

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

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Eucharist every Sunday at 10.30am

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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

MAY 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 10th MAY 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 MAY 2023 – YEAR A

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|-------------------------------------|---|--|
| May 7 EASTER 5 | 1 st Reading Psalm 2 nd Reading Gospel | Acts 7.55-60 31.1-5, 15-16 1 Peter 2.2-10 John 14.1-14 |
| May 14 EASTER 6 | 1 st Reading Psalm 2 nd Reading Gospel | Acts 17. 22-31 66.7-18 1 Peter 3.13-22 John 20.1-18 |
| May 21 EASTER 7 | 1 st Reading Psalm 2 nd Reading Gospel | Acts 1.6-14 68.1-10, 33-36 1 Peter 4.12-14; 5.6-11 John 17.1-11 |
| May 28 PENTECOST (WHITSUNDAY) | 1 st Reading Psalm 2 nd Reading Gospel | Numbers 11. 24-30 104. 26-34 Acts 2. 1-21 John 20. 19-23 |

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.

Jesus Heard You

Jesus heard you when you prayed last night
 He talked with God about you
 Jesus was there when you fought your fight
 He is going to bring you through
 Jesus knew when you shed those tears
 You did not weep alone
 The burdens you thought too heavy to bear
 He made them his very own
 Jesus himself was touched by that trial
 You could not understand
 Jesus stood by you as you almost fell and
 Lovingly clasped your hand
 Jesus cared when you bore that pain
 Indeed he bore it too
 He felt each pain each ache in your heart
 Because of his love for you
 Jesus your Saviour will always be with you
 No need to be anxious or fret
 Wonderful love he will be there all the time
 He has never forsaken you yet.

Author unknown

An invitation Coronation 06 May 2023
King Charles III

We invite all members and guests to “Afternoon Tea” 4.30pm – 6.30pm at
 L'Orangerie, 15 Rue Partouneaux, Menton.
 Prosecco, wine or juice upon arrival
 Enjoy a very British afternoon with sandwiches, pastries and Earl Grey tea.
 Closing with a toast to the King.
 Correct dress please. Gents, absolutely no shorts.
 Ladies, if you own a hat, it would be lovely to see you wearing it on the day.
 TV3 will be there to report on our event. Do let me know if you are interested
 in joining us. **Birgitt Nordbrink, British Association, Menton.**

My dear Darren,

I do hope you have now settled down in your first parish – although it is such a pity that you did not choose a more distinguished one. I know you feel your vocation lies in inner city work – whereas mine, fortunately, has always been to the better-sort of Cotswold village. I have always felt that the Almighty understands me well in that regard.

With Easter so early this year, we find that the May flowers will be blooming for Ascension Day, Pentecost and even Trinity Sunday. This causes me some anxiety, as the ladies who do the flowers can so easily get carried away, and use colours that clash with the splendid altar frontals. And if it isn't the flowers, it's Mrs Margison's hat. Why oh why does that woman wear such a hat and then sit so near to the front of the church? I thought she had more aesthetic taste.

We had a little flurry of activity in church on Sunday. At the signal “let us pray”, as the congregation dutifully flopped to their knees, sounding like a flock of geese settling in for the night, Major Hastings lost his glass eye. Yes, again! That man is so careless at times. Anyway, released from captivity, the eye rolled under the pews like a fugitive marble, ricocheting from hassock to handbag over the stone flags.

My sonorous entreaties to the Almighty were completely lost as the entire congregation scuttled under pews, trying to retrieve it. It finally appeared on the collection plate – along with £4.17, 100 pesetas and Miss Simpson's front door key. I was unsure whether the last item represented a fit of absent-mindedness or an improper suggestion. I returned it to her very firmly at the end of the service.

The eye stared at me mournfully as I blessed it, along with the money. But it left a small social dilemma. What is the etiquette of returning a lost glass eye to its owner?

To have processed down the aisle with it, accompanied by crucifer and verger seemed a little too public. To sneak it to him as we shook hands at the door seemed a little too furtive. I finally decided to send a server to deliver it during the last hymn. I still wonder if it was the right decision. Perhaps you could look through that new Common Worship book and see if they have included an appropriate rite for returning lost glass eyes. We here at St. James-the-Least haven't yet got round to Common Worship. The days are evil enough as it is.

I await your response with interest.

Your loving uncle, *Eustace.*

Annual Chaplaincy Meeting will take place immediately following the service on Sunday 14th May. All are welcome to attend. Only Electoral Roll members may vote.

Administration of consecrated wine at the Eucharist has been restored. It has always been a mark of the Anglican Church. Two thousand years of experience have taught us that wine can be safely communicated when people drink from the Common Cup and the cup is wiped between communicants. Image, Joseph Goode.

**Prayers for King Charles III as he prepares for his coronation
in Westminster Abbey on 6th May 2023**

His Majesty the King will be crowned in a formal Coronation service conducted by The Archbishop of Canterbury. It will be a service rooted in Christian symbolism, reflecting the King's role today whilst looking to the future. During this week let us pray each day:-

Almighty God, for Charles our King, that you may pour upon him abundant gifts to help him fulfil the promises he will make at his coronation that he will have the grace, wisdom and strength to live a life of service to you and to his people;

For Camilla the Queen Consort, William Prince of Wales, the Princess of Wales, and all the Royal Family, that they may love and support the King as he bears the burden of his office;

For Justin, Archbishop of Canterbury, for all who will play a part in the Coronation, and for all who will work to support it and our celebrations with their care and service, that they may be given the strength to carry out the duties entrusted to them;

For the building up of the Church and for its Supreme Governor, for the building up of all Christian people, and for mutual understanding and fellowship between all people of faith;

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer

A reflection from Rev Chris :-

Annie Dillard, the American author, wrote:-

'That Christ's incarnation occurred improbably, ridiculously, at such-and-such a time, into such-and-such a place, is referred to--with great sincerity even among believers—as the “scandal of particularity”. Well, the “scandal of particularity” is the only world that I, in particular, know. What use has eternity for light? We're all up to our necks in this particular scandal'.

We touched on this idea only too briefly during our lent course on prayer as someone asked the question: 'so why did Jesus Christ get born in Israel 2000 years ago (and not some other time and place)?' Such questions can generate interesting discussions and reflections, but ultimately, we cannot explain all the possible reasons; there is an element of unknown about it. But the fact is, we believe he lived and died and was raised to life in a certain place and culture at a specific place in history.

And it's the same as we live our lives according to life principles. We cannot just be loving people in some vague, general, ungrounded sense. We can only be loving people through living our lives in the world around us and with the people and creation that we encounter, right here, right now in the small and big events of our lives. It may be we notice someone dropped their wallet or purse, and we pick it up and hand it back to them and save them a lot of worry in the process. Or it might be we start a movement for social change and motivate thousands of people to live differently. But the point is, love is only evidenced by specific, concrete actions in the here and now.

So as we move into full spring, having celebrated Easter and all that brings, I hope we can all experience something of the 'scandal of the particular' in our own, daily lives. Yes, we believe in a God of love; but I pray we may experience that in very concrete moments. Yes, we believe in loving others as ourselves; but I pray we can live it well in the little and the big moments of our lives here, today.

May God bless us as we, as Dillard puts it, 'get up to our necks in this particular scandal'.

Chris

Prayer of a Disabled Christian

On useless legs, unsteady hands
And speech that's hard to understand
Have mercy, Lord.

From envious thoughts I can't control
Self pity which destroys the soul
Protect me, Lord

For wanting things which cannot be
Forgetting all you do for me
Forgive me, Lord

For being too concerned with “I”
For the unanswered question, “Why?”
Forgive me, Lord.

For those whose kindness, day by day
Makes life so good in every way
I thank you, Lord.

That each day's problems I may face
With humour, dignity and grace
Help me, my Lord.

Jo Rowan

Prayer.....

Prayer itself is an art which only the Holy Ghost can teach us. He is the giver of all prayer. Pray for prayer - pray till you can pray.

(C. H. Spurgeon)

Prayer isn't just a solitary thing. When you pray with others, you become a community filled with God's spirit.

(Justin Welby, Archbishop of Canterbury)

Why your children need Snow White and Sleeping Beauty

When it comes to Snow White, Cinderella, The Ugly Duckling, and Sleeping Beauty, don't worry about whether they are politically correct or not. Reading them will do your children far more good than harm.

So says a child development expert, Sally Goddard Blythe, who argues that fairy tales can play a crucial role in a child's moral development. She says they nurture moral behaviour and show youngsters the strengths and weaknesses inherent in human nature. A fairy tale contrasts good and evil, rich and poor, vanity and valour. She argues that fairy tales tackle difficult issues, such as life after the death of parents (Cinderella), and also enlist 'children's innate wish for good to triumph.'

A poll by the TheBabyWebsite.com found that a quarter of mothers reject some fairy tales because they deem them too frightening and not politically correct. But Mrs Goddard Blythe, director of the Institute for Neuro-Physiological Psychology in Chester, urges: "When you don't give children these stereotypes, you don't give them a moral code on which to develop their own lives."

So – what do fairy tales teach?

Cinderella: humility, generosity, love, kindness and obedience are good but greed, envy, deceit, cruelty and neglect are bad.

Snow White: celebrates diversity and teaches that generosity, kindness and hope are good; while vanity and jealousy are bad.

Sleeping Beauty: love and bravery are good; but envy and pride are bad.

Of course, Christian parents also have a deep wealth of stories with which to introduce their children to a moral and social view of the world: the stories of the Bible. There are a number of excellent Bible story books for children.

(from The Beacon May 2011)

(See what books for children St. John's English Library has.) (7)

Prayers for King Charles III - (continued)

Almighty God, the fountain of all goodness,
bless our Sovereign Lord, King Charles,
and all who are in authority under him;
that they may order all things
in wisdom and equity, righteousness and peace,
to the honour of your name,
and the good of your Church and people;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen

Gracious God,
in company with our King,
we rededicate ourselves to your service.
Take our minds and think through them,
Take our lips and speak through them,
Take our hearts and set them on fire
with love for you and your kingdom;
that here we may have your peace,
and in the world to come may see you face to face;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen

For the United Kingdom,
for His Majesty's other Realms and Territories,
for the whole Commonwealth of Nations,
for their governments and ministers,
and for all who are called to public service,
that they will seek justice, mercy, and peace;

For the peace of the world,
for the welfare of all people,
for those who care for others and for the environment,
and for all in need.

Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer

How the Church marks Pentecost

Celebrating the gift of the Holy Spirit

The Day of Pentecost marks the fifty days since Easter Day and brings the Easter Season to an end. It is a major feast of the Church's year when Christians recall how God's Holy Spirit was given to the disciples after Jesus' ascension, empowering them to begin the work of making disciples of all nations.

Pentecost (which comes from the Greek word for 'fiftieth') has its roots in the Jewish Feast of Weeks. Jesus had promised his followers that although they would not see him after his Ascension, they would receive the Holy Spirit to guide and inspire them.

The Acts of the Apostles describes how the crowds gathered in Jerusalem – representing many nationalities and speaking many languages – were able to hear the disciples preaching in their own language.

'When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting.'

Acts 2, Chapter 2

The colour most often associated with Pentecost is red, representing the tongues of fire which the Acts of the Apostles describes appearing above the heads of the disciples as a sign that they had received the Holy Spirit.

With its focus on God's Spirit being poured out on believers, Pentecost is one of the most popular days for baptisms and confirmations in the Church's year.

(from: **The Church of England website.**)

If you want to know more about the Christian faith, or are ready to be baptised or confirmed, please contact our Chaplain, Rev. Chris Parkman.

THE COLLECT FOR PENTECOST

Holy Spirit, sent by the Father, ignite in us your holy fire;
strengthen your children with the gift of faith,
revive your Church with the breath of love,
and renew the face of the earth,

through Jesus Christ our Lord. (5)

USEFUL TIPS from MRS. E. CROOK

Put one or two mothballs into a toolbox or tool drawer to keep the tools free from rust.

After it's cooled, pour water from boiled eggs onto your African Violets and watch them bloom.

To polish drinking glasses ready for the table, hold them over a basin of boiling water and wipe off the steam with a dry cloth.

When whisking egg whites for meringues, add 1 tspn of cornflour. The meringue won't go flat when you take it out of the oven.

Scratches on furniture will fade if treated with cod liver oil. Leave 24 hours then polish off.

To remove paint from hands, use cotton wool soaked in nail varnish remover.

Don't throw away parsley stalks – they have more flavour than the leaves. Instead chop up and use in soups and stews.

When mending plugs etc. keep screws and other small parts safe on a piece of sticky tape.

To soothe a minor burn where the skin is unbroken, rub with a slice of raw potato.

When cooking ready made pizza in the oven don't grease the baking tray. Sprinkle it with plain flour. The pizzas won't stick – the tray is easier to clean.

When going away for a few days, leave half a lemon in the kitchen and you will return to a lovely fresh smell.

To prevent your dutbin from smelling in hot weather, sprinkle the inside generously with salt.

Tired of buying endless new pairs of tights? If you spray toes and heels with hairspray as soon as they are out of the packet they last much longer.

If you don't want new jeans to fade, leave them in salty water for a day. Then wash normally.

To soften corns or hard skin on the soles of the feet, cut a lemon in two and rub on twice daily.

Put balloons in hot water for a second – they inflate more easily. (6)