

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



## Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> June 2022

## Collect for the First Sunday after Trinity:

O God, the strength of all those who put their trust in you: Mercifully accept our prayers; and, because through the weakness of our mortal nature we can do no good thing without you, Grant us the help of your grace, that in the keeping of your commandments we may please you, both in will and deed; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

CHAPLAINCY WORSHIP today is via ZOOM at 10.30.am

#### https://us02web.zoom.us/j/3145287597?pwd=UVJDNTVpZzJXSnFWYTk2ZFhB MW5Zdz09

The Meeting ID is 314 528 7597 The Passcode is CGShepherd

### NEXT SUNDAY (26th June)

A service of Morning Worship at 11.00.am in Chef Boutonne

#### (Church of Christ the Good Shepherd, 16 Avenue de l'Hotel de Ville, 79110, Chef Boutonne)

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### Lectionary Bible Readings for "Trinity I"

## Psalm 42

As the deer pants for streams of water, so my soul pants for you, my God

## Isaiah chapter 65 verses 1 to 9

God calls out "Here I am"

## Galatians chapter 3 verses 23 to 29

You are all children of God through faith

## Gospel of Luke chapter 8 verses 26 to 39

Jesus Restores a Demon-Possessed Man

God of truth,

Help us to keep your law of love

And to walk in the ways of wisdom,

That we may find true life

In Jesus Christ your Son

### Chaplaincy BBQ 10 June 2022

What a great day! The sun was shining, the company was good, and the food excellent. Everyone enjoyed meeting meeting friends from around the Chaplaincy that they had perhaps not seen in a long while. There was certainly plenty of animated conversation. We had a total of 55 folk attending, sadly a few had to pull out at short notice due to illness or accident.

The grand sum of  $1,250 \in$  was made:  $280 \in$  from the raffle,  $47 \in$  each from the Book and Plant stalls,  $786 \in$  from the meal and  $90 \in$  from other donations. A big thank you to all those that helped on the day to make it work. But most of all, thanks to all who came to support the event and created the tremendous fellowship that resulted.





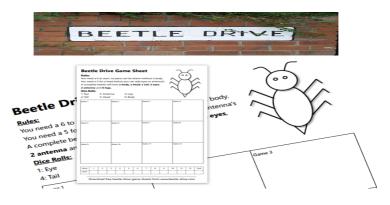
Could YOU organise an event to raise funds for the Chaplaincy ?

It doesn't have to be a large affair like the Barbeque. It could be in your own home or in our Church at Chef Boutonne.

If you have any ideas – and maybe need a bit of help in putting them into action – please contact any member of the Chaplaincy Council. Here are some thoughts to get your mind buzzing.



## What comes next ?



### FUNDRAISER FOR THE CHAPLAINCY

When? Wednesday 22nd June starting at 2.30pm
Where? Church of Christ the Good Shepherd,
16, Avenue de l'Hôtel de Ville, 79110, Chef-Boutonne

#### How much?

4€ entry

which includes:

- Playing Beetle Drive (overall winner wins a prize) (If you've never played "Beetle", you haven't lived! Come along and find a new dimension to life)
- There will also be a mystery 'booby' prize
- Tea or coffee and cake
- Entry into a draw for a bottle of <u>champagne</u>
- Opportunity to buy delicious cakes or books or quality bric-à-brac

Booking is not essential BUT it would be very helpful to have some idea of how many people are coming so please contact Wanda 09 64 12 29 54 or <u>wandamckerchar@aol.co.uk</u>.

Please DO book your places. The weather forecast for that afternoon is a comfortable  $26^{\circ}$ , possibly with the odd shower. Don't let it put you off. Phone or email Wanda very soon .

Offers of cakes of any size, both to serve with the refreshments and for sale on the cake stall, would be gratefully received. Again, please let Wanda know if you can help in this way.

### List of Chaplaincy services JULY 2022

| 3rd:             | Champagne Mouton (16350)    | Morning Worship at 10.30 am        |
|------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------------------|
|                  | Courcelles (17400)          | Holy Communion at 10.30 am         |
| 10th             | Chef Boutonne (79110)       | Morning Worship at <b>11.00 am</b> |
|                  | Cognac (16100)              | Holy Communion at 10.30 am         |
| 17th             | No service (Zoom cancelled) |                                    |
| 24 <sup>th</sup> | Chef Boutonne (79110)       | Informal Morning Worship 11.00.am  |
| 31st             | Chef Boutonne (79110)       | Holy Communion at 11.00 am         |

#### Words from your Chaplaincy Warden

Summer is approaching, and good things to look forward to. Our Chaplaincy goes from strength to strength and its finances are stable and growing.

*Ecumenism* is a very necessary part of our Christian life. Although our ecumenical service planned for the 19<sup>th</sup> of June has had to be postponed, we as a Chaplaincy are building up ways to reach all our brothers and sisters in faith. This is of paramount importance and is part of our vision. Nicky, Stuart, and Evelyn joined the Eglise Reformé in Saint-Jeand'Angély for a picnic lunch after the service at Cognac on the 12<sup>th</sup> of June. Our Church in Chef, with Wanda's help, is reaching out to the Catholic Priests and congregations around the area. We had French Catholic guests at the dedication of our Church on the 1<sup>st</sup> of May.

**Our outreach** is also an important part of our Chaplaincy life. The Christianity explored course run by Roy Carter and Paul Davis was a great success, culminating in one member deciding to go forward for confirmation.

An Alpha course begins on Wednesday the 5<sup>th</sup> of October at 2.30pm. If you would like more information, contact Roy on 05 45 84 19 03 or email reverendr.carter100@gmail.com

*Fund Raising* is taking off again with William and Liz's BBQ, which raised over 1,200 euros, and Wanda's Beetle Drive which is to be held in our Church in Chef Boutonne on the 22<sup>nd</sup> June. Contact Wanda for more information.

And take a look at our **website** (<u>www.church\_in\_france.com</u>) in the next week or so. Maria is in the process of revamping it.

A Christmas concert is in the planning stages and if anyone feels like joining us, either helping backstage or "treading the boards" please contact me. There will be an initial meeting in September, date to be arranged.

**The Chaplaincy Council** met on the 7<sup>th</sup> of June. It was a full agenda and there was a full and honest discussion on the following agenda items.

The visit by the **Architect** to discuss our plans for our Church was encouraging. He agreed the colour chosen to paint both the doors and the railings; the Church sign has to be in Plexiglass and fitted in the gap between the bricks surrounding the door; the window in the kitchen is good for at least another four years - this is to be painted a cream colour. Plans for the fence that separates us from our neighbour were also discussed.

We now submit our application to the Batiment de France and then once their go ahead has been received, we can proceed.

The stairs have now been completed, except for the right handrail. Discussion is in progress regarding the best way forward for this area.

The devis for electricity changes and the installation of the heating system have been agreed and work will take place through the summer months so that this winter we should be warm, cosy comfortable in our Church.

The Council also agreed to change the administration of the Chaplaincy from Civray to Chef Boutonne so that we can enjoy, for free, all the amenities that are available. You will be advised of the new postal address as soon as Valerie has completed the paperwork.

20 Bibles are to be purchased which means that each worship centre will have the use of 5 Bibles for the congregation to use.

We have a further *Think Tank* meeting on the 24<sup>th</sup> of June where we are going over the 'Vacancy Pack' in preparation of advertising for a <u>*Chaplain*</u>, and our next Council meeting will be the 30<sup>th</sup> of August.

I am sure that I will see some of you at services around the Chaplaincy, but may I wish you all a happy holiday period.

Stay safe and take care.

Carolyn Carter

Chaplaincy Church Warden.

### **Chaplaincy Roles**

#### French Archdeaconry Synod – New Chaplaincy Representatives required

For the second year running the 2022 Meeting of the French Archdeaconry Synod was held as three separate Zoom meetings on 14<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> May. These meetings were all attended by Geoff Cornwall who is presently the Chaplaincy's only nominated representative. The Chaplaincy is actually entitled to three lay representatives and the Chaplain from time to time. We are presently looking to fill the two vacancies. *(Catherine Chambers, already a member of Council, has expressed interest.)* 

Each meeting of Synod has an overall theme (this year's theme was Ecumenism and relationships with our Roman Catholic and Protestant brothers and sisters here in France) and is attended by either Bishop Robert or Bishop David, together with the Archdeacon and other senior members of both the Archdeaconry and the Diocese of Europe. Throughout the Synod there are numerous opportunities for Worship, Bible Studies, meetings of both the House of Clergy and the House of Clergy, and various other meetings of interest groups together with sessions at which Guest Speakers address us on the theme of the year.

Throughout our time together the participants share meals and have plenty of time to explore the surroundings of the Abbey (beautiful gardens and access to beach and cliff paths) and generally to meet informally with representatives from all the Chaplaincies throughout France and Monaco. Normally each representative will serve for three years so it is also good to be able to renew friendships made in former years.

If you think you might be interested in seeking appointment to one of the vacancies please do not hesitate to contact Geoff (<u>gcfrance6052@gmail.com</u>) or Carolyn Carter (<u>chaplaincywarden1@gmail.com</u>) for more information. Each Synod representative automatically becomes a member of Council.

In **Jubilate** for 22<sup>nd</sup> May, the role and responsibilities of Chaplaincy Warden were outlined. At present, Carolyn bears the burden of this on her own – We NEED another Chaplaincy Warden: please consider this <u>prayerfully</u> for yourself or another member (with whom you MUST discuss this) who you feel might be called to fulfil this role.

### LUNCH AT RESTAURANT DES CANARDS 26th JUNE

The fourth Sunday service at Chef-Boutonne this month will not be a Communion service but Wanda is still organising bookings for lunch on that day. Sunday roast and pudding at 12,50€ or choose from the à la carte menu which can be requested on their Facebook page. Please let Wanda have your reservation by 10pm on Wednesday 22nd or book at the Beetle Drive !







# <u>I believe in the Holy Spirit</u> (further thoughts)

When different groups of Christians talk about belief in the Holy Spirit, they can put emphasis on different aspects of His working in individual lives and in the Church as a whole.

For some people the GIFTS of the Spirit are most important. Saint Paul (in 1 Corinthians, chapter 12) makes it clear that whatever gifts are given to us, they are given by God, for His glory. The prophet Isaiah (ch.11 v.2) lists these:

And the Spirit of the Lord will rest on him- the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of counsel and might, the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord.

There are a number of references to the gifting of the Holy Spirit in the writings of Saint Paul. Take a look at:

1 Corinthians 12:8-10, Ephesians 4:7-13, Romans 12:3-8

- The Gift of Wisdom the gift to make choices and give leadership that is according to God's will.
- **The Gift of Knowledge** the gift to have a comprehensive understanding of a spiritual issue or circumstance.
- **The Gift of Faith** the gift to trust God and inspire others to trust God, no matter the conditions.
- **The Gift of Healing** the wondrous gift to use God's healing power to cure a person who is ill, wounded or suffering.
- The Gift of Miracles the gift to display signs and miracles that give credibility to God's Word and the Gospel message.

• The Gift of Prophecy - the gift to declare a message from God.

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- The Gift of Discerning Spirits the gift to recognize whether or not something is truly from God or in accordance with His righteousness.
- The Gift of Tongues the gift to communicate in a foreign language that you do not have experience with, in order to converse with those who speak that language.
- The Gift of Interpreting Tongues the gift to interpret the speech and writings of a different language and translate it back to others in your own.
- **The Gift of Administration** the gift to keep things ordered and in agreement with God's principles.
- The Gift of Helps the gift of a desire and capacity to always help others, to do whatever it takes to get a task achieved.

When we say "I believe in the Holy Spirit" we are effectively asking God to help us to recognise and develop which particular gift(s) he has given to us.

We must understand that not every Christian possesses every gift, that no one gift is more or less important than another. All are GIFTS from God the Holy Spirit, to be used thankfully and carefully for the building up of Christ's people in the Church and for the spreading of the Gospel.\*

Even in New Testament times, some people tried to claim a form of oneupmanship over others, saying that certain gifts were "higher". The Bible clearly teaches us that the greatest gift (not even mentioned in our list) is LOVE: the love of God the Father, shown to us in the gift of Jesus the Son and working in us by the power of the Spirit.

### Next time: The FRUIT of the Spirit

#### A FELINE TALE

There he sat, in the middle of the main road outside the house. It helped that is was July – hence, little traffic. He wasn't local – we supposed he was a victim of "Holiday Dumping" syndrome. A handsome, friendly marmalade and white cat: of course, he became *Marmelade*.

That was eleven years ago – how old he is/was we don't know. As the vets say, beyond a certain age with cats, there is no telling; we supposed him to be about three.

Now, he is active, in good health, only at the vets when something else decided to sink its teeth into him! *Marmelade* gets on well with other cats, is calm and undemanding, but repays any affection coming his way with loud purrs of contentment. When John died at the end of October, the cat would just come and sit by me, demanding nothing but just offering his presence and yes, his love.

God willing, I am moving back to England soon (renting, so no pets) and I feel great sadness and shame at the prospect of having to have my old friend put down; but that's what it will come to if he doesn't find someone to love him.

**So could YOU offer him a home** ? I am happy to bring him to anywhere in the Chaplaincy. Please think about it.

Love ~ WENDY COOPER (Courcelles) Tel: 05 46 74 10 67 email: cooperwendy442@gmail.com

#### STOP PRESS:

In early October we bought a sit you up/lie you down electric recliner from St. Jean Médical ;John had the use of it for only a week before he went into hospital.

Would anyone be interested ?-it cost  $\pounds 630$  euros (bill available ) I would like  $\pounds 160$  for it, but open to offers.

## WENDY

#### INVITATION FROM THE MONASTERE DE PIE-FOULARD

After my visit to the Monastère des Bénédictines at Easter I have stayed in touch with Sr Anne-Delphine who gave me such a warm welcome there. I informed her that our proposed ecumenical service had been postponed for the time being and she immediately extended the following invitation.



She proposed that one afternoon during the summer people from the Chaplaincy could go to the monastère for an informal meeting and to share a time of prayer together. She said that she would be very pleased to meet other members of our Anglican congregation.

I could possibly arrange a system of car-sharing if there is sufficient interest. No date has been suggested yet but if you would like to go with me please let me know any dates when you would definitely NOT be able to go (July/August) and I shall liaise with Sr Anne-Delphine.

The monastère is in a beautiful, tranquil setting near Prailles and I am certainly looking forward to meeting the Sisters again. Please free to contact me for further information on 09 64 12 29 54 or at <u>wandamckerchar@aol.co.uk</u>.

## Wanda



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Tel: 06 21 32 31 28

In charge of admin: Valérie Petry: Email: office.goodshepherd@sfr.fr OUR CHURCH is at

16 Avenue de l'Hotel de Ville, 79110, Chef Boutonne

Website: www.churchinfrance.com

Carolyn Carter 05 45 84 19 03 or 06 12 13 70 07 chaplaincychurchwarden1@gmail.com

Jubilate contact: david.hawken@orange.fr