



Jubilate

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



September 2019

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**

www.church-in-france.com

NOT from the Chaplain's Desk



After the soporific torpor of last month's Pastoral letter, we are now well into La Rentrée. You will have noticed the scrabble in your local supermarket to pick up the bargains on pens and paper and folders and all the paraphernalia that goes with School life. Clubs, choirs and associations are all resuming their activities and soon most shops and most bars will be open on most days.

We are entering our own Rentrée. We have said our goodbyes to the Boulters and sent them with our prayers and best wishes to the next, exciting chapter in their family life. Just as they may be anxious about what Madagascar holds for them, so we too might be a little concerned about what our future holds for us

Are we entering a period of holiday and down time or is this really the beginning of a new frenzy of busyness?

I think we might just need to extend the summer holiday feeling a bit and not get caught up too much in organising things and worrying about activities and initiatives. Let's concentrate on the fundamentals. Some words from the Letter to the Hebrews come to mind: *And let us consider how we may spur one another on towards love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together, but encouraging one another.* That's enough for the time being.

This is our third interregnum in a decade. It's not a good pattern for a Chaplaincy, and not as helpful to our souls as the pattern of work and rest that La Rentrée points to. But it will enable us to concentrate on the essentials, take stock of where we are and discern where we should be going.

Rev'd Paul Knight (Assistant Chaplain)

Services in September

Sunday 1st:

Holy Communion at 10.30h in Courcelles (17400)
in St Léger de la Martinière (79500)
in Villejésus (16140)
18.30h in the Marie Salle Annex in Civray (86400) **‘Come and Worship’**

Sunday 8th:

Holy Communion at 11.00h in Champagne Mouton ((16350)
at 10.30h in Jarnac ((16200)
Morning Worship at 11.00h in Jassay (79120)

Sunday 15th:

Morning Worship at 10.30h in Barbezieux (16300)
in Champagne Mouton ((16350)
in Magné (86160)
Holy Communion at 10.30h in Courcelles (17400)

Sunday 22nd:

All-Age Worship at 10.30h in Civray (Marie Salle Annex)[86400]
Holy Communion at 10.30h in Jarnac (16200)
Morning Worship at 10.30h in La Rochefoucauld (16110)
‘Songs of Praise’ at 11.00h in Pompaire (79200)

EVENING PRAYER (BCP) at 18.30h in Tower Chapel next to Civray Church

Sunday 29th:

No Chaplaincy Service

*All good gifts around us are sent from heaven above:
then thank the Lord, O thank the Lord for all His love.*



HARVEST is celebrated in different parts of the world at different times of year.

Depending on where you worship in our Chaplaincy, our thanksgiving will be expressed either in September or October.

Whichever service you attend, you have the opportunity for special financial giving into the collection bag.

HARVEST FESTIVAL CHARITIES 2019

The Chaplaincy AGM and Council chose to support these three charities this year from Harvest Festival collections:

COOLAUTO 16 SOLIDARITE

Mission Lèpre

& TEARFUND



COOLAUTO 16 SOLIDARITE

This non profit association of volunteers is a leader in the field of providing mobility in Poitou-Charentes. It specialises in the distribution of vehicles for less than €1000 to the most deprived families in order give them mobility so they can get to work. Every year they help more than twenty families to find mobility thanks to the donations of vehicles they receive.

Concerned that each day many vehicles finish their career with the demolishers their second goal is to participate in the restoration of vehicles that would otherwise finish their career in the breaker's yard. They have already received three cars from members of the Chaplaincy.

MISSION LEPRE



Mission Lèpre
France

The Leprosy Mission TLM is an international non-governmental organisation (INGO) that supports leprosy control projects: diagnosis, care for leprosy patients, help with their rehabilitation, and fighting against stigma.

Their vision is a world without leprosy.

Their goal is to transform the living conditions of people affected by leprosy.

The French Leprosy Mission supports projects in Chad, the Congo, Niger and Nepal. The Leprosy Mission Trust India has an interesting face book where they share educational posters, news from the national press, and other news.

Elisabeth Barnett, who has contributed to this summary, has firsthand experience of working with leprosy missions and knows what can be done with help. In Europe we may be unaware that leprosy is still a problem in some parts of the world.



TEAR Fund helps communities overcome the worst effects of poverty and disasters. It believes that the same people who face these issues also have the best idea as to how they can overcome them.

The basic approach of TEAR Fund is 'a leg up' not a 'hand out.'

Tear Fund works alongside local churches and other locally-based organisations in over 50 countries to help people realise their plans for a better future.

GETTING OUR GIFTS THERE.

Your loose money giving at harvest festival services will be sent on to me as the treasurer of CATCH and then sent on to the charities. Yes, they give receipts and CATCH cheques are only valid when two of the authorised officials have signed them. The accounts are also audited and a summary of Chaplaincy charitable giving through CATCH is presented at the Chaplaincy AGM.

'CATCH': AN EXPLANATION

CATCH was set up by Chaplaincy members to send money to charities in a way that is legal in France. Such giving has to be through a 'laic' body.

CATCH does not raise money itself, it receives what other groups have raised. There is no subscription but we welcome members of the Chaplaincy to the AGM which will be held on the Saturday afternoon 28th October at the house of Richard and Rhiannon Beech.

. It is an opportunity to report on, and show an interest in, our Chaplaincy's charitable giving.

An agreeable tea assured for those who come!

Regular (or extra) giving should be placed in an envelope marked 'Chaplaincy'.

Richard Beech (Treasurer to CATCH)

In September, the Harvest services will be in

- St Léger de la Martinière
- Magné
- Barbezieux
- Pompaire

Don't forget to bring your gifts of dry and tinned goods to the Harvest services

Fifth Sunday Focus

At the end of this month, there will NOT be the usual 5th Sunday Focus. There will be no Anglican service in the Chaplaincy We are recommending that people who want to worship on that Sunday (29th September) introduce themselves to their nearest Christian congregation, Catholic or Protestant.

SPECIAL FELINE ADVERTISEMENT

There's an old (18 years) Ginger Cat living near Melle who is looking for a new home, possibly temporary, possibly permanent.

If you (or someone you know) could help, please contact Carol Fischer on 05 49 27 25 90

Miaaow - pretty please.

Chaplaincy Randonnée Club

Autumn Programme 2019

Friday 13 September - FORGES

Peter and Patricia Moncreiffe have offered to lead this walk which will start at the crossroads in Forges, which is between Chaunay and Panièvre/ Epanvilliers on the D28.

The walk will be in lanes, sometimes in woods and across fields as well as on small roads so it should not be too muddy even if it has rained. We will mainly be using the Brux walk (between Groie et Bouleure) with a short cut across the fields after la Grande du Bois to la Popinière and then back on the circuit from Panièvre back to Forges.

For all walks we meet at 2:00 pm for the usual 2:15pm start

We are always looking for new walks and leaders, so if you would like to offer or perhaps need help walking out a route please contact:

Marilyn/David Trigger 05 49 87 29 67
(marandave86@gmail.com)

Or Kay/John Ward 05 17 23 11 90
(kay_john_ward@yahoo.co.uk)

Together in Prayer

Thoughts and Prayers for September 2019.

1st *“Trust in the Lord with all your heart; and lean not on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge Him and He will make straight your paths.”* Proverbs 3:5-6.

2nd *(If at all possible, to pray at mid day)*. We come before You, O Lord, with humble hearts, with open minds; praying for ourselves and all our brothers and sisters in our chaplaincy. May we continue to be your faithful people. We ask You Father, that we are able to rest in your presence, to focus, to listen, to hear your still small voice; we are asking Lord, for discernment of what it is, that You require of us.

3rd We give thanks and praise to you, our Father, for all the graces and blessings you bestow upon everyone today and always.

4th We pray for the leaders and governors of villages, towns and cities throughout the world. Inspire them Lord; give them a right heart to govern wisely and justly, to do all they can to relieve those in need, oppression, poverty, to promote peace and harmony.

5th Lord, in your mercy, continue to uphold all those who struggle to believe in you, those who do not know you, or those who do and cannot acknowledge you, as Saviour of our world, our Redeemer and our Friend.

6th *“See that ye be at peace among yourselves, my children, love one another. Follow the example of good men of old, and God will comfort you and help you, both in this world and the world which is to come.”*

St Columbia's blessing

7th Today we pray for those who live on the margins of our society: who are vulnerable, for those who are in trouble and need. We know, Lord, that you are with them always. We pray that they may be able to put their faith and trust in you.

8th Thank you, Father God for our families, friends and neighbours. We pray that You keep them safe from harm, surround them wherever they are, with Your tender loving arms.

9th (*If at all possible, to pray at mid day*) Father God, as we focus on You, your word, your promptings to us, may we continue to be Your faithful servants, in furthering Your kingdom in this small corner of Your world. May we be assured to know You are with us always, that we can trust You to do what You have promised in our lives and the life of our chaplaincy.

10th We thank you, Father, for the beauty of all you have made; there is so much for our enjoyment. You have made us the guardians of your precious world. Forgive us that we so often forget that resources are not infinite; make us willing and eager to share the many good things You have provided for us.

11th God of all wisdom, help us to realise Your truth, to understand Your power in this fragile world and to share Your word, wherever and whenever possible.

12th We pray that day by day we may have opportunities to share our blessings with others.

13th Lord, we praise You, we worship and adore You; may all we do in this day, be for Your glory, for Your Kingdom.

14th We pray for our brothers and sisters throughout the world, who cannot openly express their faith and belief in You, those who are persecuted, imprisoned, threatened and are in fear for their lives and the lives of their families.

15th We bring this day before You Lord; we thank you for our waking and rising, for all the ups and downs we may encounter. We hope and pray that the opportunities presented to us today, will enable us to shine as beacons in furthering your kingdom.

16th (*If at all possible, to pray at mid day*) Father God, You created us in so many different ways. Help us to see and appreciate our different skills and talents. Please, fill us with wisdom and understanding of each other's strengths and weaknesses. That collectively we may work together to glorify You and do all that You require of us.

17th We bring before You, Lord Jesus, everyone who today has cause to celebrate and rejoice in their lives, within this marvellous world You have provided for us. We give You thanks and praise, for the wonder and mystery of birth, baptism and marriage.

18th *"We have an absolute need for quiet, for the heart's wordless resting on God".*

Sister Wendy Beckett

19th God is everywhere, in everything, all of the time.

20th Father God, we ask You for forgiveness for our sins; make us ready and willing to forgive others today and always.

21st Healing Lord, we bring before You all those who are burdened and heavy laden, who are ill, in mind, body and soul. We ask that You to bring them peace and healing to their illnesses, frailties, worries and concerns. In Jesus' name Amen.

22nd Thank you, Father God, for all the people you have brought into our lives. Thank You, Father, for their influences, for their love and kindness, for their support and encouragement, in all the ways they have shaped our very being.

23rd (*If at all possible, to pray at mid day*) Heavenly Father, we ask you to give us strength and courage to continue to be faithful witnesses, to diligently read Your word, to fervently pray. We ask you to open up all our senses, so that we may understand, what it is you require of us, in our church family, in our homes and in our communities.

24th Thank you, Lord, for this beautiful countryside we live in. Please keep us in good health and wellbeing to enjoy and receive the pleasures and joys of our lives in it. We pray especially for farmers and fishermen, who work hard to provide food for our refreshment and nourishment.

25th O bounteous Father, we give thanks and praise for the many volunteers throughout the world, who work through charities and organisations to improve the lives of vulnerable people.

26th Heavenly Father, we thank you for loving us unconditionally, even when we are far from you. Thank you for your constant care and concern for us this day. We thank you, that through our weaknesses you will give us strength and hope.

27th Lord God, we ask you to make us content with our lives. May we have peace in our hearts and lives.

28th *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.*

29th Gracious Lord, you always keep your word and do everything you say. When someone stumbles or falls you are always with them to give them a helping hand.

30th *(If at all possible, to pray at mid day)* We pray for all our faith leaders in the chaplaincy, especially during this time of interregnum. For Valerie, working in the office to keep the administration of the chaplaincy, running effectively and smoothly. For those serving on our PCC. For ourselves, may we all hold firm to our vision, To Love the Lord our God – Love our neighbours as ourselves – Make Disciples. In Jesus' name Amen.

Where do we worship?

Continuing our series of looking at our Chaplaincy Places of Worship (along with a little history), we go this month, thanks to Ted Hands, to

Jarnac Foyer Protestant Leonor Chabot, 7 rue Chabot

Local Wardens: William and Liz Jones, Chris Hands

The origins of our Chaplaincy can clearly and easily be traced back to the many "Brit" and other English speaking families employed by the various Cognac Houses and living and working in the Cognac and Jarnac area. For many years, as the Chaplaincy developed, worship took place in Cognac, In the later years in the church of Saint Joseph on Rue de la Providence. However, during 2010 it became obvious that our days there were numbered with the deteriorating state of the building, particularly the roof, and the lack of funds for the necessary repairs.

A small group of Parishioners under the guidance of our then Chaplain, Rev Michael Hepper, was set up to find a new location. After visiting a number of proposed venues in Cognac, Segonzac and Jarnac, the congregation were asked to vote for their choice. The majority opted for Jarnac and our current location, though there was a sizeable, and vocal minority who were against this because it was not a "Church" (can't think of any modern parallels). The argument that it is the people, not the building, that make a church carried no weight and a few fell by the wayside.

Thus, on Sunday 27 March 2011 we held our first service in the “Foyer Protestante, Leonor Chabot”. It was a service of Morning Worship led by Duncan Paige and there were 31 members in the congregation. The building is the Church Hall for the EPUF in Jarnac though their Temple is on Rue Abel Guy a short walk away.

Over the years we have built up a very close and warm relationship with our French hosts and through the year we hold a number of joint services, sometimes followed by “bring and share” meals. To accommodate our French brethren we sometimes move our service to their church to allow them to use the hall. Depending on the time of year our numbers fluctuate having been as low as a dozen but as high as the mid fifties, more normally 20 – 30.

We pride ourselves on being friendly and welcoming, come and join us sometime and share a cuppa and a piece of cake after the service. Services are held the second and fourth Sunday of every month at the usual time of 10.30.



Into the Garden

with Jane Thomas

The sight is sad: all of the golden fields of sunflowers have dropped their head and are ready for harvesting.

But the good news is that there will be fields of gold next year.

Things to do:

Fruit: protect blackberries and autumn raspberries from the birds by the use of netting. Start cutting the canes, at ground level, of the summer raspberries that have finished fruiting. Pick plums as soon as they ripen. As the fruit appear to ripen, so do the wasps! It is a good idea to hang a honey trap away from your soon to be harvested fruits.

Now is the time to transplant any well-rooted strawberry runners.

Trees and shrubs: pick your early ripening apples and wrap grease bands around the trunks to protect from winter moths

Vegetables: Earth up celery to blanch it. If you have had a good crop of marrows and wish to keep some, raise them on bricks to bring them into the sun to ripen off and leave them to the end of September so their skin gets as hard as possible. Then store the fruit in a cool dry place, such as a garage, until you are ready to eat them.

Flowers: Time to plant spring flowering bulbs such as crocus and narcissus, that is, if they have arrived in the garden centres. Start collecting seeds from flowers for next year's garden: there are plenty to harvest and retain, plus share with friends. Do remember to leave some of the seed head for the birds. Do ensure that the seeds are dry before you store and place them in a labelled envelope in a cool, dark and dry place.

It is suggested that now is the time to dig up gladioli to store the corms over winter; I have left mine in situ for the last few years and they are still flowering every year.

Lawns: Usually this is a good month when conditions are good for laying new turf; if you do, then keep well-watered until established. So far it has been difficult to describe this summer: if it had been continually dry then it is useful to spike with a garden fork to allow autumn rain to be absorbed.

Pots: Whatever the weather these still need to be watered as rain does not usually keep them wet. Dead heading will keep them going.

Ponds: Remove dead and drying plants to keep the water sweet and pollution free.

AND by special request, here is Jane's Recipe
for Courgette Soup 

2 large onions

5 tablespoons olive oil

6 large courgette, cubed= about 1kg

Small bunch of herbs: bay, rosemary, basil etc

1½ pints chicken stock/vegetable stock

2 oz grated cheese

- **Fry onions**
- **Stir in courgettes and herbs**
- **Add stock and simmer 30 minutes**
- **Add cheese and liquidise/or add cheese at the table**

ENJOY



The next organised event for MU is our quiet day. This year we have decided to hold it at the camp site in Bignac on 23rd September. The family have very kindly offered the use of their facilities and are even opening the restaurant for us. Because of the location and the need for organising the food we do need definite numbers in advance and so would appreciate a response by 12th September please. This has always been well supported in the past and is open to anyone who would like to attend be they ladies or gentlemen, MU members or not. There is of course once again the opportunity to camp. At the moment it is envisaged that we will start the day at 10.30 with a Holy Communion service at 11.00 but I will confirm the timings nearer the time.

On another note this is the latest from Abdourahamane and Fatima. They have just been given another date for their rdv in Paris for their appeal to be heard. The date is set for August 27th so I know they would all appreciate your prayers.

Please contact Judith Rawlison or myself for any further information and also for a response as to whether you are able to join us or not.

Chris Hands : handschris@gmail.com

Judith Rawlinson : peter.rawlinson@wanadoo.fr

Sandy's Church Alphabet

F is for Font.

The word Font comes from the Latin for a spring or fountain and in church it usually refers to the receptacle for water used in baptism. Fonts vary in size from small vessels, such as those used for emergency baptisms in hospital, to large containers suitable for the total immersion of adults. Some fonts are octagonal in shape as eight was the numerical symbol for a new beginning. By association the word font is often used for the containers for holy water which are placed just inside the door of with allis an event for the whole congregation to welcome new members.

The sign of baptism is the pouring of water on the one to be baptized, a sign that one has passed from death to life.. *You are dead but your life is hid with Christ in God. Galatians 3:3*

Water is also a symbol of new life, we water plants to ensure vigorous growth; we need water for ur very survival, so the new Christian is nourished by the flowing of the Holy Spirit in their life. Water is used for cleanliness and so the water of baptism washes away the stains of sin. In the Early Church, baptisms were often held at Eastertide. The Bishop would arrive to celebrate the Eucharist and the new baptismal candidates would make their promises in front of the congregation. The pascal candle would be blessed and lit from the new fire, symbol of the risen Christ, after which the whole congregation would renew their baptismal promises. The new candidates would then come again to the Eucharist at Pentecost dressed in white clothes and receive communion. This tradition is still recognized by the British custom of calling the feast of Pentecost "Whitsunday" ie. White Sunday.

Two sacraments are said to be necessary for salvation, Holy Communion , and Baptism. So in our churches the Altar and the baptismal Font rank high in importance.

What about your Baptism? Do you ever consider the promises made at that time? The church uses Easter time as an occasion for the renewal of Baptismal Vows but it might be a good exercise to visit our promises a bit more often.

Almighty God, we thank you for our fellowship in the household of faith with all who have been baptized in your name. Keep us faithful to our baptism and so make us ready for that day when the whole creation shall be made perfect in your Son. This we ask through Jesus the Lord. Amen

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PRAYER MEETING

**At the home of Dave & Marilyn Trigger
3 rue des Pensées, VERGNE 86400 Savigné
On Monday 16th September at 2.30.pm**

“Next year the Chaplaincy is going to need a new Treasurer.”

“Mummy, what’s a Treasurer?”

“Well dear, it’s someone who looks after the treasure.”

“Like pirates and buried treasure?”

“Not exactly, dear! Ask William Jones and he’ll tell you; then YOU might become the new Treasurer”

Labyrinth Workshop 28-29 Sept 2019

Les Jardins des Arts, 7 Rue des Anciennes Ecoles,
Hanc, 79110 Valde-laume



A weekend to reflect.

Come along to:

- walk the orchard labyrinth
- create our own labyrinth together
- notice how you walk

€40 – lunch and evening meal included

Further information: bobwhorton@icloud.com

Jubilate is published each month to keep you in touch with events in the Chaplaincy and to keep you in fellowship with all our members. Enquiries and contributions should be addressed to the Editor: **david.hawken@orange.fr**