



Jubilate



The Magazine of the Chaplaincy of Christ the Good Shepherd,
Poitou-Charentes



Sunday 7th August 2022



WORSHIP IN THE CHAPLAINCY during August

- Sunday 7th:** **HOLY COMMUNION** in Courcelles Church **10.30h**
Morning Prayer in Champagne Mouton Church **10.30h**
- Sunday 14th:** **HOLY COMMUNION** in Cognac Temple **10.30h**
Morning Prayer in our Chef Boutonne Church **11.00h**
- Sunday 21st:** **ZOOM service** ((connexion details in due course) **10.30h**
- Sunday 28th** **HOLY COMMUNION** in Chef Boutonne **11.00h**

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NEW TABLES FOR CHEF BOUTONNE



Last Sunday, we were able to give special thanksgiving for the creation of three new tables:

The Communion Table (Altar)

The Flower Table (in front)

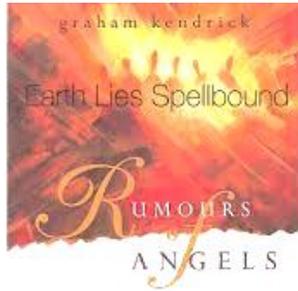
The Credence Table (where the elements for Holy Communion are prepared)

All three were made by Tom Bell, a comparative but welcome newcomer to the congregation. He fashioned them from the oak of a dining table given to us by Margaret & Don Mace when they moved back recently to the UK.

Together with the picture of Christ in Glory, the Cross and the Lectern on the Table and the HymnBoard (with its notice of which hymn our offerings will be collected!), they comprise an inspiring focal point for our services.

Thanks to Margaret & Don, thanks to Tom. Glory to God!

Rumours of



Angels

A few years ago, several of us put on, in various parts of the Chaplaincy, an Advent Event by Graham Kendrick called “Rumours of Angels”. I would like to repeat the event this Advent.

To make it a real possibility we need about 15 to 20 singers, which would include bass, tenor, alto and soprano.

Simon Freeman has agreed to lead the choir and if necessary, provide mp3 audio discs so that those who live a distance away from our church in Chef Boutonne, could rehearse without the added burden of travel. We would of course have to get together for full rehearsals at times.

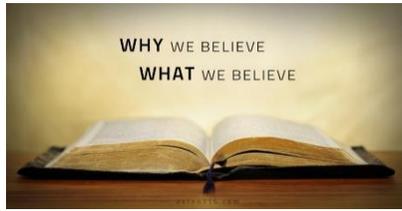
“Rumours of Angels” is beautiful. It reflects on the life of Jesus Christ, past, present, and future, and explores the mysteries of the incarnation, celebrates a present experience, and anticipates a coming kingdom of the second coming of Jesus Christ. It really is a beautiful experience with inspiring words music and readings which enhance the choral pieces.

It is hoped that members of other Christian Churches will join us for this Advent event.

If you would like to be part of this experience either singing or reading, please contact Carolyn on carolyncarter462@gmail.com, chaplaincychurchwarden1@gmail.com or ring on 0612137007

We hope to begin rehearsals in September.

SAYING THE CREED



I believe in the life everlasting

Back in 1980 a Musical Film was launched, called *Fame*. One of its keynote songs was *I wanna live for ever*.

Since earliest pre-history, it has been mankind's wish to live for ever – to live, that is our present life in the flesh. God has made us so that life can be a wonderful thing that we would wish to continue as long as possible. Indeed there are many people who have a fear of death – oblivion?

But there are others who, for one reason or another, life is a burden, not to be continued longer than necessary.

Both groups miss the point of our final credal statement. Living forever in this context means life beyond our 'mortal coil', life in the spiritual realm, with God, basking in His glory.

In Old Testament times it was believed that at the end of their earthly span, all people went to *Sheol*, a place of shadows from which there was no return. There are hints of something better than this pessimism in the Book of Psalms, but the encouragement comes in the book of Job, verses of which were immortalized for us in the music of Handel's *Messiah*:

"I know that my Redeemer liveth, and that he shall stand at the latter day upon the earth. And though worms destroy this body, yet in my flesh shall I see God.
(*Job 19 : 25-26*)

And he adds St Paul's statement:

For now is Christ risen from the dead, the first fruits of them that sleep.
(*1 Corinthians 15 : 20*)

It is difficult for us to understand what the *next* life will be like, because we cannot only really appreciate what we know already. The poet, T.P.Cameron Wilson, wrote about prisoners-or-war arriving in heaven and exclaiming “*God, but it’s England, and there’s a cricket pitch.*”

The author C.S.Lewis, in his writings often suggests that the heavenly realm in the **real thing** of which our earthly life has been a shadow, a foretaste, a preparation. But of all that is good and perfect, without the evil.

There’s a fascinating incident in the life of Jesus (which can give rise to a bad joke in a sermon). The group called the Sadducees do not believe in any after-life (*that’s why they were sad, you see!*) But Jesus told them “**You are quite wrong**”. He referred to the Father, saying He **IS** the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, not **was**.

Jesus clearly taught that there was to be life after death. His resurrection proved it; life not just for Him, but for all who believed.

There are different questions about whether eternal life begins when we die, or do we have to wait till the end of Time? Is there a “waiting room”? Will this happen when Jesus comes again? When will HE come again?

Fortunately, early Christian believers did not worry about such questions: they lived for Jesus in the present and looked forward to the everlasting life in His kingdom.

And better still, our Creed doesn’t ask us to think about these questions.

We believe in God. We believe in Jesus. We believe in the Holy Spirit. We believe in the Church, past, present and future.

We believe that God forgives our sin so that we can be raised to eternal life.

We may not understand it all fully; we may still have questions which may not be answered in this life.

But we believe. Thanks be to God!

A message from Paul Davis, our Safeguarding Officer

Mysterious Certificates

A number of people across the Diocese have recently received emails from the Safeguarding Training Portal noreply@safeguardingtraining.cofeportal.org with a certificate attached for the supposed completion of a Foundations course on 20th July. The Portal support team have reported that this was caused by a technical issue.

If you or someone in the Chaplaincy has received one of these emails, please disregard it. The issue has not affected training records on the portal.

QUOTES OF THE WEEK

From Church magazines received by the editor

1. A message to all preachers, everywhere:

‘There’s a fine line between a long sermon and a hostage situation’

2. **“Swimming costumes no longer needed”**

- to what church activity could this refer?

- submit your suggestions to the Editor

Contributions to *Jubilate*

Please send your contributions - information, prayers, poems, favourite hymns, thoughts, meditations to the editor:

david.hawken@orange.fr

Deadline for next week’s edition: Thursday teatime 11th.

After this month, *Jubilate* will revert to **monthly** publication, not weekly.

Deadline for September issue: Wednesday 24th August