

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

Eucharist every Sunday at 10.30am

Priest-in-charge: The Revd. Chris Parkman tel: #33 (0)6 51 52 50 49
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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
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

JUNE 2023

ST. JOHN'S ANGLICAN CHURCH, MENTON

EUCHARIST - EVERY SUNDAY - 10.30am

Celebrant: The Rev. Chris Parkman

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THE ENGLISH CEMETERY CHAPEL

BORDIGHERA

Eucharist Wednesday 14th JUNE 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

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 JUNE 2023 – YEAR A

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| June 4
TRINITY SUNDAY | 1 st Reading
Psalm
2 nd Reading
Gospel | Isaiah 40.12-17, 27-31
8
2 Corinthians 13. 11-13
Matthew 28. 16-20 |
| June 11
1 st after TRINITY | 1 st Reading
Psalm
2 nd Reading
Gospel | Genesis 12. 1-9
33. 1-12
Romans 4. 13-25
Matthew 9. 9-13, 18-26 |
| June 18
2 nd after TRINITY | 1 st Reading
Psalm
2 nd Reading
Gospel | Genesis 18. 1-15
116. 9-17
Romans 5. 1-8
Matthew 9.35 - 10.8 |
| June 25
3 rd after TRINITY | 1 st Reading
Psalm
2 nd Reading
Gospel | Jeremiah 20. 7-13
69. 8-17
Romans 6. 1b-11
Matthew 10. 24-39 |
| July 2
4 th after TRINITY | 1 st Reading
Psalm
2 nd Reading
Gospel | Genesis 22. 1-14
13
Romans 6. 12-23
Matthew 10. 40-42 |

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.

TRINITY SUNDAY - 4TH JUNE

When Columbus was on his third voyage to America he saw what seemed to be three islands rising up out of the sea. But as his ship came nearer he saw that what he had thought were three islands were really three mountain peaks, joined together at their bases by a low strip of land. There was only one island, not three.

So he gave it the Spanish name for Trinity: he called it Trinidad because, he said, this is what the Trinity means. While we are still far off we can see only three persons – when we draw nearer and see God as he is, then we find that the three persons are really one God.

FRUITS of the SPIRIT

Followers of Jesus
Respond with **love**, spread **joy**.
United
In the Spirit
They foster **peace**,
Show **patience**, and don't annoy.

Others' burdens bearing
Freely, gladly sharing

They act with **kindness**
Hold fast to all **goodness**
Eagerly affirm **faithfulness**.

Saints act with **gentleness** and
Practice **self-control**; they endure
Insults and injuries with
Rejoicing. To be sure,
If you abide in the Spirit,
Then you are free from the **law**.

(Henry Hunter)

My dear nephew Darren,

You closed your last letter with the remark that it was time to retire to bed with a cup of cocoa. That may be all very well for the pious intensity of a theological college – although a stiff whisky was always acceptable in my day – but it is not a style to continue once in the parish. I do feel obliged to give you a few hints about what should and should not be drunk in public as a parish priest.

Morning visits are to be discouraged, but if one is unavoidable, and you are invited to have a drink, then it has to be coffee. It is the only time of day when a mug is acceptable – provided, of course, that it is china. In the afternoons one changes to tea, but only from cups. Blended varieties may be all very well for curates in their first year, but it should be Darjeeling for an incumbent. Fruit teas are for Quakers only.

If an appropriate vessel is offered, then the drink should be accepted, but left untouched. Since the visit will be discussed in the finest detail throughout the parish the moment you have left, your host will soon learn why and not make the same error a second time. It is for the same reason that if you ever want to circulate a piece of news round the parish as quickly as possible, never put it in the parish magazine, just mention it casually during one of your visits. Everyone will know by tea time.

Alcoholic drinks must be carefully judged. A sherry – dry, naturally – is probably best if you are invited to lunch. In the early evening a gin and tonic would be the drink of choice. To ask for whisky would indicate that you are about to go over to Rome, and a mineral water that you have your roots in non-conformity. Beer is never drunk in someone's house unless you suffer from some personal tragedy such as being the diocesan youth chaplain.

However an occasional beer in the pub with the bell-ringers (who will be real ale fanatics to a man) or after choir practice – which seems to be the real purpose of holding practices anyway – or as a treat for the sacristan, will show you are a man of the people. It is some years since I visited the pub.

Understanding wine should be taught at every theological college as an essential part of the ministry. Develop a taste for claret, dear boy, and you will be starting your journey towards high office. And perhaps you should give that tin of cocoa to the vergier

Your loving uncle, *Eustace*.

**Extraordinary General Meeting of
all members of the Electoral Roll of the Chaplaincy**

Sunday 11th June 2023 after the service in St. John's

In his Report at our Annual General Meeting on 14th May, our Chaplain, Rev. Chris Parkman, told us of a point of legal business during 2022. The French government proposed updating the 1905 laws which apply to all religious associations in France, in response to money laundering and religious extremism. Chris said full requirements are now known, and the council needs to submit various items of paperwork by June 30th 2023 and conforms to new financial reporting requirements in the future. Updated statutes are required and the Diocese in Europe has taken this opportunity to ensure that all Anglican churches in France have a consistent set of statutes.

This is where the members of the Electoral Roll come in. It will need to approve the new statutes at an Extraordinary General Meeting which will be held on 11th June 2023.

To come prepared, you may find information about the obligations of the religious associations, as well as financial and fiscal advantages, at the Anglican Archdeaconry of France website: –

- anglicanfrance.fr
- click [Resource and information page](#)
- roll down and click French Law on non-profit organisations (1901 and 1905 Associations)
- roll down and click Actes6
- which provides a lot of useful documentation for churches in France.

So, to all members on the Electoral Roll please be present to cast your vote on Sunday 11th June 2023.



A reflection from Rev Chris :-

'I've just made a satellite dish out of a dustbin lid and now all I'm getting on the TV is a load of rubbish....'

I receive a weekly email from a publisher with various new titles, and a selection of bad jokes are always included at the foot of the email. I chuckled as I recently read the one above!

Given we were approaching Pentecost, when we celebrate the gift of the Holy Spirit, and then Trinity Sunday the following week, it reminded me of an aspect of theology which I found quite intriguing when I studied it. It's the idea of non-competivity

There are all sorts of bad analogies that can be offered to explain the Trinity. For example 'it's like saying God is like water, and but can exist as ice, liquid water, or steam.' That's a bad analogy because when water is steam, it's not ice. So it's not a good analogy for the Trinity because the early church fathers debated this and affirmed, 'no, God one is one God but exists as all three persons *at the same time.*'

The reason that seems illogical to us is that our experience says that if something is one thing, it can't be another at the same time. In other words, the 'things' compete and only one can exist. Or else they exist as a mixture. If I enjoy a rum and coke on the terrasse, it's not wholly rum, nor is it wholly coke. The rum is diluted by the coke, and vice versa. But when we say Jesus is both God and human, he is neither diluted human nor diluted God (we trust). So, the early church fathers said 'in the Trinity there is no competition; they all exist fully themselves at the same time.'

What's all this got to do with living in Menton, you might very well want to ask?! As we might expect, God is beyond our understanding! But it also says this: as we let the Spirit gradually move in our lives, it does not obliterate our own character. In fact, it would be better to think of it as 'filling us out.' You can be you and the best version of who you want to be, and not a shrivelled holier than thou version. So God bless you!

God bless dustbin lids. And I hope to return to more grounded reflections next month.

Chris

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ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING - 14th MAY 2023

Rev. Chris Parkman welcomed the 28 people present and opened the Meeting with a prayer.

Reports were heard from our Chaplain Rev. Chris Parkman, Churchwarden Mrs. Carolyn Hanbury, Treasurer Mr Robert Edwards, Communications Officer Mrs Suzanne Prince, and Synod Representative Mr Lee Gagan.

The highlight of the year was that, after a long Interregnum that began in 2017, we welcomed Rev. Chris Parkham and his wife Ms Sarah Walker as our permanent part-time chaplain. Chris and Sarah thanked the church community and numerous people for their welcome and all their hard work, especially the sub-committee responsible for their recruitment and relocation. The licensing service led by Archdeacon Peter Hooper was much appreciated for its prayerful start to their ministry. The chaplaincy flat was beautifully restored in time for Chris and Sarah to move in

Good news is that the electoral roll has risen to 43, the congregation to a Sunday average of 34. We are also blessed with the very talented Monsieur Benjamin Prischi, as organist. Over the year, Jazz, musical and coral concerts have been organised either in church or the English Library. The latter also arrange a variety of exhibitions and events and share the revenue with the church.

Talking of funds, the church is still having difficulty in paying its way. The accounts for the year did not reflect a typical year. They showed as income the sale of the locale and gift aid on prior years' donations. We were warned that we must do more fundraising otherwise we would run out of money in three or four years time.

The church is publicised through its website, and links with 13 different websites, as well as St. John's English Library, and all the events which take place. It takes dedicated people led by Rev. Chris, the council members and volunteers to operate the church and they are much appreciated and were warmly thanked. We are all invited to be a part of St. John's community. For future planning with the council, Rev. Chris collected our suggestions of what we would like to hear people say about St. John's church in ten years' time.

Sadly Mr John Mason, Mr Ennis Cardew and Mr Rhys Thomas have retired from the council. The new elected Council is: Mrs. Valerie Aucouturier, Mr. Robert Edwards, Mr. George Owen, Mrs. Suzanne Prince.

Churchwarden re-elected: Mrs Carolyn Hanbury

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