

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
Morning Prayer – Tuesday mornings 7th, 14th, 21st December - 10.30am

Priest-in-charge: Vacant Tel. #33 (0)4 93 57 20 25
Locum Revd. Canon Alexander Gordon
Warden: Carolyn Hanbury hanbury.carolyn@gmail.com

Communications: Suzanne Prince princesuzanne06@gmail.com
#33 (0)6 13 71 60 85

Council Members: 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

Synod Representative: Avril Bateman

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 12

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

DECEMBER 2021

ST. JOHN'S ANGLICAN CHURCH, MENTON

EUCCHARIST - SUNDAYS - 10.30am

MORNING PRAYER TUESDAYS - 10.30am

covid-19 restrictions

PLEASE CHECK ON WEBSITE FOR LATEST INFORMATION

Please wear your mask at all times in church
Pass Sanitaire/Green Pass necessary

THE ENGLISH CEMETERY CHAPEL BORDIGHERA

EUCCHARIST - 10.30am

Normally the second Wednesday of each month

please check on the website or with the locum

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 DECEMBER 2021 - YEAR C

December 5 ADVENT 2	First Reading Canticle Second Reading Gospel	Baruch 5.1-9 or Malachi 3.1-4 Luke 1.68-79 Phillipians 1.3-11 Luke 3.1-6
December 12 ADVENT 3	First Reading Canticle Second Reading Gospel	Zephaniah 3.14-20 Isaiah 12.2-6 Philippians 4.4-7 Luke 3.7-18
December 19 ADVENT 4	First Reading Canticle Second Reading Gospel	Micah 5.2-5a Luke 1.46b-55 or Psalm 80.1-7 Hebrews 10.5-10 Luke 1.39-45 (46-55)
December 25 CHRISTMAS DAY	First Reading Psalm Second Reading Gospel	Isaiah 52.7-10 98 Hebrews 1-14, (5-12) John 1.1-14
December 26 CHRISTMAS 1	First Reading Psalm Second Reading Gospel	Isaiah 63.7-9 148 Hebrews 2.10-18

PLEASE NOTE : Canon Alex will lead a weekly **Morning Prayer Service** on **Tuesdays** during December at

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BAPTISMS, CONFIRMATIONS, MARRIAGES, FUNERALS

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

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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.



Recent Services - Harvest Festival - Remembrance Sunday



those who prayed, cleared or cleaned the church to begin the rebuild, those who found new premises to continue worship, the locums, those who kept our community informed and in touch through lockdown and covid-19 travel restrictions, all who gave their time, talents, expertise, donations during this long period of hope to complete the restoration and return to our church. Our thanks go to them all and especially to God who gave them the strength and wisdom throughout.



New Facilities

The photo above is that of the St. John's English Library adjacent to the church. Besides having many fiction and non-fiction books, it is used for fellowship time after services. Every month an Art Exhibition is held featuring a local artist, and activities such as wine tasting, talks by Guest Speakers, French Conversation, Bridge and 'Meet the Author' events.

Entering immediately into the nave of the church through the main door, part of the former aisle on the left has now been walled off to provide a kitchen area, toilets, and book shelves for the library. The Lady Chapel remains and the new pipe organ can be found between the Chapel and the King's Door.

NEWS NEWS NEWS NEWS NEWS NEWS

We welcome Revd. Canon Alexander Gordon from Inverness who will be our locum from 28th November to 27th December.

Re-Dedication of St. John's Church 21 November, 2021



The Rt. Revd. Dr. Robert Innes, Bishop of Gibraltar in Europe, stood at the wide-open door of St. John's Church and said:

Through the ages, Almighty God has moved his people to build houses of prayer and praise, and to set apart places for the ministry of his holy Word and Sacraments. With gratitude for the rebuilding of St. John's Church, we are now gathered to dedicate it in God's Name.

With the pastoral cross the Bishop marked the threshold with the sign of the cross and said:

Paix à cette maison de la part de Dieu notre Père céleste. Paix à cette maison de la part de son Fils, notre Paix. Paix à cette maison de la part de l'Esprit-Saint, le Consolateur. **Amen**

The Bishop moved into the entrance and said:

Ever living Father, watchful and caring, our source and our end, all that we are and all that we have is yours. Accept us now, as we dedicate this place to which we come to praise your Name, to ask your forgiveness, to know your healing power, to hear your Word, and to be nourished by the Body and Blood of your Son. Be present always to guide and to judge, to illumine and to bless your people.

Carolyn Hanbury, Churchwarden continued:

Lord Jesus Christ, make this a temple of your presence and a house of prayer. Be always near us when we seek you in this place. Draw us to you, when we come alone and when we come with others, to find comfort and wisdom, to be supported and strengthened, to rejoice and give thanks. May it be here, Lord Christ, that we are made one with you and with one another, so that our lives are sustained and sanctified for your service.

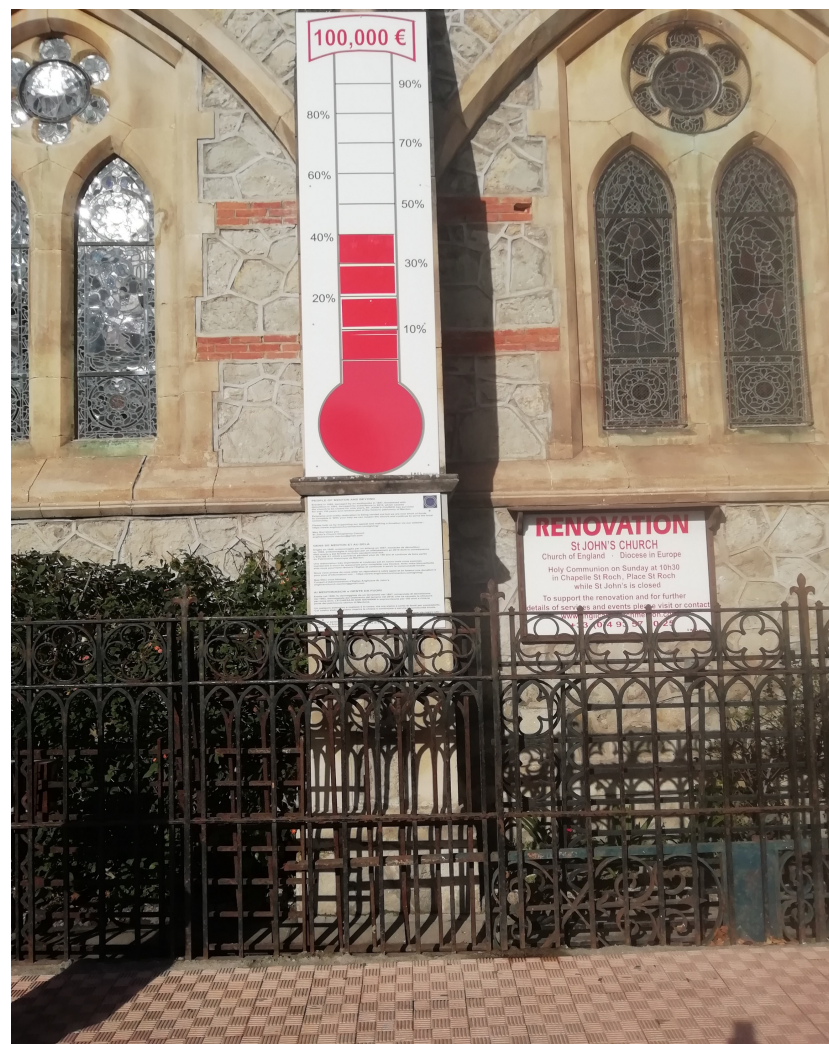


During the pandemic (the 'soft' reopening of St. John's on Sunday 12th July 2020. Celebrant: Revd. David Houghton, Locum Priest)

(3)

At the time, it was thought that, at the very best, it would take four to five months before the St. John's community could return to their church. As you know it took 9 years and 9 months before services were held once again inside the church and 11 years for the official re-Dedication of St. John's. The Covid-19 pandemic and Lockdown also caused delays to the celebration.

Every single person, known or unknown, paid or unpaid, far or near, church member or not, who helped in the restoration in any way whatsoever over that time scale are to be thanked – those who dealt with bureaucracy, documents, translations, ownership of the premises, insurances, removal of pews, furnishings and objects into storage, planning and replanning the rebuilding, financial worries, fundraising



(8)

Why restoration was undertaken
Damage caused by subsidence of the ground on
the morning of 13th October 2010



The church council arrived at the church for a meeting on the morning of 14th October 2010 to be met by a group from the development nearby. The church had been seriously damaged the day before with enormous crevasses and holes to the kitchen, toilet and library and the wall between the library and the older part of the church. The meeting was adjourned. Canon Guy Smith, locum at the time, entered the church to extract all necessary things to conduct services. By order of the authorities the church was pronounced dangerous and closed until it was safely restored.

(7)

The Revd. Chris Parkman Locum Priest continued:

Holy Spirit, open our eyes, our ears, and our hearts, that we may grow closer to you through joy and through suffering. Be with us in the fullness of your power as new members are added to your household, as we grow in grace through the years, when we are joined in marriage, when we turn to you in sickness or special need, and, at the last, when we are committed into the Father's hands.

The Bishop concluded:

Now, O Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
sanctify this place;
All For everything in heaven and on earth is yours
Bishop Yours, O Lord is the kingdom;
All And you are exalted as head over all.

(from the Service of re-Dedication of St. John's Church on 21st November 2021)



Organist M. Benjamin Prischi playing the 'new' 1872 Bevington organ during hymns

(4)



During holy communion at the re-Dedication of St. John's, George Owen, tenor, sang the sacred song by Samuel Liddle, **'How lovely is thy dwelling place'**, based on Psalm 84 given below.

Psalm 84

How lovely is thy dwelling place, O Lord of hosts!
My soul longs, yea, faints for the courts of the Lord;
my heart and flesh sing for joy to the living God.

Even the sparrow finds a home, and the swallow a nest for herself,
where she may lay her young, at thy altars,
O Lord of hosts, my king and my God.
Blessed are those who dwell in thy house,
ever singing thy praise!

Blessed are the men whose strength is in thee,
in whose heart are the highways to Zion.
As they go through the valley of Baca they make it a place of springs;
the early rain also covers it with pools.

They go from strength to strength;
the God of gods will be seen in Zion.

O Lord God of hosts, hear my prayer; give ear O God of Jacob!
Behold our shield, O God;
look upon the face of thine anointed!

For a day in they courts is better than a thousand elsewhere.
I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God
than dwell in the tents of wickedness,
for the Lord God is a sun and shield;
he bestows favour and honour,
no good thing does the Lord withhold from those who walk uprightly.
O Lord of hosts,
blessed is the man who trusts in thee!

The restored church on re-Dedication Day

