

**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)  
email: [anglicanchurch.menton@gmail.com](mailto:anglicanchurch.menton@gmail.com)

**Sunday Service – Eucharist or Morning Prayer – 10.30am**

Priest-in-charge: Vacant Tel. #33 (0)4 93 57 20 25  
Locum To be given out in church  
Warden: Carolyn Hanbury [hanbury.carolyn@gmail.com](mailto:hanbury.carolyn@gmail.com)  
  
Communications: Suzanne Prince [princesuzanne06@gmail.com](mailto:princesuzanne06@gmail.com)  
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Council Members: Valerie Aucouturier Tel. #33 (0)4 93 57 36 53  
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John Wason [johnandjillwason@aol.com](mailto:johnandjillwason@aol.com)

**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 10 to 12  
midday.

**The Anglican Community, Bordighera**

The English Cemetery Chapel, Via del Campo, Bordighera, Italy

**No Service in August**

**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  
AUGUST 2021

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

**EUCCHARIST or MORNING PRAYER**  
**SUNDAYS - 10.30am**

**As we come out of covid-19 restrictions**

**PLEASE CHECK ON WEBSITE FOR LATEST INFORMATION**

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**SUMMER 2021**

As in summer, may we blossom and reflect the fruits of your Holy Spirit,  
love, peace, faithfulness, joy, goodness, gentleness, patience, self-control, kindness

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**THE ENGLISH CEMETERY CHAPEL**  
**BORDIGHERA**

**No service in August**

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**THE ANGLICAN CHURCH OF THE HOLY GHOST, GENOVA**

**Chaplain: Revd. Canon Tony Dickinson - Tel. #39 010 88 92 68**

**EUCCHARIST EVERY SUNDAY - 10.30am**

**Holy Communion or Shared Prayers - Wednesdays 12.30**

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

**READINGS for SUNDAY SERVICES in AUGUST 2021 - YEAR B**

August 1 Trinity 9	First Reading Psalm Second Reading Gospel	Exodus 16.2-4, 9-15 78.23-29 Ephesians 4.1-16 John 6.24-35
August 8 Trinity 10	First Reading Psalm Second Reading Gospel	1 Kings 19.4-8 34.1-8 Ephesians 4.25 - 5.2 John 6.35, 41-51
August 15 Blessed Virgin Mary	First Reading Psalm Second Reading Gospel	Isaiah 61.10,11 45. 10-17 Galatians 4. 4-7 Luke 1. 46-55
August 22 Trinity 12	First Reading Psalm Second Reading Gospel	Joshua 24.1-2a, 14-18 34.15-22 Ephesians 6.10-20 John 6.56-69
August 29 Trinity 13	First Reading Psalm Second Reading Gospel	Deuteronomy 4.1-2, 6-9 15 James 1.17-27 Mark 7.1-8, 14-15, 21-23

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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. Augustine of Hippo (354 - 430)**

After St Paul, who was the most influential Christian writer ever?

St Augustine of Hippo, whose feast-day is 28 August. He lived and wrote in a time of social and spiritual chaos. The Roman Empire was collapsing, the world was about to slide into the dark ages and the Church was under serious threat from both heresies within and paganism without.

What St Augustine wrote helped the Church both to avoid perversions of Christianity, and to stand strong and unafraid amongst the violent tumult of the times. His writings held sway over Christianity for the next 15 centuries or so, and still influence us heavily today.

Augustine was born at Tagaste, in modern Algeria. His father was a pagan, but his mother, Monica, was a Christian. After studying rhetoric at Carthage to become a lawyer, he instead became a scholar-philosopher. He abandoned Christianity for Manichaeism, and lived with a mistress for 15 years. He moved to Rome and then Milan to teach rhetoric, but slowly grew disenchanted with Manichaeism.

After a long interior conflict, vividly described in his 'Confessions', Augustine was converted and baptised a Christian in 386-7. He returned to Africa in 388, and joined some friends in establishing a quasi-monastic life. He was ordained priest in 391, and four years later became coadjutor-bishop of Hippo. From 396 until his death in 430 he ruled the diocese alone.

Augustine had a brilliant mind, an ardent temperament and a gift for mystical insights. Soon his understanding of the Christian Revelation was pouring forth in his many voluminous writings.

So what did he write? Most famous is 'The Confessions', the sermons on the Gospel and Epistle of John, the De Trinitate and the De Civitate Dei. This last, 'The City of God', tackles the opposition between Christianity and the 'world' and represents the first Christian philosophy of history.

Many other works were undertaken in his efforts to tackle various heresies: Manichaeism, Pelagianism, or Donatism, and led to the development of his thought on Creation, Grace, the Sacraments and the Church.

Augustine's massive influence on Christianity has mainly been for the good. Few others have written with such depth on love, the Holy Trinity and the Psalms. (The preamble to the marriage service in the Book of Common Prayer is closely based on Augustine.) But his views on Predestination and some of his views on sex (that it is the channel for the transmission of Original Sin) have since been mainly ignored by the Church.

As bishop, Augustine fearlessly upheld order as the Roman Empire disintegrated around him. At the time of his death, the Vandals were at the very gates of Hippo.(10

MENTON  
72° Festival de  
MUSIQUE

The Music Festival has returned to Menton. This year St. John's Church will host a concert on Tuesday 10 August at 6.00pm.

**TRIO AQUINAS**

**Ruth Rogers** Violin  
**Katherine Jenkinson** violoncello  
**Martin Cousin** Piano

**L. v. Beethoven** Trio avec piano N°1, op. 3 en Mi bémoi Majeur

**F. Mendelssohn** Trio avec piano N°2, op.66 en do mineur

Programme of Festival and tickets online [www.festival-musique-menton.fr](http://www.festival-musique-menton.fr)

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## How fast do you go?

Sitting by the side of the road one day, on the lookout for speeding drivers, a police officer spotted a car puttering along at 20 mph. He thought to himself: “That driver is just as dangerous as a speeder!” So he turned on his lights and pulled the driver over.

Approachig the car, he noticed that the four passengers were all old ladies, and all wide-eyed and white as ghosts. The driver, also a very elderly lady, was upset at being stopped. “Office, I don't understand, I was doing exactly the speed limit!”

“Madam, the officer replied patiently “you weren't doing the speed limit, you were driving at 20 miles an hour. That can be dangerous to other drivers.”

“But it says A20 on the sign over there – and so I was doing it!” she protested.

“But that is the road number, not the speed limit.”

“Well, I never! That explains a lot,” said the old lady in evident relief.

“Before I let you go madam, I have to ask, is everyone in this car okay? Your passengers seem awfully shaken.”

“Oh, they'll be all right in a minute, officer. We just got off the A120.”

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NEWS NEWS NEWS NEWS NEWS NEWS NEWS

### Services in St. John's

Every Sunday 10.30am – 1 August – Morning Prayer – Churchwarden

8 August – Morning Prayer - Churchwarden

15 August – Eucharist – Revd. Chris Parkman

22 August – Morning Prayer - Churchwarden

29 August – Eucharist - Revd. Chris Parkman

Organist - M. Benjamin Prischi

**Braderie** Good quality bric-a-brac for sale at the back of the church to help church funds.

**Library** The English Library of fiction and non-fiction books is open Saturday mornings from 09.30 to 12.30 and Wednesday afternoons from 14.30 to 17.30.

See books available: <https://www.stjohnsmenton.libib.com>

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### FINAL WORKS COMPLETED

Huge thanks to Marie-Beatrice and Julia for overcoming many challenges to make the oven work and for restoring water to the library and church. Thanks also to Marie-Beatrice's husband for getting the loo door to open! The church is finally ready to host events.

See first event (part of the Menton Music Festival) on page 9.

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### FROM THE REGISTERS

BAPTISM

Leony Vinke

18 July 2021

We welcome Leony into the church family.

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### Curiosity

The important thing is not to stop questioning. Curiosity has its own reason for existing. One cannot help but be in awe when he contemplates the mysteries of eternity, of life, of the marvellous structure of reality. It is enough if one tries merely to comprehend a little of this mystery every day. Never lose a holy curiosity.

Albert Einstein

*When you are curious you find lots of interesting things to do.*

Walt Disney

(2)

## LET US PRAY TOGETHER THROUGH AUGUST.....

Lord God, Heavenly Father, all we have comes from you - with grateful hearts we praise you and give you thanks and pray for .....

1. The appointment of a chaplain to break the long interregnum
2. those who have suffered in floods, forest fires, and other natural disasters
3. May the ultimate sense of achievement and self worth of competitors in the Olympic Games be found in relationship with God
4. Give thanks for all those who are working hard to ensure the safety and smooth running of the Olympic Games, particularly those serving as volunteers
5. name before God all those known personally who have health issues
6. Reflect on Christ's Transfiguration - the light of the world
7. Thank God for the wonder of creation; the beauty of sunset, grandeur of mountains
8. *A happy heart is good medicine and a cheerful mind works healing* Proverbs 17.22
9. for our church community wherever they may be
10. the concert by Trio Aquinas in St. John's this evening at 6.00pm
11. think of favourite music, art, literature and praise God for creative inspiration
12. International Youth Day – reflect on the impact of Covid-19 pandemic on human health, the environment and food systems
13. young people, may we help them hope for the future and make right choices
14. all who work in caring professions; ask God's grace for abundant compassion
15. *The Lord is near the broken hearted* Psalm 34
16. couples suffering difficult situations in their marriage
17. those separated from their loved ones by covid-19 travel restrictions
18. Lord, help us to respond to the serious long-term problems of climatic change
19. relationships – do you depend too much or too little on others
20. pray for the area where you live and the community you are part of
21. May our homes be places of refuge, of welcome and of loving support
22. *I sought the Lord and he answered me* Psalm 34
23. for refugees and asylum seekers searching for work
24. those suffering from various hidden forms of addiction; courage to seek help
25. all who feel isolated and lonely – may they find a community where they are accepted and loved
26. may we be happy to 'waste time' with those we love, valuing them for who they are.
27. give thanks for those who have cared for you in times of sickness
28. parents to have strength and wisdom in directing their children along life's path
29. *those who do what is right will dwell in the presence of the Lord* - Psalm 15
30. give thanks to God for rest and relaxation - time to pray and prepare .....
31. for those who work in the leisure industries; may they too benefit from breaks

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

**Amen**

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## ALL IN THE MONTH OF AUGUST

310 years ago on 11 August 1711 that the first horse race meeting at Ascot took place initiated by Queen Anne.

190 years ago on 1 August that the new London Bridge was opened

170 years ago on 12 August 1851 Isaac Singer is granted a patent for his sewing machine

155 years ago on 20 August 1866 President Andrew Johnson formally declared the American Civil War over

140 years ago since the birth of Ian Fleming, Scottish bacteriologist and discoverer of penicillin in 1928. Nobel Prize Laureate (d. 1955)

120 years ago on 4<sup>th</sup> August 1901 the birth of Louis Armstrong, American trumpeter and singer - sang '*What a Wonderful World*' at the Sanremo Song Festival

110 years ago on 10<sup>th</sup> August 1911 that British members of Parliament voted to receive salaries for the first time.

100 years ago since the death of Enrico Caruso, Italian Tenor, on 2<sup>nd</sup> August 1921

90 years ago on 2<sup>nd</sup> August 1931 that Nobel Prize-winning German physicist Albert Einstein urged all scientists to refuse to do military work

85 years ago on 1<sup>st</sup> August 1936 that the XI Olympic Games opened in Berlin, Germany. It was the last Olympics for 12 years, due to World War II

60 years ago on 13<sup>th</sup> August 1961 that East Germany sealed off the border between East and West Berlin. Construction of the Berlin Wall began on 15<sup>th</sup> August

50 years ago on 6<sup>th</sup> August 1971 British sailor Chay Blyth became the first person to sail non-stop around the world in the 'wrong' direction (i.e. westward) against all the prevailing winds and currents.

30 years ago on 6<sup>th</sup> August 1991 that the first ever website (info.cern.ch) invented by Tim Berners-Lee went live.

Also 30 years ago on 8<sup>th</sup> August that British journalist John McCarthy was released by Islamic Jihad in Lebanon after being held hostage for more than five years.

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On the perils of leaving your pulpit

My dear Nephew Darren,

It was good of you to take Evensong here last Sunday while I was at my old college re-union - but I would prefer you used the pulpit in future when preaching. How could Coloner Brockle complete 'The Times' crossword and Miss Balmer her knitting with you constantly walking up and down in front of them? They found it most disconcerting, as out of politeness, they were obliged to listen to you. It was a unique experience they do not wish to repeat.

Those few who defy Anglican tradition and sit at the front of the church were also placed in the dilemma of trying to decide whether they should keep turning in their pews as you paraded down the nave and then rotating back to the front as you re-emerged up the side aisle. It did Lady Plumtree's vertigo no good at all. It also allowed people to see that you were wearing suede shoes. For many of our worshippers, the most appalling of heresies are as nothing when compared to brown shoes under a cassock.

I appreciate you made heroic efforts and got your sermon down to 30 minutes, but that is still 20 minutes longer than they anticipated and 29 minutes longer than their attention span. That is why the noise you thought was sidesmen counting the morning's collection while you preached was in fact the organist jangling his keys in an attempt to remind you that his oven timer had long since switched off and his casserole was getting cold.

No, use the pulpit in future; that is the reason why stonemasons 600 years ago put twenty tons of marble in our church in the first place and it would be a shame to disappoint them. It also means that from a distance of 100 yards and a height of 20 feet, no one can tell that the glass of water I use liberally while preaching is in fact a gin and tonic.

I concede that our pulpit has its dangers. I have known several bishops come to grief as their robes wrap themselves around the newel post as they ascend the steps. One, unable to untangle himself, was obliged to preach while half way up the steps and with his back to the congregation, while our verger was dispatched to find a pair of scissors.

Perhaps, before your next visit, we may install a mechanical floor in the pulpit, so that after 10 minutes, it slowly lowers you into the crypt while the congregation can get on with singing the last hymn before getting home in decent time.

Your loving uncle, Eunace (7)

The Cathedral of the Holy Trinity in Quebec has announced the death of Father Walter Raymond, the much-loved chaplain at St. Paul's Church, Monte-Carlo for ten years until 2017.

“The Very Reverend Walter H. Raymond O.G.S. entered God's nearer presence early this morning (13/07/2021). He was 72 years old, and had been facing a terminal diagnosis of cancer with great courage and serenity.

Born in California, Father Walter came to Canada in the 1970s to take a degree in education and then serve as a school teacher in Quebec City and Toronto.

He entered a seminary in 1988 and was ordained to the priesthood in 1993 in the Diocese of Toronto. After his curacy he served for four years as chaplain at Holy Trinity School in Richmond Hill. In 1999 he moved to the Diocese of Quebec and served until 2007 as Dean of Quebec and Rector of the Parish of Quebec, after which he was named Dean Emeritus.

He then served for a decade as Anglican Chaplain at St Paul's Church in Monaco, retiring back to the Diocese of Quebec in 2017, where he faithfully assisted at congregations in Saint-Malachie, Thetford Mines and Sainte-Foy.

He was a professed member of the Oratory of the Good Shepherd for more than 25 years. In his retirement Father Walter also served as chair of the board of directors of his local Arche community.

A funeral mass will be held at the Cathedral of the Holy Trinity in Quebec City followed by burial at St. Paul's Church in Saint-Malachie at a later date.”

by Ian Brodie  
Editor-in-Chief,  
News Monaco

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**A prayer .....**

Draw your Church together, O God,  
into one great company of disciples,  
together following our Lord Jesus Christ,  
into every walk of life,  
together serving him in his mission to the world,  
and together witnessing to his love  
on every continent and island  
Amen.

(A New Zealand Prayer Book) (4)

# GOD IN MUSIC

*The Revd. Michael Burgess looking at great works of music (continued)*

**'The trumpet will sound ... and we shall be changed'**

## *George Frideric Handel*

'Joy to the world', 'My God I love thee', 'Rejoice the Lord is king', and 'Thine be the glory' – these are hymns that are regularly part of our church worship. They are also hymns with glorious melodies by Handel. They may have been our first introduction to his music, but I suspect that for many of us, that will have come through hearing the local amateur choral society performing 'Messiah' at some stage in our lives.

Last month we saw how Handel's work up to the last 20 years of his life was dominated by operas. He wrote some 42 works in that form, but as the years went on, he found the operatic scene in England was too perilous, not only marked by scandals and rivalries, but also financially unrewarding. So he turned to oratorio, composing over 26 large and splendid works on a range of biblical subjects.

Earlier in 1727 he had created anthems of great beauty and power for the coronation of George II, including 'Zadoc the priest'. That work begins with a steady, majestic crescendo leading to the entry of the choir, like a sunrise bursting onto the score. No wonder that some of the glories of these anthems were reworked for the oratorios that came later. Sir John Hawkins wrote of the composer that his knowledge of the scriptures was such that 'the sublime moments with which they abound would give opportunities for displaying his talents'. And as opera failed, so oratorio triumphed.

Charles Jennens, a rich dilettante, who lived at Gopsal in Leicestershire (remembered in the name of the tune for 'Rejoice, the Lord is king'), provided the word book for 'Saul' in 1738 and helped with the choice of texts for the more ambitious 'Israel in Egypt' and then in 1741 'Messiah'. It is strange to think that, although the two performances of 'Messiah' in Dublin were given enthusiastic receptions, when Handel brought the work to London, he met disdain and even opposition. Jennens thought that Handel had composed the work too quickly and said so. Others viewed with suspicion the performance of religious texts in theatres by singers who had been actors. As a result, Handel was seriously ill after the London premiere. But by 1750 the work had won the hearts of performers and audiences alike, and that has never altered.

As with the other oratorios, it is its pervasive spirituality and beauty, coupled with intense drama that gives the work its power. We will each have favourite moments. Two of mine are the air, 'Thou art gone up on high' which sadly is (5)

often omitted in performances, and the chorus, 'And he shall purify', where the words of the singers about the offering of righteousness are matched by joyful thirds sounding out among the strings. It is just one of many exultant moments in the score.

In 1750 Handel began to compose his final oratorio, 'Jephtha'. He was now 65 and his eyesight was failing. Composition was a struggle, but he completed it in 28 days. Jephtha the general vows that if he is victorious over the Ammonites, he will sacrifice the first living creature he meets on his return. It is his own daughter.

Handel must have thought of the sacrifice of his life for his music, and the theme of the destruction of human happiness by divine ordinance resonates through the score. His weakening eyesight, the sheer exhausting labour of writing the music, and the psychological background of the story are focused in the recitative, 'Deeper and deeper still' that leads to the chorus, 'How dark, O Lord, are thy decrees'. And then in Act 3 a shaft of clear light shines through the darkness with one of the most beautiful airs he ever wrote, 'Waft her, angels, through the skies'.

On 14 April 1759 Handel himself died. We still have the expenses sheet of his funeral service in Westminster Abbey: it includes the officiating bishop, who was paid £1, the organ blower 5 shillings, the leaden coffin £6 and the 4 bell ringers 13 shillings and four pence. But how can we put a price on the life and work of a composer, who came through so much adversity and difficulty with such courage and inspiration: a composer whose genius is always able to lift us with Iphis in 'Jephtha' to the angels in the skies.

In September 1741 Handel's servant found the composer in his room, alone and weeping. He had just completed Part 2 of 'Messiah' with the 'Hallelujah Chorus'. 'I did think I did see all Heaven before me, and the great God Himself', Handel told his servant. And we would say 'Amen' to that vision as we listen today to his glorious and sublime music.



## **Faithfulness**

*It's helpful to think through our priorities in life...*

Faithfulness is our business; fruitfulness is an issue that we must be content to leave with God. J I Packer

I believe the family was established long before the church, and my duty is to my family first. D L Moody (6)