

**St. John's Anglican Church, 31 Avenue Carnot, Menton**  
**Postal address: 2 Avenue Pigautier, 06500 Menton, France**  
**Website: [www.anglicanchurchmenton.com](http://www.anglicanchurchmenton.com)**

**Eucharist Service Sundays 10.30am**

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John Wason

**The English Library, St. John's Church, Menton**  
Saturday mornings from 9.30-11.30  
Wednesday afternoons from 2.30-5.30

**The British Association, Menton** Chair: Birgitt Nordbrink Tel #33(0)4 93 28 10 02  
The Association continues to meet Saturday mornings in the Louvre from 9.30-11.30

**The Anglican Community, Bordighera**  
The English Cemetery Chapel, Via del Campo, Bordighera, Italy

**Eucharist Service: usually 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of each month – 10.30am**  
**Telephone for confirmation**

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**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](http://www.anglicanchurchgenoa.org)**

# THE CROSS BORDER

Newsletter JANUARY 2021

## **ST JOHN'S ANGLICAN CHURCH, MENTON**

St. John's is open for worship  
during the covid-19 epidemic  
according to rules and restrictions for churches in France

# EPIPHANY

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## **THE ANGLICAN CHAPEL, BORDIGHERA**

No services until further notice

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Please visit St. John's website  
for any changes that may occur  
during the covid-19 coronavirus epidemic period

[www.anglicanchurchmenton.com](http://www.anglicanchurchmenton.com)



# WELCOME TO THE 21<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY!

Our phones	→	wireless
cooking	→	fireless
cars	→	keyless
food	→	fatless
tyres	→	tubeless
tools	→	cordless
dress	→	sleeveless
youth	→	jobless
leaders	→	shameless
relationships	→	meaningless
attitude	→	careless
wives	→	fearless
babies	→	fatherless
feelings	→	heartless
education	→	valueless
children	→	mannerless
government	→	useless
parliament	→	clueless
masses	→	helpless

everything is becoming LESS  
but still our hope in the Future is ENDLESS  
in fact I am SPEECHLESS  
because friendship remains PRICELESS !

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**DEFINITIONS:-**

Chickens - *An animal you eat before they are born and after they are dead*

Committee - *a body that keeps minutes and wastes hours*

Handkerchief - *Cold storage*

Skeleton - *a bunch of bones with the person scraped off*

Toothache - *the pain that drives you to extraction*

Tomorrow - *one of the greatest labour saving devices of today*

Yawn - *an honest opinion openly expressed*

Raisin - *a grape with sunburn*

# NEWS NEWS NEWS NEWS NEWS NEWS NEWS NEWS

## Locums

We are pleased to announce that Fr. Keith Bretel returns to St. John's to celebrate the Eucharist on Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> January and Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> January, and that Fr. Chris Packman will celebrate on Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> January.

Service of Prayer for Christian Unity an Ecumenical Service will be held on Saturday 23 January at 4.00pm in the Roman Catholic cathedral in Sanremo. We are pleased that Revd. Canon Tony Dickinson, the Chaplain at the Church of the Holy Ghost in Genova will be there to represent the Anglican Church.

Archdeacon of France The Reverend Tony Lomas has agreed to be Acting Archdeacon of France in the interim period from 1<sup>st</sup> January to 14<sup>th</sup> February 2021 before Canon Dr. Peter Hooper is licensed as Archdeacon in full title.. Tony already has major responsibilities as Chaplain of Aquitaine and Area Dean. We are asked to give him our support and try to ensure he is not overloaded in the six weeks in which he carries extra responsibilities.

Contagion of coronavirus continues to grow throughout Europe. Please check on our website on the back page that the church is open for services.

## Our Greatest Need

If our greatest need had been information,  
God would have sent us an educator.

If our greatest need had been money,  
God would have sent us an economist.

If our greatest need had been technology,  
God would have sent us a scientist.

If our greatest need had been pleasure,  
God would have sent us an entertainer.

But our greatest need was for forgiveness,  
So God sent us a saviour.

## LET US PRAY TOGETHER THROUGH JANUARY .....

Lord God, Heavenly Father, we acknowledge that all we have comes from you, so with a grateful heart we give you thanks and pray for ....

1. The beginning of a new year - pray for God's guidance in all that lies ahead
2. all those whom we are unable to be with during this long period of covid-19 restrictions and travel difficulties
3. ***Sing to the Lord with thanksgiving; make music to our God (Ps.147)***
4. give thanks for our locums
5. may we remain devoted to seeking Jesus even when obstacles are in our way ...
6. Epiphany – that Christ may shine on those outside the churches
7. the UK has left the EU; give thanks for the good things we learned with them ...
8. ... and help us Lord to continue to reach out our hands in friendship across the whole of Europe
9. those who are prevented from getting to church through illness, infirmity, or age
10. ***The voice of the Lord is upon the waters; the God of glory thunders. (Ps. 29)***
11. thank you for talking to me Lord, I am listening .....
12. all returning to school – inspire them in their learning and lead them in their relationships
13. all in education who enable families to tackle poverty, health, employment issues
14. give thanks for those who encourage us to discover and use our gifts
15. give thanks for our church representatives who link us across the diocese
16. God, make us more aware of your glory as we observe the beauty of your creation
17. ***I will thank you because I am marvellously made. (Ps.139)***
18. for those you know who are struggling with health issues
19. Lord, uphold all in the medical profession as people's needs are increasing .....
20. ... show us how to give support and encouragement so we can bring your healing love to people in need of your help
21. Lord, give us energy and inspiration to do more than we ever expected
22. pray for the day when we can truly say that we are 'all one in Christ Jesus'
23. Service of Prayer for Christian Unity – in the Cathedral, Sanremo at 16.00hrs.
24. ***Whoever fears the Lord shall indeed be blessed. (Ps. 128)***
25. may we concentrate on the faith that unites us instead of what we disagree about
26. for protection of children & young people that they grow up without fear of abuse
27. Give thanks that you are part of the Body of Christ whatever your abilities may be
28. pray for all in government working to support and improve their communities
29. forgive us Lord, when we choose to ignore rather than help migrants in need and
30. help us look with compassion on those who are homeless, hungry and fearful ....
31. ***Great are the deeds of the Lord! They are studied by all who delight in them (Ps.111)***

**Lord, thank you for talking to us in our prayers,  
may we listen and put what you say into practice.**

**Amen**

**(3)**

## 2020 - 2021

At the beginning of 2020 we were still celebrating the eucharist in the Chapelle St. Roch. Fr. Mika Pajunen from Finland was our locum and he was accompanied by his wife Liina. Before Christmas that winter a Carol Service had been held in the Bordighera Chapel with Fr. Mika playing the guitar and Des MacDermot a drum. Fr. Mika attended the Service of Prayer for Christian Unity in Montecarlo and in Sanremo. Church life was continuing quietly as we worked towards the complete restoration of St. John's and its reopening which was hoped would be celebrated at Pentecost. Archdeacon Meurig Williams visited to see the work inside the building and to meet members of the church and the British Association. Barbara Corry had been in bed with the 'Flu and wrote of childhood memories for the Cross Border. The Barometer outside St. John's rose slowly but surely as donations for the restoration were received..

February arrived and with it Fr. David Houghton as locum. He celebrated the Eucharist for us in the Church of The Penitents Noir during the Lemon Festival.

Then the world, as we knew it, changed. The Covid-19 Coronavirus had come to Europe and spread rapidly – governments introduced rules and restrictions; churches, hotels, bars, shops and businesses were closed, people were invited to work from home, school children too, and work at St. John's was put on hold. Locums could travel from afar – we relied on those who resided in the area. Others provided sermons to be put on the website. And the situation continues off and on.

Despite postponements The Great Day eventually arrived and St. John's church was 'softly' reopened. Fr. David was there to celebrate the first Eucharist in the beautiful restored church on 12<sup>th</sup> July, almost ten years after the subsidence occurred. The limited number allowed in the congregation was wearing masks, no music or hymn singing permitted, but a great sense of happiness and thanksgiving at what had been achieved - the only sadness being that many were unable to be present at the reopening because of the restrictions on movement and travel.

The promised organ arrived and was installed adjacent to the Lady Chapel by Mr. Martin Renshaw. It was played for the first time by Mr Benjamin Prischi at the Eucharist on 11<sup>th</sup> October. Those unable to be there look forward to hearing it.

We missed meeting in church regularly, but have appreciated greatly the services online and TV, the letters, cards, emails, photographs, and telephone calls that have comforted and kept us united. 2020 has been a year to remember. We have learnt how important it is to meet people, work together, play together, talk together, pray together, share a smile and laughter together, and welcome people into our homes. 2021 is here. Coronavirus is still with us. Let us hope and pray that the life promised us with the birth of Jesus and with God's help our church will grow and flourish.

**(4)**