

St. John's Anglican Church, 2 Avenue Pigautier, 06500 Menton, France

Website: www.anglicanchurchmenton.com

Sunday Service – Eucharist – 10.30am

Priest-in-charge: Vacant
Locum: Fr. David Houghton Tel. #33 (0)4 93 57 20 25
continues to celebrate the Sunday Eucharist from home in UK
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John Wason johnandjillwason@aol.com

The English Library, St. John's Church, Menton

Books & DVDs available in The Louvre on Saturday mornings from 9.30-11.30
Refreshments also available

The British Association, Menton Chair: Birgitt Nordbrink Tel #33(0)4 93 28 10 02

A representative of the Association is present in the Louvre, Saturdays 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

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Editor: Elizabeth Cordone eacordone@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

APRIL 2020

EASTER

**Churches are closed until further notice
due to covid-19**

ST. JOHN'S ANGLICAN CHURCH

**Services held in the Chapelle St. Roch,
Place Saint Roch, Menton**

(until restoration of St. John's Church is completed)

**EUCCHARIST
EVERY SUNDAY - 10.30am**

**THE ENGLISH CEMETERY CHAPEL
BORDIGHERA**

**EUCCHARIST
2nd WEDNESDAY in the month - 10.30am**

THE ANGLICAN CHURCH OF THE HOLY GHOST, GENOVA
Piazza Marsala 3, (near Piazza Corvetto
EUCCHARIST EVERY SUNDAY - 10.30am HOLY COMMUNION or
SHARED PRAYERS every Wednesday 12.30pm

READINGS for SERVICES in APRIL 2020 YEAR A

We may not be able to read or hear them read in church, but we may follow them from our Bibles.

April 5 PALM SUNDAY	LITURGY OF PALMS Psalm 118.1-2,19-29 Gospel Matthew 21. 1-11
	LITURGY OF THE PASSION First Reading Isaiah 50.4-9a Psalm 31. 9-16 Second Reading Philippians 2. 5-11 Passion Matthew 26.14-27.66 or Matthew 27.11-54
April 10 GOOD FRIDAY	First Reading Isaiah 52.13 - 53.12 Psalm 22 Second Reading Hebrews 10.16-25 PASSION John 18.1 – 19.42
April 12 EASTER DAY	First Reading Acts 10. 34-43 Psalm 118. 1-2, 14-24 Second Reading Colossians 3. 1-4 Gospel John 20. 1-18
April 19 EASTER 2	First Reading Acts 2.14a, 22-32 Psalm 16 Second Reading 1 Peter 1. 3-9 Gospel John 20. 19-31
April 26 EASTER 3	First Reading Acts 2. 14a, 36-41 Psalm 116. 1-3, 10-17 Second Reading 1 Peter 1. 17-23 Gospel Luke 24. 13-35

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BAPTISMS, CONFIRMATIONS, MARRIAGES, FUNERALS

**arrangements may be made by contacting
the churchwardens**

23rd April - St. George's Day - The Patron Saint of England

St. George has been Patron Saint of England since at least the reign of Edward III in the 14th century. He was probably born in Turkey (or Georgia) and grew up in Palestine. It is doubtful that he ever set foot in England. He has been universally recognised as a Saint for 1,600 years.

St. George is Patron Saint of many other countries besides England, including Canada, Germany, Greece, Portugal and Russia. Virtually every country in Europe and the Commonwealth has a church dedicated to St. George. Close to us, the Regional town of Genova has St. George as its Patron Saint.

According to early accounts, St. George is believed to have enlisted in the Cavalry of the Roman army at the age of 17, during the reign of the Emperor Diocletian. He quickly established a reputation amongst his peers for his physical strength, good looks, virtuous behaviour and valorous military bearing. He was apparently tortured for publicly declaring himself a Christian and protesting against the persecution of Christians. Eventually he was beheaded at Lydda (Lod) in what is now Israel. The traditional date of his martyrdom is 23 April 303.

Following the martyrdom, the story of St. George spread far and wide. It had certainly reached England by 700AD. English traditions about St. George were developed by the Anglo-Saxon clergy, but it is not known how far his cult spread among people generally. Probably he first became popular in England when his reputation for virtue and chivalrous conduct became the spiritual inspiration of the Crusaders, who told of his heroic acts in the cause of Christianity. Richard the Lionheart (1189-99) claimed to have seen a vision of St. George during a battle against the Saracens. The Order of the Garter in Windsor and St. George's Chapel, founded by Edward III in 1348, have St. George as their Patron Saint.

The Cross of St. George is the red Greek cross of a martyr on a white or silver background symbolising heaven. The flag of St. George became prominent as a means of recognition for English Knights during the Crusades. The Cross of St. George was first used as a symbol of England in 1277 by the army of Edward I. Richard II later made it the flag of the English army. Today the flag of St. George is the White Ensign of the Royal Navy. St George's Cross is also the flag of the Church of England and as such is known throughout Christendom.

(Taken in part from ANT Church News, March 2004)

(In our Diocese, Anglican churches dedicated to St. George can be found in Andorra, Knokke and Ypres, Paris, Berlin, Taormina, Venice, Lisbon, Barcelona, Madrid and Malaga.)

On our website you will see the statue of St. George being cleaned by Valerie ready for the reopening of St. John's Church. (6)

A Prayer ...

*As the darkened pool is stilled,
it reflects the blue sky above.
So may my quiet mind reflect,
O God, your glory and your love.*

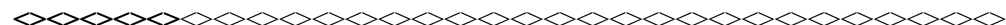
*As the sea glows in the moonlight,
light of lights, come and shine.
Let my life reveal your light
until I reflect the light divine.*

*As the earth reflects the sunshine,
light of the Creator be mine;
light of the Saviour be mine;
light of the Spirit be mine.*

*Each dawning and each night,
O God, may I reflect your light.
Each night and each day
Light of God, guide my way.*

Amen

[from Island of Light by David Adam]



Received by email ...

a photo - "A few flowers for Women's Day"

the church of the Holy Ghost, Genova sends a "virtual Eucharist" Sundays on FB

Thank you, we need encouragement to pray. In Valenzano we have 2 cases

We have gone into self isolation – our Doctor is in quarantine

Gosh, it puts everything into perspective about what's to come

Lockdown! The French Border is closed and all shops, except pharmacies and food

In this time of trial we can perhaps better understand these words from 2 Timothy 1.7 'God has not given us a spirit of timidity but of power, of love and self control'

Tiny Tim said: "May God bless us all"

PLEASE NOTE: Our church services, as all those in France and Italy, are not allowed until further notice due to the Covid-19 epidemic.

Locum Fr. David Houghton returned to the UK safely and invites us to join him in prayer, when he celebrates the Eucharist in his UK home every Sunday at 5.00pm

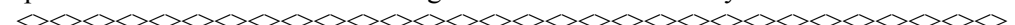
THE BAROMETER SIGN outside our Church of St. John. It is advertising the need for **Funds to Complete the Church Renovation.** At the time of writing 60% of the appeal has been received. Please continue to encourage your families, friends, colleagues and acquaintances to donate and make the **barometer soar**, so that we may once more open the doors of our church and worship God with all who come inside.

Restoration of St. John's church due to the Covid-19 epidemic, work on the restoration of St. John's has been postponed until further notice.

Meetings in the Louvre There are no meetings in the Louvre until further notice due to the Covid-19 epidemic.

ST. JOHN'S WORK GROUP Please get in touch with Barbara Corry to know when work on restoring St. John's may recommence.

The Archdeaconry of France Synod has been postponed due to the covid.19 epidemic. Valerie is sad at not being able to attend her last Synod.



Received by email to share during covid-19 epidemic

Lord Jesus Christ,
You taught us to love our neighbour,
and to care for those in need as if we were caring for you.
In this time of anxiety, give us strength
to comfort the fearful, to tend the sick
and to assure the isolated
of our love and your love,
for your name's sake. Amen

PRAYER is not like a "spare wheel" that YOU PULL OUT when in trouble, but it is a "STEERING WHEEL" that can help us find the BEST PATH THROUGH LIFE.

A general prayer

All powerful God and Father, I come to you acknowledging my fear in this current crisis, praying for myself and my loved ones. Keep us safe in your loving arms and defend us with your strength to save, so that this hidden danger all around us will only be able to demonstrate your great mercy and forgiveness. I ask this through your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen (William Lister) (2)

LET US PRAY TOGETHER THROUGH APRIL 2020

We continue to pray for the complete restoration of the Church of St. John's, and its reopening

Heavenly Father,

We praise you and give you thanks and pray for

1. All clergy, churchwardens, councils & congregations of our churches everywhere
2. all people affected by the Covid-19 epidemic; the sick, the dying, the bereaved,
3. may we do all we can to help others as Jesus taught us
4. that people may have come closer to you, Lord, during Lent
5. *Palm Sunday 'This is the day that the Lord has made. We will rejoice and be glad in it.'*
6. all those in the Holy Land – may they have lasting peace in their lives
7. those who do not know God's love and what he has done for them
8. all who give their lives to the Lord by joining religious communities
9. the strength to be good Christians and to spread His word
10. *Good Friday 'Be not far from me, for trouble is near and there is none to help.'*
11. all who are bereaved and suffer as did the disciples at the crucifixion of Christ
12. *Easter Day 'I shall not die, but live, and declare the works of the Lord'*
13. Holidays, and the rest they bring us
14. the presence of the living Christ and the Holy Spirit in our lives
15. the medical profession and carers throughout the world & all who keep us safe
16. migrants – a place to live, work, bring up their families
17. young people everywhere as they grow up in a difficult, contradictory world
18. those who work hard to conserve and care for your creation, Lord
19. *Easter 2 'O Lord, you are my portion and my cup'*
20. All those who have lifestyles that are different to ours
21. all children, their teachers, parents, grandparents, godparents ...
22. Authors and writers who give us so much pleasure in reading them
23. St. George's Day - HM our Queen, government and people of England
24. The Primates of the Anglican Communion at this difficult time
25. all who are working during the covid-19 epidemic
26. *Easter 3 'Gracious is the Lord and righteous; our God is full of compassion'*
27. our families and friends, neighbours and colleagues – name one at a time
28. those who continue to take away our rubbish and clean our streets
29. those who behave in anti-social ways – may they see the damage they do
30. those who translate the scriptures so that all may read the Word of the Lord

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

Amen

(3)

Life at St. James-the-Least

*The Rectory
St. James-the Least*

My dear Nephew Darren,

So, your vicar has appointed you magazine editor; I wonder what you have done to so offend him. Our own magazine editor has only held her post for the last 30 years because she is deaf, has no phone and always spends the fortnight after the publication of each issue on a remote Scottish island.

I think that your hope of now being in charge of an organ that will convert the entire parish to Christianity within a couple of editions may be a little optimistic. Most recipients of the magazine use it for finding the phone number of the local plumber or undertaker – or both if there was a major burst in the pipe.

If you want to keep any piece of information utterly confidential, then publish it in the magazine; that will ensure that everyone will remain wholly ignorant of it. On the other hand, if you accidentally transpose the names of the ladies responsible for the altar pedestal and lectern on the flower rota, it will be spotted within seconds of publication. It is also helpful so people can consult the staffing rota to find out who took the collection a little too aggressively at Evensong on the previous Sunday. The reports of the meetings of the monthly groups are also useful for reminding those who attended what happened, as they slept blissfully through most of it.

I would suggest you keep the first page which lists all the church officers with their phone numbers – although do omit your own number, so that complaints will have to go to someone else. It also seems to be a tradition that while all the digits of every number will be there, they are generally published in an incorrect order. This gets people to talk to one another as they phone round trying to find out the correct number for the treasurer.

If you submit any article yourself, then I would suggest that your final paragraph does little other than repeat the penultimate paragraph, since when it is printed, the final few lines of any article are invariably accidentally omitted. My final piece of advice is to omit any deadline for submission for the following month. Such information only ensures that everything will be sent in the week after your requested date.

I wish you many happy hours deciphering illegible script and checking up on tea rotas.

Your loving uncle,

Eustace.

(4)

William Lister, Chaplain in Florence writes in our Diocesan Website:

"I am writing these prayers to help you in this current situation whether you are religious or not ...

A prayer for use by someone who doesn't believe in God

Dear God,
I don't even know if you exist or if I'm talking to myself, but I know I need help to face my fears right now. If you can hear me, forgive my lack of faith and show me your mercy and strength in my time of need. Amen

A prayer for use for someone infected or to use personally

Dear God,
I come before you when I am most vulnerable, praying for my loved ones and asking your protection and strength in this hour of need. Forgive me for not praying and thanking you when you have blessed me with good health, or for not thinking about the skill and dedication you have given to the medical practitioners around me now. Keep me safe in your loving arms, I pray, as I fight this illness with courage and faith in your good purpose to endure and overcome this trial. In Jesus name, Amen

A prayer for strength to get on with life

Almighty God,
You care for everything you have made. You feed the birds of the air, you clothe the flowers of the field and your Son has told us to rest secure in your providence. I come to you now with great fear and uncertainty in this current crisis. Take this fear away from me. Help me to see the beauty and blessings all around me still. Inspire me to acts of kindness to others and open my heart to their support for me. Give each one of us a true faith in this time of need and the knowledge of your love in your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ, Amen

A prayer to make a spiritual communion when churches are closed

Dearest Jesus Christ,
I believe that you are fully present in the most holy Sacrament. I love you above all things and desire to receive you into my soul; since I cannot at this time receive you sacramentally, come into my heart spiritually and allow me to embrace you and to unite myself wholly with you; above all, grant me faith to know that I can never be separated from you or the Father's love you came to share. Amen
(slightly adapted from the original prayer by St. Alphonsus Liguori)

More on our Diocesan website

CHRIST BE OUR LIGHT

Hymn by Bernadette Farrell

Longing for truth, we turn to you
Make us your own, your holy people
Light for the world to see.

Refrain Christ be our light! Shine in our hearts
shine through the darkness
Christ be our light!
Shine in your church gathered today

Longing for hope, many despair
Your word alone has power to save us
Make us your living voice.

Refrain Christ be our light

Longing for water, many still thirst
Make us your bread, broken for others
Shared until all are fed.

Refrain Christ be our light

Longing for warmth, many are cold
Make us your building, sheltering others
Walls made of living stone.

Refrain Christ be our light

Many the hearts that yearn to belong
Let us be servants to one another
Making your kingdom come.

Refrain Christ be our light! Shine in our hearts
Shine through the darkness
Christ be our light!
Shine in your church gathered today

***DEAR GOD KEEP US SAFE AND READY TO HELP OTHERS
AMEN***