

**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)

**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

CHANGE OF TIME:- 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

**Eucharist Service: usually 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of each month – 10.30am**  
**Telephone for confirmation**

Contact: Barbara Corry Tel. #39 0184 38 450 [nichol.barbara31@gmail.com](mailto: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](http://www.anglicanchurchgenoa.org)

# THE CROSS BORDER

Newsletter  
MAY 2021

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

**EUCCHARIST  
SUNDAY - 10.30am**

**RESTRICTIONS IN FRANCE DUE TO COVID-19**

**PLEASE CHECK ON WEBSITE FOR LATEST INFORMATION**

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**EASTERTIDE**

**P E N T E C O S T - T R I N I T Y**

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**THE ENGLISH CEMETERY CHAPEL  
BORDIGHERA**

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

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**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 MAY 2021 - YEAR B**

May 2 Easter 5	First Reading Psalm Second Reading Gospel	Acts 8. 26-40 22. 24-30 1 John 4.7-21 John 15.1-8
May 9 Easter 6	First Reading Psalm Second Reading Gospel	Acts 10.44-48 98 1 John 5.1-6 John 15.9-17
May 13 Ascension Day	First Reading Psalm Second Reading Gospel	Acts 1.1-11 47 Ephesians 1.15-23 Luke 24. 44-53
May 16 Easter 7	First Reading Psalm Second Reading Gospel	Acts 1.6-14 68.1-10, 33-36 1 Peter 4.12-14; 5.6-11 John 17.1-11
May 23 Pentecost Whitsunday	First Reading Psalm Second Reading Gospel	Acts 2.1-21 104.25-35, 37 1 Corinthians 12.3b-13 John 20.19-23
May 30 Trinity Sunday	First Reading Psalm Second Reading Gospel	Genesis 1.1 – 2.4a 8 2 Corinthians 13.11-13 Matthew 28.16-20

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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. (1)

***Life at St. James-the-Least***

*The Rectory,  
St. James-the-Least*

My dear Nephew Darren,

So, your bishop is dropping hints you should begin to consider a move to having your own parish – *'not for ever in green pastures' comes to mind.* Do not be too hasty, remember that a curate can do no wrong but a vicar can do no right. As soon as you get your own parish, you will be held accountable not only for everything that goes on inside the church, but also for the goal average of the local football team and the state of the economy. And if it rains for your first Summer Fete, you will be told reproachfully that this never used to happen when Mr X was here.

As you begin to ponder this momentous decision, allow me to give you a few pieces of advice. It will be assumed in the parish that every new incumbent is bound to be worse than his predecessor. The greatest compliment I ever received when leaving a parish came from an elderly parishioner: "I've known six Rectors of this parish; you weren't the worst."

Naturally the church you go to will have asked for a married man between 30 and 35 with a wife who will not have her own job but who wants to devote her entire life working for the parish – and it will be a definite advantage if she is a brilliant organist, professional caterer and fully computer literate. They will expect you to have two children, one of whom should be of primary school age, so he can attend the local Church school, where you will naturally wish to be chairman of governors and coach of the football team.

They will want you to have exceptional talents for attracting young people – but young people who enjoy the sorts of Services that the present congregation prefer – and you should have the ability to stop a baby crying during Mattins with the briefest of glances. They will want you to bring 'a breath of fresh air' into parish life without changing anything. They will hope you will shun holidays, preach short sermons and be able to run a tight jumble sale.

Your CV is already beginning to look a little thin. If you could acquire a wife and family within the next six months, become an expert flower arranger and qualify as a football referee, chartered accountant and trained electrician and plumber, it would prove very helpful. If in addition, you learned how to service photocopiers, had a mini-bus available for church outings, were an heir to a family firm producing a single malt whisky and could provide reliable horse racing tips, your choice of parishes would be endless.

On the other hand, my advice would be to stop attending all meetings where you know the bishop may be present; out of sight, out of mind. Have your phone disconnected, your letterbox sealed and only appear in public wearing dark glasses and a false beard. Keep your head down, lay low, hold on to the charmed life of being a curate for as long as possible. Life will never be better.

Your loving uncle,

Eustace

(10)

## QUOTES from Florence Nightingale

Florence was born on 12<sup>th</sup> May 1820 and named after the place of her birth in Italy. She trained as a nurse and is remembered as a pioneer and a reformer of hospital sanitation methods using techniques of statistical analysis.

*Let us never consider ourselves finished nurses...we must be learning all of our lives.*

The craving for 'the return of the day', which the sick so constantly evince, is generally nothing but the desire for light.

*The amount of relief and comfort experienced by the sick after their skin has been carefully washed and dried, is one of the commonest observations made at a sick bed.*

Do not meet or overtake a patient who is moving about in order to speak to him or to give him a message or letter. You might just as well give him a box on the ear. I have seen a patient fall flat on the ground who was standing when his nurse came into the room.

*Live your life while you have it. Life is a splendid gift. There is nothing small in it. For the greatest things grow by God's law out of the smallest. But to live your life, you must discipline it.*

It may seem a strange principle to enunciate as the very first requirement in a hospital is that it should do the sick no harm.

*I think one's feelings waste themselves in words; they ought all to be distilled into actions which bring results.*

Badly constructed houses do for the healthy what badly constructed hospitals do for the sick. Once insured that the air in a house is stagnant and sickness is certain to follow.

*God spoke to me and called me to His Service. What form this service was to take the voice did not say.*

Wise and humane management of the patient is the best safeguard to infection.

*Were there none who were discontented with what they have; the world would never reach anything better.*

Why do people sit up so late, or, more rarely get up so early? Not because the day is not long enough, but because they have no time in the day to themselves.

*How little can be done under the spirit of fear.*

I attribute success to this: I never gave up or took any excuse.

NEWS NEWS NEWS NEWS NEWS NEWS

### Services in St. John's

Sunday 2 May – Easter 5 – Morning Prayer, Churchwardens

Sunday 9 May – Easter 6 - Morning Prayer, Churchwardens

Sunday 16 May – Easter 7 - Morning Prayer, Churchwardens

Sunday 23 May – Pentecost, Whitsun - Eucharist, Fr. Chris Parkman

Sunday 30 May - Trinity Sunday – Morning Prayer, Churchwardens

please check on our website for any changes due to covid-19 restrictions.

### Services on St. John's Website

If you are unable to be in St. John's church on Sundays, follow the online service on the website:- [www.anglicanchurchmenton.com](http://www.anglicanchurchmenton.com)

### Annual Chaplaincy Meeting

The annual meeting of the chaplaincy will be held in St. John's church on 30 May 2021 immediately after the service

**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. Please check for any changes due to Covid-19.

**Sunday Collections** Due to COVID restrictions, please place your offerings in the basket on the table at the back of the Church on leaving, or if unable to be in church bring them with you the next time you come.

### From the Diocesan Service at the death of Prince Philip . . .

## DIOCESAN PRAYER FOR THE PRINCE PHILIP DUKE OF EDINBURGH

God of our lives,  
we give thanks for the life of Prince Philip,  
for his devotion to Her Majesty The Queen,  
for his dedication to global community and God's creation,  
and for his lifetime of loyal service.  
We entrust him to your love and mercy,  
through our Redeemer, Jesus Christ.  
Amen

From our locum Fr. David . . . .

## ALL IN THE MONTH OF MAY

### **Recollections may vary**

Did you notice the perfect putdown from Buckingham Palace as the brisk response to the notorious 'Harry and Meghan' interview on US TV?

Our memories are certainly self-selecting. I am still astonished that while recalling a holiday visit, for example, one of us will remember vividly the house, the clothes worn, the dog's antics, the colour of the teacups, while I can only dimly see a date on the calendar.

Perhaps you keep a diary? It might have appointments ticked off in the day, but maybe this will be a personal, intimate diary noting feelings and emotions as well as times and places? And rather than 'diary', 'journal' could be more appropriate for what we put down in print to remind us of those fleeting moments of joy and celebration, or of grief and loss. This is where such an account will express a spiritual dimension. As I reflect on 'spirits raised' or 'being cast down', I will be putting into words personal prayer, even if I normally shy from such an ambition.

We have all experienced a year like no other, cut off physically from each other and unable to get around, and suffering a good deal of anxiety, perhaps even grieving and loss. Yet I suppose that every year is such – 'like no other'! How could it be otherwise. And for me – for you, a journal will record what is precious and invaluable. It is a treasure beyond price. And it will tell the truth! It will help us to recognise when we have noticed either the nearness of God – 'consolation' or absence – 'desolation' – and that these states are never the end. For our creator is ever present to embrace us.

So I suggest a journal for you. It need not be opened every day, or even every week. It could also include extracts from the day – words heard on the TV, a picture or scene impressed in the mind, that chance remark, a moment worth noting. My journal is also a 'common place book', a window into my imagination and my heart. It will be personal, so it might be just as well to leave an instruction as to who might have the right to see into my soul one day.

A line from 'The Importance of Being Ernest'. Gwendolyn: 'I never travel without my diary. One should always have something sensational to read on the train'.

Just so. Blessings to us all this beautiful month of May.

David Houghton

410 years ago: on 2 May 1611 the King James Version of the Bible was published.

185 years ago: on 24 May 1836 Joseph Rowntree, British philanthropist, social reformer, businessman and chocolatier was born

160 years ago: on 13 May 1861 Britain proclaimed its neutrality in the American Civil War

135 years ago: on 8 May 1886 Coca-Cola first went on sale in Atlanta, Georgia

135 years ago: on 26 May 1886 Al Jolson, American singer, comedian and actor, best known for his role in 'The Jazz Singer', was born.

110 years ago: on 17 May 1911 Maureen Sullivan, Irish-born American actress was born. She played Jane in the 'Tarzan' films.

110 years ago: on 18 May 1911 Gustav Mahler, Austrian composer died.

110 years ago: on 29 May 1911 Sir W S Gilbert, British playwright and humorist, best known for his comic operas in collaboration with Sir Arthur Sullivan, died.

100 years ago: on 5 May 1921 Chanel No. 5 perfume was launched

90 years ago: on 1 May 1931 The Empire State Building in New York City was officially opened.

85 years ago: on 27 May 1936 the British ocean liner Queen Mary began her maiden voyage.

80 years ago: on 9 May 1941 the British Royal Navy captured the German submarine U-110 in the North Atlantic. On board they found the latest model of Enigma machine, codebooks and documents which enabled British code breakers to decipher coded German messages.

80 years ago: on 10 May 1941 the last major attack on London during the Blitz caused heavy damage on the Houses of Parliament, Westminster Abbey, St. James's Palace, Lambeth Palace, the British Museum, several railway stations and hospitals. More than 1,300 people were killed.

75 years ago: on 7 May 1946 Sony, the Japanese consumer electronics company was founded.

70 years ago: on 3 May 1951 The Festival of Britain and the Royal Festival Hall in London opened.

70 years ago: on 25 May 1951 British spies Guy Burgess and Donald Maclean fled to Moscow.

## Back at St. John's - Sunday 25/04/2021

It was so good to be back at St. John's after several months; the first time since July last year and the covid-19 restrictions. With documents of French authorisation to attend church, of vaccines in Italy having been done, and allowed to travel and cross the border again, we found a different St. John's.

The new high apartment block facing us was astounding and a bit of a shock with so much building equipment still lying about in the courtyard. A pleasant surprise were the ground floor windows of the building, which give entrance to chaplaincy rooms including the English Library with its large stone plaque advertising it to all passing by.

To the right of the West Door entrance of the church is another new plaque. It is in memory of William Webb Ellis, given as the Founding Father of the game of rugby in 1823. While playing the game of football at his school in Rugby, instead of obeying the rules, he held the ball and ran with it, to the consternation of the other players, straight to the goal. A statue outside Rugby School commemorates the boy and the event, which saw the birth of rugby football. William was born in Salford, Lancashire 24/11/1806 and died in Menton 24/01/1872. He was a clergyman and had been Rector of St. Clement Danes church in London. His grave stone in Menton Cemetery bears a plaque placed there by The Rugby Football Union when they visited the gravesite to mark the centenary of William's death. The plaque on our church wall (see our website – news/events )was placed there recently by the French Rugby Federation (who faithfully care for the grave) in the presence of the Maire of Menton, Jean-Claude Guibel. For rugby enthusiasts, the Club de Rugby, Menton has a very interesting website with its history, the courses available for young players, and the Club teams of all ages.

To continue - on Sunday, we entered through the West Door of St. John's and found ourselves immediately in the Nave. We were welcomed warmly, and by surprise, when we were recognised even though wearing our masks – such a pity that we couldn't hug one another. That day will come.

The service began with Fr. Chris Parkman celebrating, and another surprise. We heard the organ for the first time, at an ideal pitch considering the size of the building, and beautifully played by M. Benjamin Prischi to accompany the hymns – but no singing allowed yet. That day will also come.

We hope we will soon find that the rest of our church family may also travel and see for themselves all the wonderful work, outside and in, of our newly restored church.

*Barbara and Elizabeth from Italy*

## PRINCE PHILIP, DUKE OF EDINBURGH

### 1921-2021

So many tributes to Prince Philip were shown on television and found in newspapers all over the world that it hardly seems possible to add anything that we have not seen or heard already. However, in La Stampa newspaper on 11<sup>th</sup> April there were two photographs of Prince Philip arriving by naval launch at the keyside of the Old Port in Sanremo accompanied by Captain John Edwin Home McBeath and Lieutenant Andy Parker. It was 9<sup>th</sup> March 1950 and their ship HMS Chequers was anchored in the bay of Sanremo. They were on leave.

The three Officers were greeted by the Mayor of Sanremo, the Honourable Paolo Manuel Home Gismondi and taken to the Golf Club on the hillside overlooking Sanremo where they enjoyed tea and dancing – a popular afternoon pastime in those days. In the evening the Officers attended a concert in their honour. Carolyn, our church warden, also has a photograph of Prince Philip visiting the Hanbury Gardens – it could well have been at that time.

Prince Philip had joined HMS Chequers Royal Navy Destroyer as First Lieutenant in October 1949. The ship was leader of the First Destroyer Squadron based in Malta between 1948 and 1954 and patrolled the Mediterranean. Prince Philip and the then Princess Elizabeth, newly married, set up home in Malta. They were photographed together on board HMS Chequers in the Grand Harbour on Boxing Day 1949.

At the funeral of Prince Philip medals and other important awards were displayed on the altar. Two, which caught my attention, were the Croix de Guerre with Palm 1939-45 (a French medal to honour all those who fought with the Allies), and the Star of Italy (a campaign medal of the British Commonwealth) awarded for operational services in World War II in Sicily or Italy during the period 11 June 1943 to May 1945. During part of that time, Prince Philip was Second-in-command on board HMS Wallace, which supported the Allied invasion of Sicily in 1943.

So, that day in Sanremo in the life of Prince Philip included five of his most loved activities: service at sea aboard a Royal Navy ship, a hillside outing, a physical activity (dancing and perhaps golf), music and meeting people. Life to the full.

The Italy Star Association 1943-1945 is a thriving body in the UK. It meets each May in Chichester for a Remembrance Service in the Cathedral and a parade in the town. It also takes part in the march past the Cenotaph on Remembrance Day in London every year. The Motto of the Association is:

**When you walk in peaceful lanes so green  
remember us - and think what might have been**

From The Funeral Service of  
HRH The Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh

**The First Lesson**

**Ecclesiasticus 43. 11-26**

*read by the Dean of Windsor*

LOOK at the rainbow and praise its Maker; it shines with a supreme beauty, rounding the sky with its gleaming arc, a bow bent by the hands of the Most High. His command speeds the snow storm and sends the swift lightning to execute his sentence. To the end the storehouses are opened, and the clouds fly out like birds. By his mighty power the clouds are piled up and the hailstones broken small. The crash of his thunder makes the earth writhe, and when he appears, an earthquake shakes the hills. At his will the south wind blows, the squall from the north and the hurricane. He scatters the snow-flakes like birds alighting; they settle like a swarm of locusts. The eye is dazzled by their beautiful whiteness, and as they fall the mind is entranced. He spreads frost on the earth like salt, and icicles form like pointed stakes. A cold blast from the north, and ice grows hard on the water, settling on every pool, as though the water were putting on a breastplate. He consumes the hills, scorches the wilderness, and withers the grass like fire. Cloudy weather quickly puts all to rights, and dew brings welcome relief after heat. By the power of his thought he tamed the deep and planted it with islands. Those who sail the sea tell stories of its dangers, which astonish all who hear them; in it are strange and wonderful creatures, all kinds of living things and huge sea-monsters. By his own action he achieves his end, and by his word all things are held together.

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**The Second Lesson**

**John 11. 21-27**

*read by the Archbishop of Canterbury*

Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. And even now I know that whatever you ask from God, God will give you." Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again." Martha said to him, "I know that he will rise again in the resurrection at the last day." Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life; he who believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, and whoever lives and believes in me shall never die. Do you believe this?". She said to him, "Yes, Lord; I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, he who is coming into the world."

**PSALM 104**

*The Duke of Edinburgh requested that Psalm 104  
should be set to music by William Lovelady.  
Originally composed as a cantata in three movements,  
it was first sung in honour of His Royal Highness's 75<sup>th</sup> Birthday*

MY SOUL give praise unto the Lord of heaven,  
In majesty and honour clothed;  
The earth he made will not be moved,  
The seas he made to be its robe. Give praise.

The waters rise above the highest mountain,  
And flow down to the vales and leas;  
At springs, wild asses quench their thirst,  
And birds make nest amid the trees.

The trees the Lord has made are full of vigour,  
The fir tree is a home for storks;  
Wild goats find refuge in the hills,  
From foes the conies shelter in the rocks.

My soul give praise unto the Lord of heaven,  
In majesty and honour clothed;  
The earth he made will not be moved,  
The seas he made to be its robe. Give praise.

O Lord, how manifold is your creation,  
All things in wisdom you provide;  
You give your riches to the earth,  
And to the sea so great and wide.

You take your creatures breath and life is ended,  
Your breath goes forth and life begins;  
Your hand renews the face of earth,  
Your praise my whole life I will sing.

My soul give praise unto the Lord of heaven,  
In majesty and honour clothed;  
The earth he made will not be moved,  
The seas he made to be its robe. Give praise