St. John's Anglican Church, 31 Avenue Carnot, Menton

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website: www.anglicanchurchmenton.com
email: anglicanchurch.menton@gmail.com

Eucharist every Sunday at 10.30am

Priest-in-charge: The Revd. Chris Parkman tel: #33 (0)6 51 52 50 49 email:- rev.chris.parkman@gmail.com

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St. John's English LibraryPresident: Joanna LanghorneOpening Hours: Wednesday14.30-17.30SaturdaySjelmenton@gmail.comhttps://www.facebook.com/mentonhttps://www.libib.com/u/stjohnsmenton

<u>The Anglican Chapel, Bordighera</u>

The English Cemetery, Via del Camposanto, Bordighera

The British Association, Menton

Chair: Birgitt Nordbrink Tel #33 (0)4 93 28 10 02 The Association meets Saturday mornings in the Louvre from 10.00 to 12.00 website https//www.britishassociationmenton.com

The Church of the Holy Ghost, Genova Piazza Marsala 3, 16122 Genova, Italy

Chaplain: Revd. Canon Tony Dickinson tel. #39 010 88 92 68

website : www.anglicanchurchgenoa.org

CROSS BORDER NEWSLETTER JULY 2023

ST. JOHN'S ANGLICAN CHURCH, MENTON

EUCHARIST - EVERY SUNDAY - 10.30am Celebrant: The Rev. Chris Parkman

THE ENGLISH CEMETERY CHAPEL BORDIGHERA

Eucharist Wednesday 12th JULY at 10.30am Celebrant: The Rev. Chris Parkman

THE ANGLICAN CHURCH OF THE HOLY GHOST, GENOVA

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

mobile: #39 324 559 4023 email: chaplain@anglicanchurchgenoa.org

EUCHARIST EVERY SUNDAY - 10.30 HOLY COMMUNION or SHARED PRAYERS – WEDNESDAYS 12.30

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

READINGS for SUNDAYS in JULY 2023 – YEAR A

July 9 5 th after TRINITY	1 st Reading Psalm 2 nd Reading Gospel	Genesis 24.34-38, 42-49, 58-67 45.11-18 or Song of Songs 2.8-13 Romans 7.15-25a Matthew 11.16-19, 25-30
July 16 6 th after TRINITY	1 st Reading Psalm 2 nd Reading Gospel	Genesis 25.19-34 119.105-112 Romans 8.1-11 Matthew 13.1-9, 18-23
July 23 7 th after TRINITY	1 st Reading Psalm 2 nd Reading Gospel	Genesis 28.10-19A 139.1-11.,22-23 Romans 8.12-25 Matthew 13.24-30, 36-43
July 30 8 th after TRINITY	1 st Reading Psalm 2 nd Reading Gospel	Genesis 29.15-28 105.1-11, 45b Romans 8.26-39 Matthew 13.31-33, 44-52
August 6 9 th after TRINITY	1 st Reading Psalm 2 nd Reading Gospel	Genesis 32.22-31 17.1-7, 16 Romans 9. 1-5 Matthew 14.13-21

BAPTISMS, CONFIRMATIONS, MARRIAGES, FUNERALS

arrangements may be made by contacting the chaplain

The Church of England invites to Holy Communion all baptised 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.

You know you are living in 2023 when....

- 1. You accidentally enter the password on the microwave ...
- 2. You haven't played solitaire with real cards in years.
- 3. You have a list of 15 phone numbers to reach your family of three.
- 4. You e-mail the person who works at the desk next to you....
- 5. You e-mail your children upstairs to tell them dinner is ready.
- 6. Your reason for not staying in touch with various friends and family is that they are not on Facebook.
- 7. You pull up in your own driveway and use your mobile to see if anyone is home to help you carry in the shopping.
- 8. Leaving the house without your mobile, which you didn't have the first 20 or 30 (or 60) years of your life, is now a cause for panic and you turn around to go and get it.
- 9. You get up in the morning and go on line before getting your coffee.

From The Beacon

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Rest Benediction...

Bless to me, O Good, the moon above my head. Bless to me, O God, the earth on which I tread, Bless to me, O God, my wife and children all, Bless to me, O God, myself to whom their care doth fall, Bless to me my family all, Bless, O God, myself to whom their care doth fall.

Bless, O God, the thing on which mine eye doth rest, Bless, O God, the thing to which my hope doth quest, Bless, O God, my reason and what I desire, Bless, thou God of life, o bless myself entire; Bless my reason and what I desire, Bless, thou God of life, o bless myself entire.

[From Poems of the Western Highlanders]

My dear nephew Darren,

So you are soon to experience your first Summer Fete in your new parish. That you appear to be looking forward to it shows how little you know about them. Parishes hold Summer Fetes so that their clergy can preach more meaningfully on purgatory.

Their ostensible purpose is to raise money for the church, which is wholy illogical. The parish could double the money raised if the Fete were dropped, none of the endless preparations made, if everyone spent a pleasant afternoon in their own gardens and each person simply donated £20 to the church instead. But we still feel obliged to go to endless trouble, making ourselves miserable so we can show each other what a good time we are having That it generally pours seems to make the entire event even more grimly satisfying.

No, the real reasons for a Summer Fete are twofold. First, it gives the entire parish the chance to inspect the Rector's garden. Whatever state it is in, it will cause disapproval. If it is poorly kept, then I am clearly being ungrateful for having three acres of lawn to enjoy. Mowing it each week should be one of my delights; what else would I do with a whole day off each week anyway? The hand mower, kindly given by Colonel French, is assumed to be quite adequate – and rumour has it that I need to lose weight anyway. The mower was presented to me when the Colonel bought his own gardener a sit-on motor mower – which is of a size and opulence that makes me assume it has a drinks cabinet and satellite navigation.

The second reason for a Fete comes as a special perk for the organisers. It gives them a chance to inspect the inside of the Rectory. Under the pretence of looking for a little more sugar, they can systematically inspect all the kitchen cupboards and comment on their contents. By the end of the day, the whole parish will know what marmalade I breakfast on, that I use unnecessarily expensive washing powder, and where I have unsuccessfully tried to hide the gin.

The details of what then happens while the Fete is in progress must wait until my next letter, when we will have had our own. It is now time for Evensong, drinks with Major Mallet and his wife, and then a quiet evening with a good book, while I toy with other possible hiding places for the gin this year.

Your loving uncle,

Extraordinary General Meeting The meeting held immediately after the service on Sunday 11th June was well attended by Electoral Roll Members of the church in sufficient numbers for a vote to be cast. The updated Statutes were accepted unanimously.

New Diocesan Branding and Website It is hoped the new website will be found useful, relevant and enjoyable. It has been designed for those who know the diocese well and need information and for those who may be finding out about it for the first time. The website seeks to reflect the colour and diversity of our vibrant diocese.

Website:- europe.anglican.org/welcome-our-new-website Opening titles are: Home, About us, Resources, Ministry, Social Action

Some key parts of the site have been updated:-Find a church, Diocesan Handbook, Meet our Teams, News, Resources There is much to be discovered about our Diocese.

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A question for children

WHAT DO YOU SAY WHEN YOU PRAY?

A young girl; "When I pray I say THANK YOU to God"

A young boy, "When I pray I say SORRY and ask God to forgive me"

His brother; "When I pray I tell God about my WORRIES and ask him to help me."

Her sister, "I pray for my FAMILY and FRIENDS."

Her friend on holiday, "When I pray I think about how AMAZING God is."

The boy's schoolfriend, "I talk to God all the time about all sorts of things!"

Well children, "What do you pray to God about?"

A reflection from our Chaplain The Revd. Chris :-

"Where joy and sorrow meet"

A few years ago, I was feeling somewhat grumpy at the end of a good long weekend, about the idea of going back into work on the Monday morning to a job I was really not enjoying. I was talking with a friend who said words to the effect, 'Get over it Chris! You can't have the good times without knowing the hard times.' That didn't really help me at the time, although I sense she was hitting on some sort of truth. Looking back on it, I still think she was onto something, although I think she spoke that truth with a lack of pastoral sensitivity!

Recently, we celebrated my parents 60^{th} wedding anniversary. It was a special time of my parents' family all being together, for a full weekend, and we all said afterwards what a brilliant time it was. I reflect back on my parents' 40^{th} and 50^{th} wedding anniversary get-togethers, and have fond memories of those too. It is truly a special gift to us all, one which I realise many may not have.

Part of the reason I feel the weekend celebrations went so well is that during the 48 hours everyone had a chance to connect 'at their own place'. Some family members currently are in a better place than others. Mum and Dad themselves are doing well although challenged with the inevitable impact of ageing which they carry each in their own way. Somehow, we were able to celebrate really well, at the same time as acknowledging the harder aspects for some of us. Joy and sorrow kissed, to use a phrase of Henri Houwen, the dutch priest and writer.

Henri wrote: 'Celebration is only possible through the deep realization that life and death are never found completely separate. Celebration can only really come about where fear and love, joy and sorrow, tears and smiles can exist together. Celebration is the acceptance of life in a constantly increasing awareness of its preciousness'.

Jesus said, 'I come to bring life and bring it to the full' at the same time as walking towards Jerusalem and his eventual execution as a criminal. I sense he knew of this truth.

And I am thankful for those in our community at St. John's who model this truth too. Quite simply, thank you! Your lives speak deep truth!

Chris

where in due course he received a government pension. Though disappointed at the failure of his efforts on behalf of the Indians, he never stopped pleading their cause and addressed King Philip II on the subject shortly before his death, at the age of 92, in Madrid in 1566.

.... the day we remember Bartolomé de las Casas is **20th July**

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THE OTHER SIDE OF THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father Who art in Heaven You are my children Hallowed be Thy Name I am free to love you with all My heart. Thy Kingdom come, Let My love empower you Thy Will be done, so that you may be free, On Earth as it is in Heaven as I am free. Give us this day our daily bread, I long to give you what you really need, and forgive us our trespasses especially mercy, as we forgive those so that you may show mercy who trespass against us to others. And lead us not I will never leave you, into temptation. no matter what happens. But deliver us There are some who hate my love have no fear of them. from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, for I have the last Word. And the power and the glory. for ever and ever I am God. Amen.

Via:- All Saints' Church, El Paso, Texas, USA.

And God gave us smiles

A 4-yr old at a Nursery School in Yorkshire was asked to say grace. He said,

"In the name of the farmer, under the sun, and the whole experience."

a day to remember ... Bartolomé de las Casas (1474 - 1566)

Las Casas was born at Seville to a French family in 1474. He trained as a lawyer at Salamanca and in 1502 went out to the West Indies to assist the Spanish governor. Since Columbus' landing ten years earlier, the Spaniards had been busy exploiting the wealth of Central and South America. But the *Conquistadores* were ruthless and had no regard for the indigenous people who were treated cruelly, often used as slaves and died in large numbers, having contracted European diseases against which they had no natural immunity.

Las Casas was ordained priest in 1510 and his new status released him from obligation to the colonial governor, giving him much greater freedom which he used to help the Indians, whose fate he viewed with horror. He did all he could to aid their cause and to draw their plight to public attention. When he returned home in 1515 he received much support from the Church and also from the Spanish government in publicising the condition of the Indians who were being exploited in the name of Spain. Not surprisingly, he antagonised, and came to be hated by, the Spaniards in America who saw him as interfering in their business and resented what they regarded as his intolerant attitude to them. He returned to America with royal authority to protect the Indians and began a project to educate them separately from Europeans. But an Indian revolt in 1521, together with the implacable opposition of most Europeans there, resulted in the failure of his schemes.

He has been criticised on two main counts. First, for a tendency to exaggerate the plight of the Indians. Both orally and in his writings, Las Casas acted as a propagandist rather than an accurate recorder of fact, and in his desire to alleviate the sufferings of the indigenous population he was prepared to stretch the truth, sometimes to breaking point. Second, there was a curious lack of consistency in his sympathies for suffering races. It was ironic that in his desire to aid the Indians he supported the introduction of African slaves into Spanish territory in order to save the Indians from slavery. Though historical hindsight of the Atlantic slave trade induces revulsion in the modern reader, it should be noted that in the sixteenth century slavery was not considered to be unchristian.

In 1543 Las Casas became Bishop of Chiapas, in Southern Mexico, and in 1551 he retired to Valladolid in Spain continued on page 8 (7)

WATER SHORTAGE

We have had so little rain this year in this area that the authorities are asking us to use water sparingly in our homes. Simple water conservation measures can reduce consumption by 30 to 40% without discomfort. **TIPS for conserving water**:

BATHROOM

- Never use your toilet as a waste basket. Every tissue you flush away also flushes away 5 to 7 gallons of water
- Reduce toilet flush volume install a dual flush system or put a bottle full of water and pebbles in the cistern (not interfering with the works)
- Do not let the water run while shaving or brushing your teeth
- Collect cold water while waiting for the hot to arrive from the geyser, and water your plants with it
- A typical shower uses 5 to 10 gallons of water a minute! Limit your showers to the time it takes to wash down and rinse off or <u>use a basin</u>
- Install low-flow shower heads
- Repair all leaks to taps and toilets

KITCHEN & LAUNDRY

- Keep drinking water in the refrigerator instead of letting the tap run until the water is cool
- Wash fruits and vegetables in a basin. Save the water to water the plants.
- Do not use water to defrost frozen foods. Thaw in the fridge overnight. Scrape, rather than rinse, dishes before loading into the dishwasher.
- Add food wastes to your compost
- Use a bowl for washing and rinsing a few dishes by hand
- Make sure washing machines and dishwashers are full before using
- Use the appropriate water level or load size on the washing machine

OUTSIDE

- Sweep driveways, paving and steps rather than hosing down
- Wash the car with water from a bucket consider using a commercial car wash that recycles water
- Plant water-wise plants and mulch to avoid evaporation. Avoid watering when windy or during the heat of the day early morning is the best time.
- Use a watering can to water plants.

God in Music

'There is sweet music here': Vaughan Williams – 'Flos Campi'

David Scott in his poem, 'A Priest with the Bible' writes of how the priest ponders the praise of women in scripture. He begins with Ruth and 'moves quickly on to the Song of Songs with its ramparts and gazelles, cinnamon, frankincense, and its sheer hard won delight beyween he and she.' Tucked in between Ecclesiastes and Isaiah, the Song of Songs is a great contrast to both neighbours: eight chapters perhaps celebrating a wedding or more simply a set of poems in praise of love. The Fathers of the early Christian Church were always worried about the sensuous, erotic nature of the book and preferred to see the poems as an allegory of Christ and his beloved, the human soul.

Christian soul/human love – it is a tension that is beautifully caught in a little known work by Vaughan Williams of 1925: 'Flos Campi' for viola, wordless chorus and small orchestra. We associate Vaughan Williams with everything that is English – 'Greensleeves', pastoral music and Anglican hymns. In 'Flos Campi' the mood is oriental and seductive with the viola sounding out the voice of love. There are few solo works for this instrument, and composers have preferred writing concerti for violin or cello. But Vaughan Williams played the viola and he has composed here a work that gives full expression to the beguiling, enchanting sound of the instrument. The wordless chorus echoes and reflects its moods through the six movements, each prefaced by some words from the Song of Songs.

And what is the Flos Campi, the flower of the field, in the title? Certainly not buttercups and daisies as the composer himself once asserted. No, the flower is the Rose of Sharon, the beloved herself. We hear her calling in the opening solo, and the following movements express the various aspects of her love. One movement languorous with harp and celesta, then barbaric with drum and cymbals, and the next impassioned as the solo viola moves into the final movement, headed, 'Set me as a seal upon thine heart.'

All is now calm and at peace with the tranquil D major chorus that rises and falls like the smooth beat of the heart. In the distance we hear the viola calling out again, and the work ends on an unresolved discord. Perhaps the composer is saying that the world of love, human or spiritual, leads into a mystery, where there is always more to discover and fathom.

For some reason 'Flos Campi' is often underrated and neglected. It may be the curious collection of musicians the work demands. It may be that it is seen as too erotic for sensitive temperaments. It may be because the Church has been ambivalent in its appreciation of the book itself. Whatever the reason, the beauty of the viola, chorus and orchestra in Vaughan Williams' composition can lead us into realizing the glory and grace of that mystery of love, which is at the heart of human relationships and at the heart of our life with God.

(The Rev. Michael Burgess - Looking at great works of music)

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Children Learn What They Live ...

A child who lives with criticism, learns to condemn.
A child who lives with hostility, learns to fight.
A child who lives with ridicule, learns to be shy.
A child who lives with shame, learns to be guilty.

BUT...

A child who lives with tolerance, learns to be patient. A child who lives with encouragement, learns confidence. A child who lives with praise, learns to appreciate. A child who lives with fairness, learns justice. A child who lives with security, learns to have faith. A child who lives with approval, learns to like himself. A child who lives with acceptance and friendship,

learns to find love in the world.