** At the time of writing the
barometer showed that 40% of the appeal has been received. Please continue to
encourage your families, friends, colleagues and acquaintances to donate and make
the **barometer soar**, so that we may once more open the doors of our church and
worship God with all who come inside.

The Louvre, Saturday mornings, 9.30-11.30

On sale: books, DVDs, bric-a-brac in aid of church funds for the restoration of St.
John's. Refreshments are also served while you chat with your friends and meet new
ones. We look forward to seeing you. Do come.

WORK PARTY The work party usually meets every Thursday at 09.30 and
continues through the morning. With grateful thanks to Michael Likierman, who
provided the transport, and hard work by the Work Party, thousands of books were
removed from the nave during February. Please speak to Barbara Corry if you
would like to join the Work Party. They are doing a great job, but an extra pair of
hands is always welcome.

REOPENING OF ST. JOHN'S CHURCH

PENTECOST 2020

Your help is needed to make sure
the church building is ready for the
reopening planned for

Pentecost

PLEASE JOIN THE WORK PARTY
as often as you can

LET US PRAY TOGETHER THROUGH MARCH 2020

We continue to pray for the complete restoration of the Church of St. John's, the safety of those working on it, their good workmanship, the reopening

Heavenly Father,

We praise you and give you thanks and pray for

1. On this St. David's Day, pray for the church and anyone you know who lives in Wales
2. Pray for the opportunity of a closer walk with God during Lent
3. for those suffering from mental disorders that leave them afraid and lonely
4. Father, fill us all with Your love that it will illuminate our lives
5. for all those who are attending or following Lent courses
6. pray for Zimbabwe and those taking part in the World Day of Prayer
7. pray for children and young people in the towns where we live
8. 'My help comes for the Lord, the maker of heaven and earth' Psalm 121.2
9. pray for those who find their work stressful.....
10. and for those who are seeking employment
11. for any couples you know who are preparing for marriage
12. give thanks for the commitment of St. John's Church Work Group
13. give thanks for the longer brighter days and the warmth of the sun
14. pray for the migrants who arrive on our border and their future life with us
15. 'O that today you would harken to his voice! Harden not your hearts.' Psalm 95
16. Lord, slow me down if I'm going too fast. May my life be inspired by You.
17. On this St. Patrick's Day pray for anyone you know who lives in Ireland
18. for the sick – their comfort and healing
19. Give thanks for your family, the love and happiness you share
20. pray for the staff in the hospitals where you live.....
21. and for the patients in their care
22. 'Surely your goodness shall follow me all the days of my life.' Psalm 23
23. pray for those who work in the emergency services
24. Bishop Robert's Lent Appeal – Classroom Building Diocese of Mumias, Kenya
25. Ask God's guidance to reach Carbon Reduction targets year-on-year
26. for those who work for an end to injustice in the world
27. give thanks for the peace and tranquillity of the parks in our towns
28. give thanks for those who volunteer to help with sporting activities
29. 'there is forgiveness with you; therefore you shall be feared.' Psalm 130
30. for God's healing and wholeness in your own life
31. Give thanks for all the good things this month has brought.

**Lord, thank you for talking to me in my prayers,
may I listen and put what I hear into practice
Amen**

(3)

Life at St. James-the-Least

*The Rectory
St. James-the Least*

My dear Nephew Darren,

I must begin with a confession. I know it is wrong of me, but last Wednesday I coveted your modern purpose-built, user-friendly worship centre. Your concrete cube may have all the aesthetic charm of a suburban bus shelter, but it is clean, bright, and does not have the propensity for hiding dead animals in dark corners.

March at St. James-the-Least brings an annual event I dread: the 'Boon Day'. There is a certain irony in the ladies of the parish – who without exception employ dailies to do all their domestic cleaning and dusting – getting together to wash, polish and scrape 12 month's worth of accumulated dirt from the church interior.

Having very obviously put in hours of thought about correct dress – not looking as if they're set for drinks at the golf club, but equally not giving the impression that wielding a mop and bucket comes naturally to them – they arrive equipped with the cartier equivalents of bleach and dusters. I am slightly surprised Admiral Waterspoon's wife knows which end of a brush should be held.

Miss Pemberton's over-enthusiastic use of bleach for cleaning the sanctuary floor in the Lady Chapel makes one feel one is entering a public lavatory rather than a house of God. Books, service sheets and collection plates have all been so efficiently tidied away that it will take months before anyone can find anything. Lost coins are placed in the collection box, long-forgotten gloves and scarves put out for the next jumble sale and dead pigeons placed on the compost heap.

Just as archaeologists date various layers of a dig from the artefacts they recover, the ladies cleaning the choir stalls have determined precisely when the tenors changed from spearmint to pepperm into chews during the sermon, as they shovelled through 52 Sundays-worth of lost mints.

Our great moment of crisis came when Lady Dawes decided to clean the statue of St. James-the-Least, standing in his niche above the high altar. An eight foot, fifty year-old step ladder and an eighteen stone seventy year-old dowager are not an ideal combination. St. James has stood on his plinth, unmolested, for the best part of 500 years, two fingers held in a sign of blessing. Until last Wednesday.

Lady D's last flourish, removing the cobwebs from St. James' head, caused her to lose her balance. She grasped for something for support, failed and hit the float still holding one of our saint's two fingers. He now stands – admittedly very clean – but with only one finger raised to the congregation in a far from saintly gesture. A little judicious application of glue will be necessary before he makes his true intentions clear.

And so we now live in a state of uninhabitable order and hygiene. Within a month, the skills of mice and men should return us to our preferred ambience for Christian worship.

Your loving uncle, Eustace.

(8)

