

St. John's Anglican Church, 31 Avenue Carnot, Menton
Postal Address: 2 Avenue Pigautier, 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

Books available on loan - Saturday mornings from 9.30-12.30

Wednesday afternoons – 2.30-5.30

Refreshments also available

The British Association 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 2nd Wednesday of each month – 10.30am
Telephone for confirmation

Contact: Barbara Corry Tel. #39 0184 38 450 nichol.barbara31@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
FEBRUARY 2021

ST. JOHN'S ANGLICAN CHURCH, MENTON

**EUCCHARIST
EVERY SUNDAY - 10.30am**

(covid-19 permitting)

ORDINARY TIME
LENT

**THE ENGLISH CEMETERY CHAPEL
BORDIGHERA**

**No Service at present
please check St. John's website for any changes**

THE ANGLICAN CHURCH OF THE HOLY GHOST, GENOVA

Chaplain: Revd. Canon Tony Dickinson

EUCCHARIST EVERY SUNDAY - 10.30am

A QUIET EUCCHARIST EVERY WEDNESDAY 12.30pm

The Food Bank is open every Sunday and Wednesday after the Eucharist

READINGS for SERVICES in FEBRUARY 2021 - YEAR B

February 7
2 before Lent
First Reading Proverbs 8. 1, 22-31
Psalm 104. 25-37
Second Reading Colossians 1.15-20
Gospel John 1. 1-14

February 14
Next before Lent
First Reading 2 Kings 2. 1-12
Psalm 50. 1-6
Second Reading 2 Corinthians 4. 3-6
Gospel Mark 9. 2-9

February 21
LENT 1
First Reading Genesis 9. 8-17
Psalm 25. 1-10
Second Reading 1 Peter 3. 18-22
Gospel Mark 1. 9-15

February 28
LENT 2
First Reading Genesis 17. 1-7, 15-16
Psalm 22. 22-30
Second Reading Romans 4. 13-25
Gospel Mark 8. 31-38

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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.

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Signs & Symbols: Love you!

The Revd. Dr. Jo White considers the ways of expressing love....

A vicar once horrified a stranger whilst travelling up twelve floors with her in an office block lift by saying, "How lovely to meet a fellow Christian." "What do you mean?" she replied, bewildered. "Well you're wearing a crucifix so I assumed you must be a Christian." "Oh, this," lifting a large gold necklace she was wearing, "This was my Grandmother's – I wondered what it was." So often we just take for granted that people know what we know about the Christian faith, and of course, in that case she clearly didn't.

As our thoughts turn to 'Love' in the month of February and St. Valentine's Day, what symbol might you choose to express your love for someone? Perhaps a heart, a lipstick kiss, or even a hug? What colour would you choose for love? It is usually red – to remind us of our life-blood. In fact, if you see stained glass in a church, the chances are that where red glass predominates the message is of sacrifice and ultimately of 'love'.

Jesus, it is often said, showed his love by opening his arms wide upon the cross; and so the cross is our supreme symbol of God's love for each of us. A cross (no figure suspended) because Jesus is no longer held there, but rather has overcome death and is alive again. A crucifix (with a suspended figure) because here is Jesus paying the ultimate sacrifice for love of each one of us.

Have a look at the different crosses and crucifixes in a church near you, perhaps one with which you are not so familiar. Note their different designs, shapes, textures and their materials. What do you think they might all mean?

Use a hand dryer in the public toilets? Probably best not to bother....

You know the routine – after washing your hands, you are faced with an electric dryer, under which you are supposed to rub your hands vigorously, until they are dry. Well, they may get dry, but they may well be more germier than when you started.

Researchers have found that bacteria levels INCREASE when you wash your hands and then rub them together under an electric hot-air dryer. And the wetter the hands when you start, the more bacteria. They concluded that while electric dryers may keep bathrooms tidy, paper towels are far more effective at reducing the risk of spreading infection.

The problem is that the bacteria that lives within the skin is brought to the surface when you wet your skin and then rub it. The report found that 'a diverse mixture of bacteria survived hand-washing.' And when you rub your hands together under a dryer, you can even increase the bacteria count – up to 18 per cent! (6)

WILLIAM WATERFIELD RIP

1942 - 2021

It is with great sadness we bring the news of the death of William Waterfield on 21st January. After suffering two strokes he was taken to hospital in Menton, where he died at the age of 78.

William was a keen botanist from childhood and when he went to live at Clos du Peyronnet in Garavan, Menton, close to the Italian border, in 1976, he inherited a little more than an acre of garden with terraces running steeply uphill. A difficult land to cultivate. He applied his horticultural expertise and hard work adding five different species of avocado pears and other exotic fruits from South Africa together with his special interest, some 300 species of bulbs. Working together with his wife Judith, who shared his love of gardening, the garden at Le Clos flourished. He always enjoyed conducting tours for his visitors.

William was a staunch friend of St. John's church; his last act being to raise €20,000 for the Restoration Fund by writing to all his contacts.

William will be sorely missed for his essential friendliness, excellent company and knowledge of gardening.

ALL IN THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY

760 years ago: on 1st Feb 1261 Walter de Stapledon, Bishop of Exeter and founder of Exeter College, Oxford University, was born.

210 years ago:- on 9th Feb 1811 that Nevil Maskelyne, British Astronomer Royal, died. He was noted for having calculated longitude from the position of the moon.

110 years ago:- on 6th Feb 1911 Ronald Reagan, 40th president of the US was born

60 years ago: on 15th Feb 1961 that a plane crash in Brussels killed 73 people, including the entire US figure skating team

50 years ago:- on 5th Feb 1971 Apollo 14 landed on the moon. The following day, astronaut Alan Shepard became the first man to hit a golf ball on the moon.

40 years ago:- on 9th Feb 1981 Bill Haley ('Rock Around the Clock'), the father of rock and roll died.

25 years ago: on 5th Feb 1996 the first genetically modified food went on sale in the UK – tomato puree made from tomatoes that had had the 'rotting gene' removed. (The product was withdrawn in 1999 after strong opposition.)

NEWS NEWS NEWS NEWS NEWS NEWS

Locum We welcome back Revd. David Houghton on Friday 19th February, covid-19 permitting.

Services Morning Prayer will take the place of the Eucharist Service should we be without a locum

Organist: Mr. Benjamin Prischi.

Please check on our website that nothing has changed due to covid-19 restrictions.

Library The English Library of fiction and non-fiction books is open Saturday mornings from 09h30 to 12h30 and Wednesday afternoons from 14h30 to 16h30.

Lent Plastic Challenge On 28 January, ARocha/Anglican and other denominations in Portugal, organised a zoom meeting about saving plastic. Our Diocesan Representative Elizabeth Bussmann received requests for a document she has prepared to use day by day through Lent. The challenge is to give up single-use plastics to reduce the actions which damage God's Creation. The document is included with this Cross Border.

SMILING

Smiling is infectious



You catch it like the 'flu

When someone smiled at me today



I started smiling too.



I walked around the corner

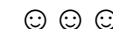
And someone saw me grin

When he smiled, I realised

I had passed it on to him.

I thought about the smile

And then I realised its worth -



A single smile like mine



Could travel round the earth.

So if you feel a smile begin

Don't leave it undetected

Start an epidemic quick

And get the world infected.



COVID-19 - PRAYERS of COMPASSION,

In response to reaching the terrible milestone of 100,000 deaths from COVID-19, our church leaders, the Archbishop of Canterbury Justin Welby and the Archbishop of York, Stephen Cottrell, have written to the nation.

The Archbishops invite all to call on God in Prayer. Starting on 1 February they invite us to set aside time every evening to pray, particularly at 6pm each day. They write: 'More than ever, this is a time we need to love each other. Prayer is an expression of love.' Here are some of the prayers they propose.

We lift to God those we hold in our hearts – praying for their health,
their well-being and their sense of hope.

We pray that even when loved ones cannot physically be together
they would not feel apart.

We ask for God's help in our communicating, our connecting and our caring.

*Gracious Lord,
As we remember before you the thousands who have died,
surround us and all who mourn with your strong compassion.
Be gentle with us in our grief,
protect us from despair,
and give us grace to persevere and face the future with hope.
Amen*

Loving God,
at this time of crisis when so many are suffering,
we pray for our nation and our world.
Give our leaders wisdom, our Health Service strength, our people hope.
Lead us through these parched and difficult days
to the fresh springs of joy and comfort that we find in Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen

*Loving Father God,
be with us in our distress;
be with our families, friends and neighbours,
our country and our world.
Give health to the sick, hope to the fearful,
and comfort to mourners.
Give wisdom to our frontline and key workers,
insight to our Government,
and patience to us all.
Overcome disease with the power of your new life,
through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord,*

ENCOURAGEMENT and HOPE for FEBRUARY

Lord Jesus Christ,
in these dark and difficult days, we turn our hearts to you.
In ages past, you have delivered our nation from disaster.

Do it again, we pray.
Give wisdom beyond human wisdom to our leaders,
Give strength beyond human strength to the NHS and all our frontline workers.
Give comfort beyond human comfort to the elderly and all who grieve.

Lord Jesus Christ,
in these dark and difficult days,
turn your face towards us,
have mercy upon us,
and heal our land, we pray.
Amen

*Watch, O Lord, with those who wake, or watch, or weep tonight,
and give your angels and saints charge over those who sleep.*

Tend your sick ones, O Lord Christ.

Rest your weary ones,

Bless your dying ones,

Soothe your suffering ones,

Shield your joyous ones, and all for your love's sake.

Amen

(Attributed to St. Augustine)

O Blessed Jesus,
give me stillness of soul in you. Let your mighty calmness reign in me.
Rule me, O King of Gentleness, King of Peace.
(St. John of the Cross)

*Let nothing disturb you,
let nothing frighten you,
all things are passing away;
God never changes.
whoever has God lacks nothing;
God alone suffices.*

(St. Teresa of Avila)

(To read the Bishops' complete letter visit: churchofengland.org)