



Jubilate

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



NEW YEAR PRAYER:

Thank You Lord for giving me
The brand new year ahead.
Help me live the way I should
As each new day I tread.
Give me gentle wisdom
That I might help a friend,
Give me strength and courage
So a shoulder I might lend.
The year ahead is empty,
Help me fill it with good things
Each new day filled with joy
And happiness it brings.
Amen.

The Daily Bible Verses
<http://thedailyverses.blogspot.com> - www.facebook.com/thedailybibleverses

January 2020

Welcome to this shorter edition of *Jubilate* which has been prepared from a computer somewhere in Northamptonshire, courtesy of the Editor's sister-in-law!

A message from the Reverend Richard Knowles:

It may not have escaped your notice that we are in January. January - that month of many clichés. New beginnings. Fresh starts. Broken resolutions. Days start to get longer.

But actually January is just the month that follows December and precedes February.

New beginnings and fresh starts etc., have nothing to do with the month, but everything to do with us.

And it's fresh beginnings that should be on our minds and in our prayers at the moment as we try to discern God's will for the future of our Chaplaincy. I do hope you are responding to the Questionnaire in a prayerful manner because doing so will help to shape the Chaplaincy's future whatever God's plan may be for us.

External circumstances such as Brexit, widowhood, family ties and illnesses have already led to the closure of the monthly worship in Pompaire because people are leaving and not being replaced with English-speaking incomers who are seeking a Christian church to belong to. This pattern may be repeated elsewhere and so must figure in the way we see the chaplaincy continuing.

In the meantime I wish you all a Happy, Peaceful and Healthy 2020.

The Questionnaire can be found on the Chaplaincy website:

www.church-in-france.com

NEWS FROM MADAGASCAR

I recently received the latest newsletter from Rev'd Adam Boulter.

I will send it on to those who have asked to receive it, as soon as I get back to Lezay.

Please contact me: david.hawken@orange.fr if you would like a copy.

In the meantime, here are a few excerpts for everyone to read.

Getting hot in Madagascar The Boulter-Hodson Clan in Toliara 14TH DECEMBER 2019

Toliara is getting very hot and humid, we have had our first cyclone through of the season which mercifully hit the other coast just dumping a lot of rain here, so the whole town is awash or calf deep in mud. Meanwhile the surreal sight of fake snow-clad Christmas trees can be seen in various roadside shacks while we all sweat in the sun.

It has been a very eventful few months since our last newsletter. In October I started teaching, and have a great group of ten young people training for the priesthood or to be evangelists. They have a wealth of experience in the bush churches, and lots of enthusiasm, but very little education. So it's a matter of assuming nothing and starting from basics, all of which is great fun and their faith is deeply inspiring. The classroom is dark and hot, so we normally abandon it and teach out under the shade of one of the thorn trees, with the obligatory white board propped up on stones. I have a very good translator, who does a great job of getting me to explain theology in plain English. More than money or resources the people I meet are scared they have been forgotten by the rest of the world. So most importantly do pray for this remote corner of a country where the rest of the world only remembers its environmental riches and forgets that many people live here in abject poverty.

Sadly Beth's mother Hatta, took ill in October, had a stroke and then died with in two weeks, all of which was a massive shock.

In this humid heat there is just not the energy for worrying on top of daily life, and Malagasies take a very laid back attitude to tomorrow. While I often find that attitude frustrating I'm starting to think I need to learn some of it from them. So maybe we need to hear the voice of the angel to Mary: 'Do not be afraid'.

Blessings from; Adam, Beth, Joseph, Hannah and Benjamin.

Chaplaincy Services in January 2020

DATE	VENUE	TIME	SERVICE
05/01/2020	St Leger	10:30 a.m.	Holy Communion
2nd Christmas	Courcelles	10.30 a.m.	Morning Worship
(Epiphany?)	Villejésus	10:30 a.m.	Morning Worship
	Civray	6.30 p.m	Come & Worship
12/01/2020	Champagne Mouton	11.00 a.m	Holy Communion
Baptism of Christ	Jassay	11.00 a.m	Morning Worship
	Jarnac	10:30 a.m.	Holy Communion
19/01/2020	Magné	10:30 a.m.	Morning Worship
Epiphany 2	Courcelles	10.30 a.m.	Holy Communion
	Barbezieux	10:30 a.m.	Holy Communion
	Champagne Mouton	10:30 a.m	Morning Worship
26/01/2020	Jarnac	10.30 a.m.	Holy Communion
Epiphany 3	La Rochefoucauld	10:30 a.m.	Morning Worship
	St Ignatious	3.00 p.m.	Holy Communion
	Civray	10.30 a.m.	All-Age Worship
	Civray	4.00 p.m.	Holy Communion BCP

There will be a ***24 hour Prayer Vigil*** on Monday the 20th of January. Please contact Roy Carter for details and to express your willingness to take part.