



Jubilate

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



Assistant Chaplain: Rev'd Paul Knight revknight@orange.fr

November 2019



Not from the Chaplain's Desk – November 2019

Some thoughts from the Rev'd Nikki Marshall

REFUGEES

They have no need of our help
So do not tell me
These haggard faces could belong to you or me
Should life have dealt a different hand
We need to see them for who they really are
Chancers and scroungers,
Layabouts and loungers
With bombs up their sleeves -
Cut-throats and thieves.
They are not Welcome here -
We should make them
Go back to where they came from
They cannot
Share our food Share our homes Share our countries
Instead let us- Build a wall to keep them out
It is not okay to say - These are people just like us
A place should only belong to those who are born there
Do not be so stupid to think that
The world can be looked at another way

Now turn to the next page and read from bottom to top

REFUGEES

The world can be looked at another way
Do not be so stupid to think that
A place should only belong to those who are born there
These are people just like us
It is not okay to say Build a wall to keep them out
Instead let us
Share our countries share our homes - Share our food
They cannot Go back to where they came from
We should make them Welcome here
They are not Cut-throats and thieves
With bombs up their sleeves
- Chancers and scroungers,
Layabouts and loungers
We need to see them for who they really are
Should life have dealt a different hand
These haggard faces could belong to you or me
So do not tell me
They have no need of our help

There are still thousands of refugees living in northern France, mostly single young men, some as young as fourteen years old. They live in dire conditions with many of them having no tent, no coat and not even any shoes. At the week-end, a charity called Care4Calais distributed 300 pairs of shoes to boys and men wearing flip flops in the cold and wet, and there were still 140 men in the queue who had to be turned away.

The people of this Chaplaincy have been amazing at supporting our two families in Saintes, and now they are settled; apart from friendship and help with final house move, they are no longer dependent on us, but the need for help goes on. And the reason for this.

*"He sent me to bring good news to the poor,
tell prisoners that they are prisoners no more
to set the downtrodden free." Luke 4:18*

Church Services in November 2019

Sunday 3rd

Services of **Holy Communion**, beginning at 10.30.am
in the Parish churches of Courcelles (17400) and Villejésus (16140)
and in the Espace Maurice Martin* on the main road at
St Léger de la Martinière (79500)

In the Mairie Salle Annex in Civray (86400),
“**Come and Worship**” at 6.30.pm

Sunday 10th

Holy Communion in the Church at Champagne Mouton (16350)
at **11.00.am**.

Holy Communion in the Protestant Church Hall, rue Chabot,
in Jarnac (16200), at **10.30.am**

Morning Worship at 1, rue de l’Ancienne Ecole, JASSAY
(79120 Chenay) starting at **11.00.am**

Sunday 17th

Morning Worship at the Barbezieux (16300) Temple and
in the Champagne Mouton (16350) Church Rooms, both starting at
10.30.am

Holy Communion in Courcelles Church (17400) and Magné Church
(86160) at **10.30.am**

Sunday 24th

Civray (86400) Marie Salle Annex - ALL AGE WORSHIP **10.30.am**

Holy Communion at Jarnac (rue Chabot) at **10.30.am**

Morning Worship in La Rochefoucauld (16110) Church Rooms at **10.30.am**

Holy Communion at Pompaire (79200) Church at **11.00.am**

EVENING PRAYER (Book of Common Prayer 1662)

in the Tower Chapel next to Civray Church (86400) at **4.00.pm***

*(NEW winter time for November, December and January)

Has your new Chaplain settled in yet?

This is a question the Editor is asked from time to time by people who live in the Chaplaincy but don't often come to Church. To answer them, and more especially to inform Chaplaincy members, here is a first report from Rev'd Paul Knight:

Although we are going through a period of prayerful reflection before embarking on the next chapter of the Chaplaincy's story there is still plenty of activity going on in the background. We will try to ensure that everyone who has an interest in our future is kept up to date with progress and developments. To that end occasional articles will appear in *Jubilate* and on the website keeping you informed and giving you an opportunity to contribute.

On October 7th some members of the Standing Committee and some of the clergy met with the Area Dean, Revd Tony Lomas, to begin to think about how we can shape our future and maintain a sustainable presence in our part of France. This was an exploratory conversation and therefore this digest is not comprehensive nor necessarily consistent. It is, rather, indicative of some of the issues raised.

- We were encouraged to "Love what you've got". We should be aware of and realistic about what we have in the way of membership. If we are predominantly retired ex-pats there is little point in trying to start a children's programme but we can build on initiatives aimed at older people. We were encouraged to be realistic about what human resources we have available. We must not create a need we cannot meet. Initiatives are fine but only if they are sustainable.
- We should be aware that Sunday worship and the occasional offices are kept going only by the good will of retired people. Similarly the office holders of the Chaplaincy are retired and undertake their duties through goodwill.

- We must be clear that if people want the Chaplaincy to continue it needs to be paid for. It was stressed that the financial situation was one that needed to be addressed.
- If we have a clear vision with specific aims we should attract better funding.
- Planning for the future was either made complicated or enhanced, opinions differ, by the £60,000 legacy/gift we are holding.
- In a period of uncertainty there will be those who fear the loss of *their* Sunday service, or their bit of the Chaplaincy. Be reassured that we will endeavour not to close or change services unless it has the backing of the vast majority of attendees. If there is a good pastoral reason we will keep even very thinly attended services going.

+++++

If you would like to respond to this article, please send an email to the Editor: david.hawken@orange.fr

Before you do so:

- think and pray
- make your comments positive and constructive
- remember that negativity achieves little

+++++

What else is happening in November ?

Friday 8th November - ABZAC - Randonnée

Kay and John are leading a walk around Abzac which follows part of the route of the Les Deux Chateaux walk. We will meet at the carpark in front of the Salle de Fetes, which is the first turning on the left hand side of the D99 (Route de Brillac) after the Church.

From Confolens, Abzac is on the D729 in the direction of Montmorillon. If you are coming from Availle or L' Isle Jourdain direction at the T junction in Abzac follow the signs for the the D99 to Brillac and take the first turning on the left.

Good exercise - Good company - a Good Idea

.....

Monday 18th November - Vergné - Prayer Meeting

An opportunity to meet with others, praying for the Chaplaincy, the Church worldwide, the leaders of the nations, the sick and needy.

2.30.pm at 3 rue de Pensées, VERGNE, (86400 Savigné)

Good fellowship - our good God - a Good idea

.....

Christmas Hampers

There are 3 Christmas Hampers being raffled this month in aid of Chaplaincy Funds.

Tickets for each raffle cost 5 euros.

The draws will take place at the events outlined on the following pages:

Don't let the fact that two of them are on the same **hamper** you from being involved.

Buy a hamper raffle ticket - buy 2 - buy 3

Come and have fun



Wed Nov 20th

4 Touche Penon

2.30 p.m.

86250 St Romain

Contact Jane to book your place 0549871884

Or e. jane.fidler@orange.fr

5€ Beetle Drive + Tea



Christmas Coffee Morning

Sat. Nov. 30th 10.30am

Entrance 10euro to include coffee and Mince pie

Grand Hamper Raffle 5euro per Ticket

Various tables with Christmas Goodies -

Cakes, Gifts etc.

Salle Polyvalente, St. Leger de la Martinère.



Christmas Tea Dance

Saturday 30th November 2019

Taizé-Aizie Salle de Fete.



Doors open at 3:30 for a 4 pm start, finish at 6:30 pm.

Tea, Cakes and Sandwiches will be provided: ticket price for refreshments and Christmas hamper raffle is 10 euros.

Live music with the band Sax Appeal who together with backing tracks and a caller will entertain you with Traditional and Scottish country dancing.

Tickets from Carolyn Carter, Mike Clark,
Jan Hallett or Andrew Holman:

+++++

**We are pleased to announce the following donations to
Chaplaincy Funds during the month of October:**

220 euros raised at the Quiz and Ploughman's lunch

- thanks to Margaret Mace and her helpers

80 euros raised by the sale of plants

- thanks to Angela Larmuth and others

Maybe YOU could do something to raise funds for the
Chaplaincy. Think about it and then act.

+++++

TOGETHER IN PRAYER

Let us draw near to God with a sincere heart and with the full assurance that faith brings.

Fri 1st Lord, your Word urges us to pray continually. Help us to be consistent in prayer, and enable us to be faithful partners in prayer with others.

Sat 2nd Thank you, Father, for helping me up when life knocks me down. Thank you for the people you've used to strengthen and encourage me. Yours is the most faithful friendship I have.

Sun 3rd For all those who have lost life partners during this year, some whom we know in our church family, we pray that they will find comfort and strength to continue as each day presents new difficulties. May they feel your loving arms around them.

Mon 4th Today, Lord, help me to see beyond my own problems to the needs of others. Guide my hand to give instead of to get, to offer instead of asking and to bless instead of seeking blessings.

Tue 5th Lord, remind us how important it is that we obey you and treat others the way we want to be treated. Remind us that your salvation enables us to live as lights in a dark world.

Wed 6th We wait, Father God, and we hope. We wait, dear Jesus, as we long for peace to break out in the world. We wait, comforting Spirit, for all the world to experience your love.

Thur 7th Father, may I think more of others today than I think of myself. Show me Lord, who needs my friendship and help at this moment, so that by my actions I can reveal your love.

Fri 8th Thank You, Father, that you give to us each day what you know is best. We're thankful that we can trust your heart, which is kind beyond all measure.

Sat 9th Lord, help me to see beyond my circumstances and put my hope in you. All authority and power are yours. Remind me of your goodness, and let me rest in your love.

Sun 10th Father, you have called us to serve one another. Give me a heart willing to accept the care of others. May I ask for help when I am in need and respond with a heart of grace to others when they ask me for help.

Mon 11th Come quickly, Lord, to help me. Teach me to trust you in times of trouble. Remind me of your presence and of the fact that you hold me in your loving arms.

Tue 12th Dear Father, help me to reflect your light into the world around me today. May all that I say and do bear witness to your grace and truth. May others see how wonderful you are.

Wed 13th Dear God, what a blessing to know that we do not have to be anxious about anything. Remind us that we can come to you and tell you about everything.

Thurs 14th Dear Father God, your precious Son, Jesus, chose suffering for me. Thank you for His sacrifice on my behalf. Thank you that even when I am in pain, that in itself can be a tool in your hands to make me more like your Son.

Fri 15th Dear Jesus, help me to trust you when life is difficult and doesn't seem to make sense. Please take my doubt and replace it with fresh faith in you.

Sat 16th Dear Lord, there are so many temptations around us in the world today; help me when I am tempted. Strengthen me by your Holy Spirit to say no to temptation. Let all my words and deeds bring honour to your name.

Sun 17th Today, Lord, help me to see you and hear your voice. May I read your Word and discern your message for me; may I respond and understand and act upon it, for Jesus' sake.

Mon 18th Dear Lord, I don't have the power on my own to lead others through a difficult situation; but you are all powerful. Give me the courage to help others as I rely on your strength that cannot fail.

Tues 19th Father, show me this day the many ways my life can be surrendered to you, and then give me the strength to begin to act upon your word.

Wed 20th Thank you, Father, for the wonderful gifts you have given to your church and the people in this community. Strengthen us to encourage other believers.

Thurs 21st Dear Lord, often when I am faced with an impossible situation I choose worry rather than trust. Help me to trust you and to remember that nothing is too hard for you.

Fri 22nd Jesus calls us to base our lives on His Word and share the joy of knowing Him with people who are longing to find life.

Give us strength Lord, and show us how to claim your promises.

Sat 23rd Heavenly Father, this life is full of uncertainties; but you have promised us your unfailing presence. May we feel that presence today, especially when we are tempted to panic or to do things in our own strength.

Sun 24th God is always accessible, for He never slumbers nor sleeps. (*Pss 121, v4*). And thanks to His love for us, He is waiting and ready to listen; so we can come to Him with confidence and know that He is there in our time of need.

Mon 25th Dear Lord, we bring to you this day, those in our family who do not know you, or who do not acknowledge you in their lives. We pray for them, Lord, for you are waiting for them. You are the one who causes the seed of faith to grow; so we give them into your care.

Tues 26th Father God, you are the Great Healer and today we pray for all those who have asked us to think of them. So we ask for healing, whether it is in mind, body or spirit or in all of these. Help us to support these friends and show them the way to you.

Wed 27th Lord, teach us to pray.

Thurs 28th *"Softly and tenderly Jesus is calling, calling for you and for me; see, on the portals He's waiting and watching, watching for you and for me."* (Thompson)

Fri 29th Lord, thank you for caring about every aspect of our lives. Help us to wait patiently and accept whatever comes from your hand.

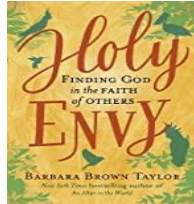
Sat 30th We all experience illnesses, disappointments, loneliness; Jesus does not always prevent them, but He has promised never to leave us or forsake us. He will keep us safe in the storm. (*Heb.13.5*)

Rev'd Paul Knight's "BOOK OF THE MONTH"

"Holy Envy" – by Barbara Brown Taylor

Published by Canterbury Press

ISBN 9781786 220790



Available on line for £16.99

Despite one on line review suggesting that this book was about the religion of the antichrist I am still going to recommend that you read it.

Barbara Brown Taylor's background is in conservative evangelical Christianity and yet throughout her professional life preaching, pastoring, teaching and writing she has increasingly found that other religious traditions have had something to offer her that she has found attractive and useful. This book draws on her time as a teacher in a liberal art college in the foothills of the Appalachian mountains.

She gives a fascinating account of the encounters she and her pupils had with people of other faiths. As a teacher in a part of the USA steeped in the Southern Baptist world view there were challenges for and her students. Weren't all the people they encountered wrong and destined for eternal damnation? The stories she tells are real and human and the lessons she draws from them are resonant with deep truths. She finds herself envious of the different insights offered to her by generous priests, rabbis and imams but also continually returning to drink more deeply from the well spring of her own Christian faith.

The book is beautifully written and easy to read. It will draw you into the real struggles her students had and yet lift your spirit and broaden your horizons.

I'm going with the 91% who gave it a five star rating and suggest you buy it and give yourself an early Christmas present.

INTO THE GARDEN

with Jane Thomas

It is amazing how quickly turn green after being dried by the sun!

Things to do this month:

Fruit: while most early fruiting apples need to be eaten at the time, later fruiting apples can be stored. Check the fruit to ensure there is no bruising or damage. Make a few pin holes in a polythene food bag, then fill the bag with your apples, tie the tops to prevent the apples from losing moisture. Store in a cool place, check regularly for rot. Cooking apples can be stored in the same way or, if you have room in your freezer, purée and freeze.

Trees and shrubs: check around the base of your trees and shrubs and cut back unwanted suckers.

Vegetables: if you have a good onion crop store them in a cool, dark and dry place. Lay the bulbs on a tray to allow air to circulate or store them in nets. These methods also apply to garlic and shallots. Do not use plastic bags as moisture can build up inside the bag; any dampness will encourage roots to develop.

Flowers: The withered foliage on hostas should have died back by now and so can be gently pulled away from the crown without causing any damage. Cover the surface of the pots with gravel to prevent blackbirds scattering the compost, but do check first for pests planning to over winter within your hostas! The gravel will protect your hostas but allow new shoots in the spring. An idea I read for hosta protection, is to use a strip of emery paper/sand-paper wound around the pot at the half-way level. This acts as a protection and prevents the slugs and snails from climbing into the pot and attacking the plant. One thing you must check is that there must be no overhanging plants for the slugs and snails to use as a pathway!

Lawns: although we can never project our winter weather it is suggested that this is the last month for grass cutting! It is also suggested that tidying the edges will make the garden tidy for the winter. If we get frost do not walk on the grass as the pressure will damage the lawn.

Pots: your ceramic pots need to be emptied and stored: they are at risk of cracking if left out with compost in them; the compost can freeze, expand and damage the pots.

Keep your other pots full of bright pansies or primulas; if you select pansies then keep dead heading to encourage new flowers.

Ponds: clean out the debris of leaves that have blown into the pond and cut back foliage of marginal plants that have died down. Remove your pond pumps and fountain, wash thoroughly and store away for the winter.

LATEST NEWS on Wine at Chez Rioux

The wine was bottled while I was away; the hope is that at Christmas a bottle will be opened.



At Toussaint & Armistice Day **WE REMEMBER**

BISHOP'S ADVENT APPEAL 2019

The Bishop in Europe: **The Right Reverend Dr. Robert Innes**
The Role and Work of the Anglican Communion Fund

My appeal for Advent 2019 is for the Anglican Communion Fund (ACF) – the only Fund I am aware of that specifically supports the mission and work of communities across the Anglican Communion, often in the poorest and most dangerous parts of the world.

In August 2019, Helen and I had the privilege of sharing in a pilgrimage in the Holy Land for bishops and their spouses from across the global Anglican Communion. That experience gave me a renewed vision for the huge potential of the Anglican Communion in a world where so many of our biggest problems, such as climate change, migration and human trafficking involve inter-relationships between people in different countries and continents.

Whilst not a big fund, the ACF tries to deliver maximum impact by working at three levels in the Anglican world:

- Resourcing local projects in line with the 5 marks of mission initiated by churches, and responding to crises;
- Strategic partnerships: working at the level of an Anglican Primate/Archbishop to develop a strategic plan for an Anglican Province;
- Enabling the Anglican Church to be represented in the United Nations, the European Institutions and through the Anglican Centre in Rome.

My appeal focuses on the ACF's work with empowerment of women, because we know that women often both bear the heaviest costs of poverty or conflict and are also those whose empowerment can do the most to bring development that reaches grass roots and bring hope for the future. The appeal covers the first two levels of ACF's interests.

1. Tanzania Strategic Partnership

The Anglican Church of Tanzania has a vision for spiritual and socio-economic transformation across the country and, with the help of ACF funds, they are rolling out a Church and Community Mobilisation Programme (CCMP) in over 20 dioceses. CCMP uses Mothers Union Bible Study groups to help people bring positive change to their families and communities. Village and Community Banks enable group members to contribute towards and receive micro-loans to help them create businesses.

2. Women on the Frontline

'Women on the Frontline' is a programme designed for senior Christian women, usually wives of bishops, in areas affected by violence, conflict and poverty, bringing them together on retreat and giving practical training in reconciliation. The programme is led by Mrs. Caroline Welby, wife to Archbishop Justin Welby, and by Mrs. Sarah Snyder, the Archbishop's Advisor on Reconciliation. In many parts of the Communion, bishops' wives are thrust into an important role as the 'Mother' of the diocese and are expected to provide leadership to women in the church. Unlike their husbands, who will have had some training for their roles, these women are very often unskilled and undereducated for the role they find themselves in. They need encouragement and equipping to carry out their role with confidence. Every 'Women on the Frontline' programme reaches about 20 women directly. Each of these women take their learning and experience back to their communities. If each reaches a further 10, then 200 women are impacted. Four programmes have now been run – in South Sudan, Burundi, the Solomon Islands (pictures below), and DRC. Further programmes are planned in the Middle East and Pakistan.

+++++

If you would like to make a contribution to the Bishop's Advent Appeal, Contact the Chaplaincy Treasurer, William Jones, who will guide you;

williamjones@orange.fr

+++++

Sandy's Church Alphabet

'H' is for High Church.

Labels are never very good at describing either things or persons but the letter 'H' gives me the opportunity to mention some of the labels that we banter around in Church circles.

From the days of the Reformation there has been division in the Church of England between those who preferred the Catholic tradition and those who preferred a more protestant style of worship. Then ones who espoused the Catholic style became known as 'High Churchmen'. In the days of Charles I the High Church group tended to be Royalists as opposed to the more puritan Roundheads. When William of Orange came to the throne the High-Church party supported the Stuart succession and fell out of favour.

In the 19th Century, there was a revival of things mediaeval and this romantic harking-back to the past led to a reappraisal of worship styles. John Henry Newman, John Pusey and others were instrumental in re-establishing the Catholic, or High Church movement within the Church of England. Nowadays there has been a great deal of change, such as the 'Liturgical Movement' and the results of the Second Vatican Council, which has led to a narrowing of division particularly in the Church of England. Another term used for the High Church group is 'Anglo-Catholic' I suppose this is to differentiate them from the 'Roman Catholics'

Protestant has been a word used to describe those who hold a contrary view to the Anglo-Catholics, but even Protestant covers a whole range of worship styles. There are those who might call themselves 'Evangelical', Bible based Christians. There are Seven Day Adventists, who uphold the old Jewish Sabbath and worship on Saturdays. There are Methodists and Baptists and Presbyterians; a whole host of reformed Christians.

In 1937 there was a great meeting of reformed Churches in Edinburgh. Out of this Conference arose the World Council of Churches and so today we have the Ecumenical Movement, all helping to bring Christians closer together.

It is right and proper that Christians should come together in love, despite their differences and yet I have a sneaking feeling that if we were all the same it would be a dull old world.

A MESSAGE FROM CAROLYN CARTER



Hello everyone.

A few of us are getting together to form a singing group to sing at special times of the year.

We are going to put together a Christmas/Advent carol service, which will be available for the whole Chaplaincy. The service would include Advent Hymns and Poetry as well as carols and traditional choral pieces.

There would be 2 or three workshops, held in Sue and Bob Whorton's rehearsal space in Hanc. (details will follow). The dates we propose for these are the 2nd and the 9th of November. The third can be decided if necessary. Audio files will then be sent out for everyone to learn the tunes and the relevant parts.

There will also be an ecumenical event in Nanteuil-en-Vallée Church, on Saturday 7th December where we will join others to sing and raise funds that will be shared for the Chaplaincy and Nanteuil church repairs. (More information in the next *Jubilate*)

We are therefore looking for people who love singing and would like to take part in this music group.

So, if you would like to join us and come and sing, please contact Carolyn Carter. 05 45 84 19 03 or carolyncarter462@gmail.com

=====

Chaplaincy of Christ, the Good Shepherd, Poitou-Charentes, France

Chaplain: *vacant*

Assistant Chaplain: The Rev'd Paul Knight revknight@orange.fr

Office: 2, Place Gambetta, 86400 Civray. Tel: **05 49 97 04 21**

The office is usually open Monday, Tuesday & Friday mornings.

Email: office.goodshepherd@orange.fr

Admin. Assistant: Valérie Pétry

Chaplaincy Wardens :

Margaret Mace margaretmace@icloud.com 05 49 29 97 81

Charlie Wilcock charliedoc22@gmail.com 05 46 91 07 71

Area Wardens

Deux-Sèvres:

Geoff Cornwall gcfrance@live.com 05 49 63 06 31

Vienne:

Jane Thomas jane.thomas.864@gmail.com 05 49 48 99 48

Charente East

Vacant

West Charente

and Charente Maritime

Vacant

CHAPLAINCY WEBSITE: www.church-in-france.com

Our AIM:

- **To love the Lord our God with all our heart and soul and mind and strength.**
- **To love our neighbours as ourselves**
- **To go and make disciples**