

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

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Eucharist every Sunday at 10.30am

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St. John's English Library President: Joanna Langhorne
Opening Hours: Wednesday 14.30-17.30 Saturday 09.30-12.30
sjementon@gmail.com <https://www.facebook.com/menton>
<https://www.libib.com/u/stjohnsmenton>

The Anglican Chapel, Bordighera

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

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
FEBRUARY 2023**

ST. JOHN'S ANGLICAN CHURCH, MENTON

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

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THE ENGLISH CEMETERY CHAPEL
BORDIGHERA

Eucharist Wednesday 8th February at 10.30am
Celebrant: The Rev. Chris Parkman

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THE ANGLICAN CHURCH OF
THE HOLY GHOST, GENOVA

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

EUCCHARIST 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 FEBRUARY 2023 – YEAR A

| | | |
|--|---|---|
| February 5
3 rd before Lent | 1 st Reading
Psalm
2 nd Reading
Gospel | Isaiah 58.1-12
112
1 Corinthians 2.1-12
Matthew 5.13-20 |
| February 12
2 nd before Lent | 1 st Reading
Psalm
2 nd Reading
Gospel | Genesis 1.1 – 2.3
136.1-9, 23-end
Romans 8.18-25
Matthew 6.25-34 |
| February 19
Next before Lent | 1 st Reading
Psalm
2 nd Reading
Gospel | Exodus 24.12-18
2
2 Peter 1.16-21
Matthew 17.1-9 |
| February 26
LENT 1 | 1 st Reading
Psalm
2 nd Reading
Gospel | Genesis 2.15-17; 3.1-7
32
Romans 5.12-19
Matthew 4.1-11 |
| March 5
LENT 2 | 1 st Reading
Psalm
2 nd Reading
Gospel | Genesis 12.1-4a
121
Romans 4.1-5, 13-17
John 3.1-17 |

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.

Romance, love, marriage and all that stuff

the way children see it.....

How do you decide whom to marry?

You got to find somebody who likes the same stuff. like, if you like sports, she should like it that you like sports, and she should keep the crisps and dips coming. - Alan age 10.

No person really decides before they grow up who they're going to marry. God decides it all way before, and you get to find out later who you're stuck with.. Kirsten age 10

What is the right age to get married?

23 is the best age cos' you know the person FOREVER by then. Camille 10
No age is good to get married at. You got to be a fool to get married. Freddie 6

How can a stranger tell if two people are married?

You might have to guess, based on whether they seem to be yelling at the same kids. Derrick 8

What do you think your mum and dad have in common?

Both don't want any more kids. Lori 8

What do most people do on a date?

Dates are for having fun, and people should use them to get to know each other. Even boys have something to say, if you listen long enough. Lynnette 8
On the first date, they just tell each other lies and that usually gets them interested enough to go for a second date. Martin 10

When is it okay to kiss someone?

When they're rich. Pam 7

The law says you have to be 18, so I wouldn't want to mess with that. Curt 7

Is it better to be single or married?

I don't know which is better, but I'll tell you one thing. I'm never going to have sex with my wife. I don't want to be all grossed out. Theodore 8

It's better for girls to be single but not for boys. Boys need someone to clean up after them. Anita 9.

ST. VALENTINE'S DAY – 14 FEBRUARY

Life is a song – sing it
Life is a game – play it
Life is a challenge – meet it
Life is a dream – realize it
Life is a sacrifice – offer it
Life is love - enjoy it

On how to mix town and country - or not

My dear Nephew Darren,

Your idea for our two churches to hold a combined New Year's Day walk was an admirable one, although I could sense a certain clash of cultures when your party arrived at the starting point with boots, waterproofs and GPS equipment. Our own group, rather anticipating tottering between tea shops, with a little light shopping in between, sported tweed suits, shopping bags and furred umbrellas.

Even two sets of dogs seemed bemused with one another, with your Westies and King Charles spaniels making enough noise to scare all the wildlife in the county, and our Retrievers puzzled why the pheasants were not dropping from the sky. Dear Miss Mill's miniature poodle, with the painted toenails, will probably need life-long counselling; the furthest she had walked previously was from her bed to beside the dining room table.

The electronic navigation equipment brought by members of your group made me think that if only the wise men had had these blessings, they wouldn't have had to follow anything as unreliable as a star. Although I suppose that instead of gold, frankincense and myrrh, they would then have arrived with an MP3 player, a mbile phone which would have been absolete before Jesus' first birthday and a CD of Madonna's greatest hits.

I do concede that our two congregations learned much from one another. Our ladies were most interested to hear about the latest in personal trainers, while yours discovered how to bring a pan of jam to a rolling boil. Your men seemed impressed to hear of squirrel shooting while ours gathered useful tips for caravanning abroad. And poor Miss Mill's poodle learned that the great outdoors was a parallel and hostile universe.

By mid-afternoon, however, the balance of power shifted. When the leader of the walk from your group lost his SatNat, our members felt the need to assert themselves. The gentlemen navigated using wind direction, moss on trees and angles of the sun, while our ladies, with tweed skirts furred somewhat higher than one would have wished, showed yours how to wade through peat bog without complaining.

Perhaps town and country really can learn from one another. But if Major Bullock's wife arrives for Mattins next Sunday sporting the latest gym gear, you will have much to answer for. *Your loving uncle Eustace* (5)

CHRIS and SARAH have issued an invitation to meet them and to see the newly renovated flat on Wednesday 1st February 17-19.00 or Thursday 9th February 17-19.00. Address 2 Avenue Pigautier, St. John's Church bell, on the 2nd floor..... All welcome.

REMEMBER ! JAZZ in ST. JOHN'S on Friday 3rd February with Ben Prischi and Friends at 6.30pm.

LENT COURSE Chris is hoping to run a Lent Course. If it can be arranged, it will be announced in Church and/or in the notices on the weekly Sunday Service leaflets.

THE WOMEN'S WORLD DAY of PRAYER WWDP is a global ecumenical movement led by Christian women who welcome you to join in prayer and action for peace and justice. This year's programme is written by WDP committee of Taiwan. Instead of the normal first Friday in March, the service will be held in the Lutheran Church, Via Garibaldi, Sanremo on Saturday 4th March at 4.00pm.

THE LEMON FESTIVAL - ROCK & OPERA takes place 11-26 February.

COUNCIL MEETING The next St. John's Council Meeting is at 9.30am on Tuesday 21st February.

ASH WEDNESDAY falls on 22nd February this year. Should a Service be arranged for that day, it will be announced in church or can be seen in the notices on the Sunday service leaflets.

EVENTS and CONCERTS There are quite a few enquiries about using the church for concerts. If anyone knows of events which can be done in church, please contact the chaplain Chris, the churchwarden Carolyn or a member of the Church Council.

Don't judge each day by the harvest you reap,
but by the seeds that you plant

Robert Louis Stevenson
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CHRIS'S REFLECTION

The news of recent months has often been about the cost of living crisis. All countries are struggling as food and energy prices go up, and the subsequent knock-on effects there have been in other services. And of course, those on the lowest incomes are the ones who are most stressed and struggling. Such times serve as a stark reminder that much of what happens in life is beyond our control. We can work faithfully, manage our income and spending to remain within our limits, take care of ourselves and our loved ones, But there will always be some point beyond which we simply cannot control our circumstances.

Most of us connected with the community at St. John's are blessed by being able to live fairly privileged lives. We might look around locally and realise we are less well off than some (but more well off than others). But when we consider our situation compared to many parts of the world, we know we are well off; we live in relative political stability; we have functioning public services (most of the time!); we have access to a variety of food; we have ready access to water; But however much we know this in our heads, if we are in the thick of a crisis in maybe seeing loved ones struggling with health, for example, it is sometimes difficult to know any sense of inner peace. We can even feel guilty for struggling because of this tension within us.

There is a cost of living. And if we live well and love well there is a cost of loving. We simply cannot avoid it. And we all know that deeply and intuitively, so the question then becomes, how do we carry that ever well? One of my favourite Christian writers is Henri Nouwen, who once wrote this:

“Do not be afraid, have no fear,” is the voice we most need to hear. This voice was heard by Zechariah when Gabriel, the angel of the Lord, appeared to him in the temple and told him that his wife, Elizabeth, would bear a son; this voice was heard by Mary when the same angel entered her house in Nazareth and announced that she would conceive, bear a child, and name him Jesus; this voice was also heard by the women who came to the tomb and saw that the stone was rolled away. “Do not be afraid, do not be afraid, do not be afraid.” The voice uttering these words sounds all through history as the voice of God's messengers, be they angels or saints. It is the voice that announces a whole new way of being, a being in the house of love, the house of the Lord.....the house of love is not simply a place in the afterlife, a place in heaven beyond this world, Jesus offers this house right in the midst of our anxious world..

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As we start this new year, I pray that each of us might know the truth of this in our lives today. And whether we count ourselves as religious or not, that we can be people who support each other as we each work out our own cost of living today.

Chris

A TALE of TWO PORTRAITS

It began with a name and a number General H.S.H. Jones, 39; and a request by canon Tony Dickinson, the Chaplain of the Anglican church of the Holy Ghost, Genova: to find the grave of the above General in the English Cemetery, Bordighera.

In November Canon Tony celebrated the Remembrance Service in the British and Commonwealth War Graves Cemetery. He was able to find the grave in the nearby English Cemetery, and photograph it before returning to Genova. It was a double grave of the General and his wife Emma.

Mrs Paddy Holmes then entered the story. Paddy had been a member of St. John's Church, Menton and was now a regular visitor, living for short periods in Bordighera. On her journey to Bordighera in December/January she stopped to visit friends in Marseille and was shown two beautiful portraits of the General and his sister by their owner, Mr Aidan Hamilton. As he was not a relative of either of them, he wished to find the General's family and give them the portraits. Paddy, armed with an old plan of Bordighera Alta, which showed the place where the General had lived, climbed up the long road to find the building. She was unsuccessful even though she experienced many interesting conversations with people on the way. Unfortunately no-one remembered the name. After all he did die in 1902 and his wife in 1884.

Paddy went to the Institute of Ligurian Studies in Bordighera to see if they would be interested in having the portraits. They were, and agreed to cover her expenses to go to Marseille and bring them to Bordighera, which she did and immediately consigned them safely to the Institute.

The BBC programme 'Who do you think you are' comes to mind. It would be interesting to unfold the General's life. Who painted the portraits? Why did he come to live in Bordighera? A clue on his grave stone is CB - Companion of The Order of The Bath. When and why did he receive that? Who knows?

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