

St. John's Anglican Church, 31 Avenue Carnot, Menton
Postal Address: 2 Avenue Pigautier, 06500 Menton, France
Website: www.anglicanchurchmenton.com
email: anglicanchurch.menton@gmail.com

Sunday Service – Eucharist – 10.30am
Tuesday mornings - Morning Prayer – 10.30am

Priest-in-charge: Vacant Tel. #33 (0)4 93 57 20 25
Locum Revd. Ian Eglin
Churchwarden: Carolyn Hanbury hanbury.carolyn@gmail.com
Council Members:
Communications: Suzanne Prince princesuzanne06@gmail.com
#33 (0)6 13 71 60 85
Valerie Aucouturier Tel. #33 (0)4 93 57 36 53
Robert Edwards bob.edwards@premiertapeconverters.co.uk
Ennis Cardew ennis.cardew@wanadoo.fr
George Owen george.owen@omnibus-clapham.org
John Wason johnandjillwason@aol.com

Treasurer: Rhys Thomas

The Anglican Community, Bordighera – served by St. John's
The English Cemetery Chapel, Via del Campo, Bordighera, Italy

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 12am

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

CROSS BORDER NEWSLETTER

APRIL 2022

ST. JOHN'S ANGLICAN CHURCH, MENTON

EUCCHARIST - SUNDAYS - 10.30am

MORNING PRAYER - TUESDAYS - 10.30am

Celebrant: Revd. Ian Eglin

THE ENGLISH CEMETERY CHAPEL BORDIGHERA

EUCCHARIST

Wednesday 13 April 2022 - 10.30am

Celebrant Revd. Ian Eglin

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 SUNDAYS in APRIL 2022 - YEAR C

EASTER - 17th APRIL 2022

| | | |
|--|----------------|------------------------|
| April 3 - LENT 5 | First Reading | Isaiah 43.16-21 |
| | Psalm | 126 |
| | Second Reading | Philippians 3.4b-14 |
| | Gospel | John 12.1-8 |
| April 10 - PALM SUNDAY Liturgy of Palms | First Reading | Luke 19.28-40 |
| | Psalm | 118.1-2, 19-29 |
| Liturgy of the Passion | First Reading | Isaiah 50.4-9a |
| | Psalm | 31.9-16 |
| | Second Reading | Philippians 2.5-11 |
| | Gospel | Luke 23.1-49 |
| April 17 EASTER DAY | First Reading | Acts 10.34-43 |
| | Psalm | 118.1-2, 14-24 |
| | Second Reading | 1 Corinthians 15.19-26 |
| | Gospel | John 20.1-18 |
| April 24 EASTER 2 | First Reading | Acts 5.27-32 |
| | Psalm | 118.14-29 or 150 |
| | Second Reading | Revelation 1.4-8 |
| | Gospel | John 20.19-31 |
| May 1 EASTER 3 | First Reading | Acts 9.1-6 (7-20) |
| | Psalm | 30 |
| | Second Reading | Revelation 5.11-14 |
| | Gospel | John 21.1-19 |

PLEASE NOTE : **Morning Prayer Service on Tuesdays at 10.30am**

* * * * *

BAPTISMS, CONFIRMATIONS, MARRIAGES, FUNERALS

**arrangements may be made by contacting
the churchwarden or the locum**

* * * * *

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.

Easter, of course, is the most special day of the Christian year: the Resurrection of Jesus Christ. Why does the date move around so much? Because the date of Passover moves around, and according to the biblical account, Easter is tied to the Passover. Passover celebrates the Israelites' exodus from Egypt and it lasts for seven days, from the middle of the Hebrew month of Nisan, which equates to late March or early April.

Sir Isaac Newton was one of the first to use the Hebrew lunar calendar to come up with the firm dates for Good Friday: Friday 7 April 30 AD or Friday 3 April, 33 AD, with Easter Day falling two days later. Modern scholars continue to think these the most likely.

Most people will tell you that Easter falls on the first Sunday after the first full moon after the Spring Equinox, which is broadly true. But the precise calculations are unbelievably complicated and involve something called an 'ecclesiastical full moon', which is not the same as the moon in the sky. The earliest possible date for Easter in the West is 22 March, which last fell in 1818 and won't fall again until 2285. The latest is 25 April, which last happened in 1943 and is next due in 2038.

Why the name 'Easter'? In almost every European language, the festival's name comes from 'Pesach', the Hebrew word for Passover. The Germanic word 'Easter', however, seems to come from Eostre, a Saxon fertility goddess mentioned by the Venerable Bede. He thought that the Saxons worshipped her in 'Eostre month', but may have confused her with the classical dawn goddesses like Eos and Aurora, whose names mean 'shining in the east'. So Easter might have meant simply 'beginning month' – a good time for starting up again after a long winter.

Finally, why Easter eggs? On one hand, they are an ancient symbol of birth in most European cultures. On the other hand, hens start laying regularly again each Spring. Since eggs were forbidden during Lent, it's easy to see how decorating and eating them became a practical way to celebrate Easter.

**CHRIST HAS RISEN
HE HAS RISEN INDEED!**

QUOTING SHAKESPEARE

If you cannot understand my argument and you declare: **It's Greek to me**, you are quoting Shakespeare. If you claim to be **more sinned against than sinning**, you are quoting Shakespeare. If you recall **your salad days** or act **more in sorrow than in anger**, if your lost property has **vanished into thin air**, you are quoting Shakespeare. If you have ever refused to **budge an inch** or suffered from **green-eyed jealousy**, if you have **played fast and loose**, if you have been **tongue-tied**, **a tower of strength**, **hoodwinked or in a pickle**, if you have **knitted your brows**, **made a virtue of necessity**, insisted on **fair play**, **slept not one wink**, **stood on ceremony**, **danced attendance on your lord and master**, **laughed yourself into stitches**, had **short shrift**, **cold comfort**, or **too much of a good thing**, if you have **seen better days**, or lived in a **fool's paradise** why be that as it may, **the more fool you**, for it is a **foregone conclusion** that you are **as good luck would have it**, quoting Shakespeare. If you think it is **early days** and clear out **bag and baggage**, if you think it is **high time**, and that **that is the long and short of it**, if you believe **that the game is up**, and that **truth will out**, even if it involves your **own flesh and blood**, if you **lie low** till the **crack of doom** because you suspect **foul play**, if you have **teeth set on edge at one fell swoop** – **without rhyme or reason** then to **give the devil his due** if the **truth were known** for surely you have a **tongue in your head**, you are quoting Shakespeare. Even if you bid me **good riddance** and **send me packing**, if you wish I was **dead as a doornail**, if you think I am an **eyesore**, **a laughing stock**, **the devil incarnate**, **a stony hearted villain**, **bloody-minded**, or a **blinking idiot**, then by **Jove, oh Lord, - tut,tut I – For goodness' sake, - it is all one to me,** you are quoting Shakespeare.

Bernard Levin

NEWS NEWS NEWS NEWS NEWS NEWS NEWS

Locum The Revd. Ian Eglin and his wife Caroline remain with us until 21st April. They will be followed by The Revd. David Houghton until 24th May.

Annual General Meeting on Sunday 24th April immediately following the Eucharist. Everyone who is interested in St. John's Church are very welcome to attend, however, only enrolled members may vote during the proceedings. If you wish to be enrolled as a member, please fill in the form which is available in church or ask one of the council members for a copy, and return the completed form by the date required.

Bishop Robert's Lent and Easter Appeal 2022

Aid to Ukraine

As you know we owe the building of our church of St. John in 1868 to the USPG - United Society Partners in the Gospel, founded in 1701. It is the Anglican mission agency that partners churches and communities worldwide in God's mission to enliven faith, strengthen relationships, unlock potential and champion justice. Bishop Robert together with USPG have set up a special appeal fund for the crisis in Ukraine. The fund will be managed by USPG and will be open to all who wish to give to it across the Church of England and beyond. Money raised in our diocesan 2022 appeal will go into the fund along with money given by other donors.

Bishop Robert wrote in his appeal: 'These people are our Brothers and Sisters. The appeal will help to get aid to people in Ukraine and the people who have fled the war.

St. John's church is still accepting and forwarding donations to the appeal - please give generously.

See our diocesan website or visit USPG: uspg.org.uk

A reflection from The Reverend Ian Eglin

A couple of years ago we watched a television programme about six celebrities on pilgrimage to Santiago de Compostela. The celebrities were Christian, of other faiths, and “non” religious.

They were following the Camino route from the Pyrenees in France to the north west tip of Spain. Also called “The Way of St. James”, it was one of the most important Christian pilgrimages during the Middle Ages.

The six celebrities, in the TV programme, covered over 800 kilometres in 14 days. Often walking in adverse weather, both rain and extreme heat, they paused and reflected at significant places along the way, at churches, and at points that had become significant for the pilgrims. It was hard physically and spiritually and yet they all found it a deeply rewarding experience in so many different ways.

We visited Toulouse last November and were very impressed by the pilgrimage church of the Basilica of St. Sernin; the largest Romanesque church in Europe, it was a very inspiring place.

In the gospels we see men and women being called to walk with Jesus. He didn't tell them where they were going or give them a course of study. He just called them to “come and see” and in a sense he calls all of us to do the same.

It is a huge privilege for Caroline and me to share the pilgrimage of Lent and Easter and walk it with you.

Lent can be a testing and challenging time for us. In St. John's Gospel, on the day of the resurrection, Jesus tells his disciples he is going on before them. In fact, Jesus always goes on before us leading the way.

The long pilgrimage of restoring St. John's church building is now complete and looks magnificent. The Bishop has rededicated the church to continue on its pilgrimage and future ministry. In so doing, we are challenged to follow the Risen Christ and serve him through our ministry in this place.

So we wish you well as you journey on, with the Risen Lord leading the way, and may He bless all that you do in His name.

The adventure of the Christian life begins

when we dare to do what we would never tackle without Christ

(William Penn, Quaker, 1644-1718)

(3)

USEFUL TIPS

Before cutting long damp grass, spray the blades of the mower with vegetable oil and the grass won't stick.

If you spill tea or coffee on your clothing, sponge it immediately with soda water to get rid of the stain.

When reading or sewing, place a mirror behind your reading lamp for extra light

Rub new shoes with cut lemon and they will polish well ever after.

When you put away half used paint, stand a small stick in the middle before putting the lid on. When the lid is removed, pull out the stick and the skin on the paint will come away with it.

Immerse bananas in hot water for a minute before peeling and they won't go brown in a fruit salad.

Always take a tape measure when you go to jumble sales. Saves buying something that won't fit.

Don't disfigure your lawn by trying to pull out a big dandelion, pour some salt on the middle and it will disappear.

Rosemary sprigs will stay fresh longer if kept in a plastic bag in the salad compartment of the fridge.

Place a badly browned saucepan in the freezer over night, next day soak it in hot water and it will clean easily.

To strengthen finger nails, soak them in a cup of water containing 1 tsp. Bicarbonate of soda.

When stripping wallpaper, use a squeezy floor mop to soak it. You'll cover a large area in a short time.

An old table fork makes an ideal hoe for indoor plants.

If you add 1 tsp. Lemon juice to sweet corn before cooking, the corn will stay a good yellow colour

Pur one or two mothballs into a toolbox or tool drawer to keep the tools free from rust.

(8)

In the 1980s there was a television series on the religious impulse in humanity called 'The Long Search' with Ronald Eyre. In one episode he visited a monk in a Romanian monastery and asked him, 'What use is the prayer of a monk?' 'What use is the sea?' was the monk's reply. 'Without it there would be no evaporation, no cloud, no rain no life on the land.'

Jesus in Bellini's painting answers the question, What use is our prayer? Without it, we would not know the light and love of a relationship with God our Father. And so Jesus invites us to offer our time and life in God's service. Don't worry about good and pious feelings that don't seem to come as we set aside time and energy in prayer, he seems to say. Don't worry about the success of our prayer. For pondering this painting, we can learn that above all our concern in prayer is to unite our will with the will of God, and together with him to live in this world.



Almighty and Merciful God,
whose Son became a refugee
and had no place to call his own,
look with mercy on those who today
are fleeing from danger,
homeless and hungry.

Bless those who work to bring them relief,
inspire generosity and compassion in all our hearts;
and guide the nations of the world towards that day
when all will rejoice in Your Kingdom
of justice and peace,
through Jesus Christ our Lord
Amen

ANNIVERSARIES ALL IN THE MONTH OF APRIL

- 2105th since the birth of Marc Antony, Roman general and statesman, 20 April
- 570th since the birth of Leonardo da Vinci, Italian Renaissance polymath 15/04/1452
- 300th Dutch navigator Jacob Roggeveen became the first European to visit Easter Island on 5 April 1722
- 280th the first performance of Baroque composer George Frideric Handel's oratorio 'Messiah' in Dublin on 13 April 1742
- 230th La Marseillaise, French national anthem, composed by Claude Joseph Rouget de Lisle, was sung for the first time on 25 April 1792.
- 195th since the birth of Joseph Lister, English surgeon and pioneer of antiseptic surgery, on 5 April 1827. (d.1912)
- 175th since the birth of Joseph Pulitzer, American journalist and publisher, 10 April 1847 (d.1911)
- 150th since the death of Samuel F.B. Morse, American painter and inventor of the telegraph 2 April 1872
- 150th the first Arbor Day in the USA was celebrated in Nebraska when J. Sterling Morton organised the planting of one million trees on 9 April 1872.
- 140th since the death of Charles Darwin, English Biologist 19 April 1882 (b.1809)
- 130th since the birth of Mary Pickford, Canadian actress 8 April 1892 (d.1979)
- 125th the first Boston marathon held in Massachusetts, USA -the world's oldest annual marathon. 19 April 1897.
- 110th the British Liner RMS Titanic sank in the North Atlantic after hitting an iceberg. Only 710 of 2,227 passengers and crew survived. 15 April 1912.
- 100th since the birth of Alistair MacLean, Scottish novelist best known for "The Guns of Navarone" and "Where Eagles Dare" 21 April 1922 (d. 1987)
- 90th the new Shakespeare Memorial Theatre opened in Stratford-upon-Avon. Designed by Elisabeth Scott, England's first important work by a female architect. 23 April 1932.
- 75th Thor Heyerdahl & 5 crew left Perù on the primitive raft Kon-Tiki for Polynesia on 28th April 1947 and successfully arrived there in August of that year.
- 60th the first official Panda crossing opened outside Waterloo Station. 1 April 1962
- 40th Queen Elizabeth II signed the Canada Act making Canada wholly independent from Britain – 17 April 1982

LET US PRAY TOGETHER THROUGH APRIL . . .

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

1. Those who suffer as a result of war or civil unrest and who are in need
2. those who work for peace
3. **The Lord has done great things for us and we are glad indeed.** Ps.126
4. those for whom Easter has no relevance at all.
5. all those we know personally who are ill or in distress or feel isolated
6. refugees and immigrants living in difficult conditions
7. grant us grace to face the unexpected confidently
8. may we give our love and actions freely without asking any reward
9. our locums, their ministry with us,
10. PALM SUNDAY – those who live in the Holy Land
11. children that they will understand more of God's love for them
12. for any teachers you know
13. the blessing of good friends
14. draw near those who feel abandoned or lost
15. GOOD FRIDAY – spend more time quietly with God today
16. the sick and dying that they may know the comfort of Your presence and love
17. **Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his mercy endures for ever.** Ps.118
18. Musicians, composers, hymn writers, that help us worship God joyfully
19. Give thanks for visitors who encourage us
20. Give thanks for your home
21. all those who work hard to conserve and care for Your creation, Lord
22. give thanks for the spring sunshine and longer days
23. The Annual Chaplaincy Meeting tomorrow – that a full Chaplaincy Council will be appointed, with 2 churchwardens, and a Synod Representative
24. **This is the day the Lord has made; we will rejoice and be glad in it.** Ps.118
25. for those who were elected as officers or members of the CCC yesterday
26. students at the schools and universities in our towns
27. those who care for the elderly in their homes
28. Artists whose work can inspire us spiritually
29. those who work in the St. John's English Library
30. give thanks for the numerous good things in our towns

Thank you for listening, Lord,
May we, too, listen and respond

Amen

GOD IN THE ARTS

The Revd. Michael Burgess writes on God in the Arts with 'The Agony in the Garden' painted around 1460 by Giovanni Bellini. It can be viewed by visiting: <http://www.nationalgallery.org.uk/paintings/giovanni-bellini-the-agony-in-the-garden>.

Jesus – our model for prayer

A favourite poem by John Betjeman is 'In Westminster Abbey'. It tells of an elegant lady who flits into the Abbey for some reassuring words with God in prayer. It begins:

*Let me take this other glove off
As the vox humana swells,
And the beauteous fields of Eden
Bask beneath the Abbey bells.
Here, where England's statesmen lie,
Listen to a lady's cry.*

She doesn't stay too long because a luncheon date is pressing. The petitions trip lightly off her tongue, and they are resoundingly self-centred. Prayer for this lady is a few moments graciously set aside in the course of a busy social round.

It is a distant world from the picture of Jesus at prayer in this month's painting. It is 'The Agony in the Garden' painted around 1460 by Giovanni Bellini. Here Jesus has not set aside a few moments, but a whole night. Here the focus is not on self but on God and his will. And so the face of Jesus is not turned towards us. He has his back to us, his face and prayer concentrated on the angel of consolation who holds the chalice of suffering that points God's way ahead for him.

We can see in the distance the soldiers coming to arrest Jesus, led by Judas. But our Lord remains focussed on the sky, vulnerable with his bare feet on the outcrop of rock. Bellini has not painted a night scene of darkness and foreboding; he has painted the dawn of a new day. It is the first Good Friday, and light is beginning to flood the scene with warmth and illumination. Just as the prayer of Jesus finds light and hope in doing the will of his Father.

When we look at the Gospels, we see how the earthly life of Jesus was underpinned and informed by prayer. From prayer at his baptism, through the prayer that preceded the calling of the twelve, through the prayer of the Mount of Transfiguration, through Gethsemane to the prayer offered by Jesus on the cross. At all stages in his life, Jesus was concerned to unite his will with the Father's in prayer.