

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







Sunday 17th January 2021



The Chaplaincy **PRAYER VIGIL** begins at MIDNIGHT

You are invited to pray for **ONE HOUR** between 24.00 on Sunday 17th and 24.00 on Monday 18th.

To maintain the continuity of prayer, would you please contact Ann White to say which hour you are going to pray.

<u>annwhite79120@gmail.com</u> tel: 05 49 60 48 56



The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity is traditionally observed from the 18th to the 25th January – the octave of St. Peter and St. Paul.

The Prayer for 2021 haVE been prepared by the Monastic Community of Grandchamp in Switzerland. The theme that was chosen, "Abide in my love and you shall bear much fruit", is based on John 15:1-17 and expresses Grandchamp Community's vocation to prayer, reconciliation and unity in the Church and the human family.

Go to https://ctbi.org.uk/week-of-prayer-for-christian-unity-2021/

In our regular liturgy, Sunday 17th January 2021 is kept as the 2nd Sunday after Epiphany

Here are the **Bible Readings** for today:

1 Samuel 3.1-10[11-20]
Psalm 139.1-5,12-18*
Revelation 5.1-10
John 1.43-51

And the Collects:

Almighty God,
in Christ you make all things new:
transform the poverty of our nature
by the riches of your grace,
and in the renewal of our lives
make known your heavenly glory;
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.

Eternal Lord, our beginning and our end: bring us with the whole creation to your glory, hidden through past ages and made known in Jesus Christ our Lord.

God of glory, you nourish us with your Word who is the bread of life: fill us with your Holy Spirit that through us the light of your glory may shine in all the world. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.

For your diary:

Sunday 17th at 10.30 Virtual Worship +
Bible Reading, Prayer, a Talk & Fellowship on Facebook
led from the *Live Lounge* by Rev'd Steven Abram
www.facebook.com/Virtual-Worship-Poitou-Charentes-104677654507124/U
or later at www.abram.org.uk/vw

• Monday 18th: Prayer Vigil from 00.00 - 24.00

PRAYER MEETING at 2.30.pm using ZOOM *

This is our monthly "meeting". This time we have to "meet" in our own homes, but still praying together via the computer.

NEXT WEEK: Monday 25th at 3.00.pm
 THE QUIZ This is an opportunity to test your General Knowledge AND, if you're feeling competitive, to test it against other people.
 Carolyn Carter 'won' last month.
 Ann White has set the questions.
 ZOOM will take care of the rest! *

• NEXT MONTH: We are planning to have a 'live' ZOOM* service on the second Sunday in February. As we are still unable to meet physically, this will be a good opportunity to have fellowship, weeing one another, and worshipping together. Details will follow in due course.

<u>ZOOM</u>: Our "Zoom-Meister" is Roy Carter.
 If you wish to take part in anything mentioned above which involves ZOOM you need to contact Roy who will send you a computer link and instructions if you need them.

Email: reverendr.carter100@btinternet.com or telephone 05 45 84 19 03

SOME THOUGHTS ON 'PRAYER' by Horatius Bonar

Horatius Bonar (1808-1889) was a Scottish churchman and poet. He is principally remembered as a prodigious hymnodist. Among his other writings he had these words about Prayer which resonate well for our current times:

Why is there so little anxiety to get time to pray? Why is there so little forethought in the laying out of time and employments so as to secure a large portion of each day for prayer?

Why is there so much speaking, yet so little prayer? Why is there so much running to and fro, yet so little prayer? Why so much bustle and business, yet so little prayer?

Why so little being alone, so little thirsting of the soul for the calm, sweet hours of unbroken solitude, when God and His child hold fellowship together as if they could never part?

It is the want of these solitary hours that injures our growth in grace.

In one single quiet hour of prayer the soul will often make more progress than in days of company with others. It is in the desert that the eye gets the simplest clearest views of eternal certainties. It is in His presence alone that the soul gathers in wondrous refreshment and power and energy.

And so it is also in this way that we become truly useful to others. It is when coming out fresh from communion with God that we go forth to do His work successfully.

In nearness to God we get our vessels so filled with blessing, that, when we come forth, we can not contain it to ourselves but must, by a blessed necessity, pour it out withersoever we go.

(Source: Celtic Daily Prayer, publ. Collins)



Our Chaplaincy CHARITY for 2020-21

A Care4Calais volunteer compares the current situation in Calais with four years ago....

It's less muddy in places..... that's the only difference that's positive

The system is a disgrace - putting it mildly.

Then there was a small infrastructure and we all knew where the 'camp' was and where people would be located

Now it is like you are trying to help a criminal - yet being a refugee is not illegal we are committing crimes of inhumanity each and every day that families , young men and old / older men are left to rot in the woods ... except there's little woods left because the government cut them down as a deterrent

They haven't opened the gym for over 15 months despite the cold people are lucky if they are left in peace from the police for more than 4/5 days maximum - then they have everything they can't carry (and sometimes what they can carry) destroyed and they are left with literally the clothes on their back

We can do better We should do better

6th winter in and I never believed or imagined that in civilized society, Europe, France In particular in 2021, that this would be the situation refugees continue to face

No- one is illegal - being a refugee is not a crime - needing a hand up when you are down is not a crime , helping people is not a crime

I'm going to go back next month - these memories which I get daily have made me realise money is not everything (yes helpful !!!) and doing what matters , what is the right thing to do, is.

Rev'd Nikola Marshall asks for YOUR help:

If anyone has any warm winter clothing, ideally men's small, medium jumpers, coats, hats scarves, gloves - underwear (this needs to be new) Also food and toiletries, please message me: 07 82 09 50 64 or nikthevicl@vahoo.co.uk