

JUBILATE

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



March 2023



As we have just entered the season of Lent, here is a meditation adapted from “The Little Book of Lent” (publ; Collins ISBN: 9780007561162)

LENT first directs our thoughts to the image of the desert in which Jesus spent 40 days of solitude. Some people use it nowadays as a period of austerity, sorrow and guilt; others as an opportunity to understand repentance and forgiveness. Near the beginning of Saint Matthew’s Gospel, John the Baptist proclaims “Repent!”, by which he means “Turn to God”. During Lent in particular, we wish to look towards God in order to receive His forgiveness. We are invited not towards introspection but to a conversation with the Almighty in which, as we seek communion with Him, we learn how to relate to one another and to live better within our own spirit.

How can we renew our interior life ? By discovering and rediscovering a personal relationship with God . In all of us there is a thirst for the infinite. God created us with this desire for an absolute: we must let this aspiration live in us, by turning once more to Him.

During this time of Lent, let us dare to review our lifestyle.





THE LENT COLLECT for *every day* throughout Lent

Almighty and everlasting God,
you hate nothing that you have made
and forgive the sins of all those who are penitent:
create and make in us new and contrite hearts
that we, worthily lamenting our sins
and acknowledging our wretchedness,
may receive from you, the God of all mercy,
perfect remission and forgiveness;
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.

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This Sunday (26th February) is the First Sunday of the Lent Season

**There will be a service of Holy Communion in the Church of
Christ the Good Shepherd, in Chef Boutonne at 11.00.am**

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SUNDAY 5th March - **The Second Sunday of Lent**

10.30am Holy Communion in the Temple Reformé
in St Jean d'Angély

10.30am Morning Worship in the Church Room of
Champagne Mouton

COLLECT

Almighty God,
you show to those who are in error the light of your
truth,
that they may return to the way of righteousness:
grant to all those who are admitted
into the fellowship of Christ's religion,
that they may reject those things
that are contrary to their profession,
and follow all such things as are agreeable to the
same;
through our Lord Jesus Christ,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.



SUNDAY 12th March

- 10.30am Holy Communion in the Temple Protestant
 in Cognac
- 11.00am Morning Worship in the Church of Christ
 the Good Shepherd, Chef Boutonne

- **COLLECT for the Third Sunday in Lent**

Almighty God,
whose most dear Son went not up to joy but first he
suffered pain,
and entered not into glory before he was crucified:
mercifully grant that we, walking in the way of the
cross,
may find it none other than the way of life and
peace;
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.

SUNDAY 19th MARCH is



10.30am Morning Worship for Mothering Sunday
will be led via our ZOOM connexion:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/3145287597?pwd=UVJDNTVpZzJXSnFWYTk2ZFhBMW5Zdz09>

The Meeting ID is **314 528 7597** Passcode is **CGShepherd**

THE COLLECTS

God of compassion,
whose Son Jesus Christ, the child of Mary,
shared the life of a home in Nazareth,
and on the cross drew the whole human family to himself:
strengthen us in our daily living
that in joy and in sorrow
we may know the power of your presence
to bind together and to heal;
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.

(or)

God of love,
passionate and strong,
tender and careful:
watch over us and hold us
all the days of our life;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Sunday 19th March is also the **Fourth Sunday in Lent.**

COLLECT for the day

Merciful Lord,
absolve your people from their offences,
that through your bountiful goodness
we may all be delivered from the chains of those
sins
which by our frailty we have committed;
grant this, heavenly Father,
for Jesus Christ's sake, our blessed Lord and Saviour,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

Refreshment Sunday

- * There are some who believe that the Fourth Sunday in Lent was called *Refreshment Sunday* because of the Gospel reference of that day when Jesus fed five thousand. [John 6:1-14].
- * Some, who may be observing a Fast during Lent, will use the day as a short release from the discipline.
- * In the Roman tradition, this day is also called ***Laetare (Rose) Sunday*** – the vestments worn by the priest may include the rose colour and some priests will even wear a rose. The colour represents the word “*rejoice*”.

Sunday 26th March - **The Fifth Sunday of Lent**

11.00am Holy Communion in the Church of Christ
the Good Shepherd, Chef Boutonne



COLLECT

Most merciful God,
who by the death and resurrection of your Son Jesus
Christ
delivered and saved the world:
grant that by faith in him who suffered on the cross
we may triumph in the power of his victory;
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.

If you would like to take part in a **Lent Course**, our southern neighbours
in the Aquitaine Chaplaincy are running an online course (using
Zoom)

A LENT COURSE led by the Aquitaine Chaplaincy



Chaplaincy (online) Lent Study: starts Tues 28th Feb/Wed 1st March

RENEWING HOPE: WHAT DOES THE BIBLE SAY?

* Aquitaine Chaplaincy online Lent Course, open to all, over six sessions with session 1 commencing -

Tuesday 28 Feb, 19h-20h30, OR Wednesday 1 March 14h30-16h

* Written by Rev'd David Marshall and led by a different Chaplaincy member each week.

Whilst it is not necessary to attend every week, an audio recording will be made available each week to enable you to participate if you are not able to attend every week.

All are welcome to attend any of these sessions:

Tuesday 28 Feb, 19h-20h30, OR Wednesday 1 March 14h30-16h

Tuesday 7 March, 19h-20h30, OR Wednesday 8 March 14h30-16h

Tuesday 14 March, 19h-20h30, OR Wednesday 15 March 14h30-16h

Tuesday 21 March, 19h-20h30, OR Wednesday 22 March 14h30-16h

Tuesday 28 March, 19h-20h30, OR Wednesday 29 March 14h30-16h

Tuesday 5 April, 19h-20h30, OR Wednesday 6 April 14h30-16h

**To register and for the zoom links, please contact
Amy Owensmith, (06 07 04 07 77)**

It will be good to study and share fellowship



BISHOPS' LENT APPEAL

To the Clergy and People of the Diocese in Europe

Very soon we will embark on our Lenten journey once again. These are extraordinary times, with war continuing in Ukraine (the focus of our 2022 Appeal), and with unprecedented suffering in South East Türkiye and North West Syria as a result of recent earthquakes. The people of our diocese have been generous in responding to these huge needs, and certainly the people of Ukraine and Türkiye/Syria are very much in our prayers. It has been the tradition for the Bishop's Lent Appeal to focus on a particular need within our diocesan family. We have pockets within the diocese where the reality is much more like the developing world than what is experienced in the comparatively rich north. One such area of the diocese is Morocco. Many have now settled in the region of the capital, Rabat, where we have not had a permanent Church presence. Thanks to the vision of past chaplains in Casablanca and the dedication of a core of supporters in Rabat, a new congregation is being built up. This year's Bishop's Lent Appeal is to support this congregation in the next crucial phase of its development.

Archdeacon David Waller outlines below more details of this project:

A Church Extension Opportunity at Rabat The Diocese is seeking to develop an independent new chaplaincy in Rabat, the capital city of the Kingdom of Morocco, and within the Archdeaconry of Gibraltar. Morocco is officially a Muslim country. His Majesty King Mohammed VI very graciously permits the Church of England to operate in his country ministering to the Anglican faithful from abroad. This new work in Rabat builds on this special permission. The current congregation there is dedicated to St. Augustine of Hippo, an African saint, reflecting its largely African composition, and they use a beautiful modern chapel, kindly donated for our use by the local Catholic Archdiocese, with whom we have good ongoing ecumenical relationships. Cardinal Cristóbal López is a personal friend of the congregation.

For the last eight years St Augustine's has been a growing outreach project run from the long established Church of England Chaplaincy in Casablanca which is a two hour train journey away. The distance has meant that only a quick Sunday service can be provided. The needs of the Anglican Community in Rabat are now at the point when it is time for a new and exciting step in faith – independence within the diocesan family! The congregation is embarking boldly on the next phase which will be a resident priest to further build up St Augustine's.

Carey Duncan the Warden at Rabat writes:

"The prospect of having a permanent chaplain to support our worshipping community in Rabat is almost too exciting to grasp! On a superficial level, just the idea of being able to enjoy some leisurely fellowship after a service, instead of having to rush to get the priest off on the next train home is a luxury. On a more serious level, having someone to take charge of pastoral care and help meet the needs of our congregation and to help grow it, would be such a blessing! Being able to celebrate the Eucharist on a regular basis would be such a treat. - something we will never take for granted again!"

To establish a resident chaplain's post in Rabat we will need accommodation, a basic stipend and some associated costs of setting up and running this new venture. The Diocesan Mission Opportunities Fund has promised part funding for this project and we are hopeful that our previous mission relationship with USPG may also provide some financial support. Even during the pandemic the successive chaplains from Casablanca did much good work in Rabat, caring for congregational members, and preaching the Gospel through action and word, but the distance prevented further development of such work. The congregation at St. Augustine's is made up largely of people from sub-Saharan Africa along with a significant Filipino grouping and it is very much a 'developing world' Christian community, but within our own 'developed world' diocese. Generally speaking, the individuals and families have very modest means and many seek spiritual and material guidance from the Anglican Chaplaincy there in order to survive. This young, multinational community have great loyalty to the Church, but their financial capacity is very limited. Their needs of pastoral care and accompaniment, worship, teaching, advice, advocacy and community can best be offered by a resident priest.

The Lent Appeal is specifically aimed at helping the next step in the development of St. Augustine's by providing chaplain's accommodation, very much fitting in with our diocesan strategy encouraging a welcome of, and a working with, migrant communities often experiencing poverty.

As the Archdeacon has said, the appeal touches on several of the priorities of the diocese:

- * building up the body of Christ,
- * resourcing ministry,
- * interfaith and ecumenical relations
- * ministry to migrant and refugee communities.

Your gifts will help to establish a new congregation, extending the work of the Church, in a vibrant capital city, serving a young, international community, whose needs are great. I hope that the people of the diocese will support this appeal generously. Donations can, as always, be given to the Diocese via your chaplaincy treasurer with the note 'Bishop's Lent Appeal'. May our ever living God bless you this Lent, and give us hearts that look outward to the world and her peoples, and respond those in need with love. Your brother in Christ **BISHOP DAVID** +

How you can donate to the Bishop in Europe's Lent Appeal 2023 :

- By cheque: "Advent Appeal 2022".
Diocese in Europe Board of Finance 14, Tufton St London SW1P 3QZ
- By bank transfer: Account number: 40317039 Sort code: 20-06-13
IBAN: GB16 BUKB 2006 1340 3170 39 Swiftbic: BUKBGB22
- On the Diocese in Europe Just Giving page:
<https://www.justgiving.com/diocese-ineurope>
- Or: via your Chaplaincy Treasurer to Nick Wraight in the Diocesan Office

Words from the Church Warden

Hello

Not much to say this time.

But importantly we have our Chaplaincy AGM on 25th of April, 10.00 for 10.30 am. In the Salle de Raymond Quiard, (in the grounds of the Château de Javarzay) Chef-Boutonne.

There are quite a few vacancies on the Chaplaincy Council this year as listed below: -

We need:

- Council Members
- Church Wardens
- Deanery Synod Representatives.

Forms for these posts are on the website www.churchinfrance.com.

To apply for any of these posts one must have been on the electoral Roll for at least the preceding six months, have received communion at least three times during the twelve months preceding the date of the election and be over 18. One must also comply with the appropriate safeguarding training for the post applied for.

Stats officer. This post is filled from the council members.

C.A.T.C.H. With Richard and Rhiannon returning to the UK we need a President and Secretary and an office address.

So, if you feel called to any of these posts, please pray about it and put your names forward.

If you want any further information, contact me on 0545841903 or 0612137007.

God bless you all.

Carolyn

A note from David & Sue Foster:

Dear Friends,

It is with great sorrow that I inform you of the passing of our dear friend, David Johnson.

His wife, Doris, told us the sad news in a telephone call today. David passed away peacefully on Wednesday after a short illness. We are passing on the news at Doris' request to ease her burden at this difficult time.

We will remember David as a key member in the early days of the Chaplaincy in the Charente, a founder member of the Travellers home group, an accomplished guitarist and singer, a member of the Shantymen, a music lover, a true wit, but, most of all, a wonderful, true and loyal man and friend.

Love to you all,

Dave and Sue xx

Ukraine

As we have just past the anniversary of the invasion of Ukraine, we share a prayer for all those affected by the ongoing conflict by Revd Tuomas Mäkipää, Chaplain of [St Nicholas, Helsinki.](#)

The chaplaincy at St Nicholas is one of many that has pooled its resources to help ease the suffering of those refugees having to flee their homes because of the conflict in Ukraine, and supports The Vallila Help Centre in its work.

Please continue praying for Ukrainian refugees and for all throughout the world who suffer the results of war) by praying the words below,

Father,
Give wisdom to the leaders of the nations,
that they may be a force for good on the earth.
Sustain the anxious and fearful and renew them with courage from on high,
Comfort all worried families whose loved ones are in danger,
surround them with your love protect them from all harm.
Be with the sick and wounded,
Stand by all prisoners and captives,
let your mercy be shown to all and your power to heal and save.
In Christ Jesus your son, our Lord,
Amen



You don't need to set the alarm, but you DO need to be aware that on Saturday night, 25th March, or Sunday morning (26th), all your timepieces need to be advanced by ONE HOUR.

Some electronic devices may do it automatically, but don't rely on them if you want to get to Church (in Chef Boutonne) on time.

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Chaplaincy of Christ the Good Shepherd, Poitou-Charentes

OUR CHURCH and Chaplaincy postal address is at

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

: Email Tel: 06 21 32 31 28 In charge of admin: Valérie Petry

Website: www.churchinfrance.com

Chaplaincy Warden

Carolyn Carter 05 45 84 19 03 or 06 12 13 70 07

chaplaincychurchwarden1@gmail.com

TOGETHER IN PRAYER

March 2023

These prayers, quotations and meditations are offered for your use, to complement your own personal devotions

1st Lord we praise You, we worship and adore You; may all we do this day be for Your glory; Your Kingdom come here in this small corner of Your wondrous world.

2nd We bring before you Lord, all Christian people who are persecuted because of their faith and belief in You as our Lord and Saviour. May they feel Your near presence. Make them strong and resilient, Lord. We pray they continue in their proclamation of You as their Sovereign Lord.

3rd Let us take time today to thank God for all people who are near and dear to us. Thank You, Father, for all the different ways they affect and influence our lives, in our families and in our communities. We thank You Lord when You call us into service.

4th Heavenly Father, we thank You for loving us unconditionally, even when we are far from You; thank You, Father, for Your constant care and concern for us this day and always. We thank You that through our weaknesses You give us strength: equip us Father for all You call us to do.

5th *Lord, give us weak eyes for the things which are of no account and clear eyes for all your truth.* *Soren Kierkegaard (1813-1855)*

6th Today Lord, we bring before You all those who are Your Church here in Poitou Charentes. Guide and direct us, Lord, to work together, giving witness, sharing fellowship in all situations, and especially to those who do not know You yet. May we glorify Your Holy name; please lead us on a right path, so our lives are seen as beacons towards Your eternal kingdom.

7th Healing and loving Father, we bring before You all those people who have asked us to hold them in our prayers. You know them all, Lord. We ask that You continue to give strength and courage in their particular situations. We pray that they know Your ever-present care and concern in their lives.

8th God bless our homes, our families, friends and neighbours. We trust them to Your loving care; we ask You, Father, to keep them safe in mind, body and spirit.

9th *You Lord are our hope and our future. You have promised us all good things come from You.* (Read Jeremiah 33: 14-16)

10th We thank You, Father, for the beauty of the world around us. May we show gratefulness, be careful with its scarce resources; make us willing and eager to share the many gifts You provide for us, never forgetting they are for the benefit of all.

11th Father, we remember today those throughout Your world who live in abject poverty, those who struggle to provide basic necessities for their families. You alone know the extent of their suffering. We ask that Your care and compassion for their plight, may give them glimmers of hope for a better future. Have mercy on them merciful, loving Father.

12th God our Father, we bring before You those who work tirelessly in seemingly hopeless situations. For charity workers, who put the lives of others before their own. For all who are working for the removal of the causes of strife; for the promotion of peace and harmony throughout Your world.

13th We pray for the leaders and governors of our world. Inspire them Lord; give them a right heart to govern wisely and justly, to do all they can to relieve oppression, to promote peace and harmony.

14th *God is, everywhere, in everything, all of the time.*

15th *A voice came from heaven: "You are, my Son, whom I love, with You I am well pleased" At once the spirit sent Jesus out into the wilderness and He was in the wilderness forty days, being tempted by Satan.*

Mark 1:11-13 (ESV)

16th *We pray for those who, are going through a spiritual wilderness. We bring them to You with love. We pray they know that we carry them in prayer in their difficult dark place.* (Mothers' union prayer 2019)

17th We pray for all Your homeless people, Father. The daily adversity they face, is beyond our comprehension. We pray for their protection and safety, for provision of their daily needs. Give us the grace to open our hearts to their plight and help in any small way we can.

18th As we journey through this season of Lent, please help us, Lord, to make a connection between worship and service. Help us come closer to You, to listen to Your still small voice more intently, to discern, what it is You guide us to be and to do.

19th Mothering Sunday.

Heavenly Father, we rejoice, with grateful hearts, for all, who take on mothering roles, in our lives. (Mothers' Union Prayer 2019.)

20th Teach us, Father, guide and direct us to fill our hearts with desire to know You more deeply, love You more dearly. We pray that we may deepen our relationship with You, to mirror You in serving more fully, those in our families and communities.

21st Father, You are the head of our family. We pray that today and always we may acknowledge Your presence, within and without us, at all times and in all situations.

22nd Thank You, Lord, for the beautiful countryside we live in. We pray with gratitude and hope, to marvel at what You have created for our pleasure. We pray Father that we are able to receive and enjoy the wonder of being within it.

23rd Looking to You, Lord Jesus, living by Your example, reading Your word, may we learn to love and forgive, to live in peace and harmony within our homes, church, and communities.

24th Father God, we ask for forgiveness for our sins; make us ready and willing to forgive others.

25th And the angel answered her "the Holy Spirit will come upon you and the power of the Most High will overshadow you: therefore the child to be born will be called holy, The Son of God. (Luke 1:35 (ESV)

26th Dear God, we give this day to You.

27th Lord, You have given us so much in Jesus. Help us to give others as freely and generously, as we have received from You.

28th Love is the greatest gift from God; may we share Christ's love with all we meet today.

29th Father in heaven, we give You thanks for life; we thank You for our joys, sorrows and the challenging times in our lives. Most of all we thank You for the hope we find in our risen Lord.

30th "Glory be to You O God": we praise You for the wonders in our universe, for the many creatures of nature, for fragile landscapes, for vulnerable people and places that are beautiful to You Father.

31st *Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name,
Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;*

*and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass
against us.*

*Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil;
for Thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory forever and ever,
Amen.*

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After the (potentially) last edition of *Jubilate* is published at the end of March, you will continue to receive "Together in Prayer" each month

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If you think you might want to be part (or even leader) of a team of people to continue *Jubilate*, please contact the retiring Editor, David Hawken.

email: david.hawken@orange.fr or phone 05 49 07 53 20
