



Spreading *the Word*

All Saints' Day

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THE CHAPLAINCY OF AQUITAINE is part of the Church of England Diocese in Europe,
working in partnership with The Intercontinental Church Society,
in ministry to people who speak English. It covers Gironde, Dordogne and Lot-et-Garonne

CHURCH SERVICES November 2026

*Weekly recorded services and daily
online prayer (zoom) continue*

SUNDAY 01 NOVEMBER (All Saints)

10:30 Bertric Burée, *Open Door for prayer*
10:30 Eymet Temple, Holy Communion
11:00 Doudrac, Holy Communion
11:00 Ste Nathalène, Prayer & Praise
15:00 Bordeaux, Holy Communion
17:00 Libourne Temple, Holy Communion
16:00 Bertric Burée, Evensong

SATURDAY 07 NOVEMBER

16:30 Arcachon Praise

SUNDAY 08 NOVEMBER (Remembrance Sunday)

10:30 Bertric Burée, Morning Worship
10:30 Eymet Temple, Prayer & Praise
10:30 Limeuil, Holy Communion
10:30 Monteton, Morning Prayer
10:30 Négrondes, Holy Communion
11:00 Condom, Remembrance Service
15:00 Bordeaux, Service of the Word
17:00 Libourne Temple, Holy Communion

SUNDAY 15 NOVEMBER

10:30 Bertric Burée, Morning Worship
10:30 Chancelade, Holy Communion
10:30 Dondas, Morning Worship
10:30 Eymet Temple, Prayer & Praise
11:00 Ste Nathalène, Holy Communion
15:00 Bordeaux, Service of the Word
17:00 Libourne Temple, Agape
17:00 Doudrac, Evening Worship

SUNDAY 22 NOVEMBER

10:30 Bertric Burée, Holy Communion
10:30 Eymet Temple, Prayer & Praise
10:30 Limeuil, Morning Praise
10:30 Monteton, Holy Communion
10:30 Négrondes, Morning Worship
15:00 Bordeaux, Holy Communion
17:00 Libourne Temple, Holy Communion

THURSDAY 26 NOVEMBER

11:00 Condom Chapel, Holy Communion

SUNDAY 29 NOVEMBER (First Sunday in Advent)

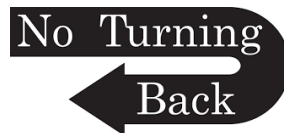
10:30 Bertric Burée, Holy Communion
10:30 Eymet Temple, Lighthouse
10:30 Dondas, Holy Communion
15:00 Bordeaux, Prayer & Praise
17:00 Libourne Temple, Holy Communion



Contributions to this magazine are always very welcome and should be received no later than the **20th of the month**. Please send to:
Gill Sweetman, 2801 Route de Belles, Champ de Riviere, 24480, Bouillac.
e-mail: magazine@churchinaquitaine.org

You can subscribe to **Spreading the Word** by sending your name and address, with a cheque for 40 Euros made payable to: 'The Chaplaincy of Aquitaine' to Gill Sweetman at the above address,

OR: send your e-mail address and you can receive it without charge *though donations to the Chaplaincy would be most welcome!*



Dear sisters and brothers,

I am really enjoying our Tuesday evening Bible Studies in the book of Acts. It's very good for me to spend time each week going deeply into a Bible passage with a view to discussing it with others. I am so grateful to those who come along week after week, encouraging me by their presence and engagement with the Word of God. Officially known as "the Acts of the Apostles", it has been suggested that the book should be called "The Acts of the Holy Spirit", as we see God's Spirit empowering the church to bear witness to Jesus and his resurrection.

This week we were studying chapter 6, in which the apostles appoint seven others to manage a particular piece of admin for the church family. The Apostles are concerned that administrative tasks could distract them from their primary ministry of leading in prayer and the ministry of the Word of God. Studying this passage took me deep into a reflection on my own role as Chaplain and how, in the midst of many possible activities, I can maintain a proper focus on my primary spiritual priorities.

As you can guess, I am very grateful for those who carry out a plethora of administrative tasks on behalf of the Chaplaincy. From the Chaplaincy Wardens through to the people who serve refreshments after worship, everyone has a part to play. When we serve the life of the church, we are serving the Lord whose church it is.

You will probably be aware that we have recently been adjusting to significant change in the administration of the Chaplaincy. There are still a number of important roles for which we are looking for volunteers. In the end, it will fall to me and the Wardens to make sure everything is done, so I would be very grateful if you are able to offer yourself for any of the following roles.

- **Admin assistant to the safeguarding team** – to support the safeguarding team with the administrative tasks and record-keeping. You need to be able to maintain a high level of confidentiality.
- **Chap-Aid Treasurer** – to keep simple accounts for Chap-Aid and make payments to charities. You need to be comfortable recording figures in an Excel spread-sheet (or willing to learn)
- **Finance administrator** – to assist the treasurer and book-keeper with administrative tasks, including making expenses payments on behalf of the Chaplaincy. Basic numeracy would be helpful.
- **Funerals co-ordinator** – to be a first point of call for people seeking assistance from the clergy with regard to funerals. You need to be well organised.
- **Assistant electoral roll officer** – to assist with managing the process of renewing our membership lists occasionally.
- **Admin assistant to the Chaplaincy Wardens** – to help with communications of various sorts, eg. insurance contracts, etc.

All of these roles come with clear role descriptions and training, and support from the Wardens and from me. If you can offer assistance in any of these areas, or would like some further information, I would be very grateful for you to contact me on chaplain@churchinaquitaine.org.

Yours in Jesus,

John Bavington



The Poppy as a symbol of Remembrance

The red poppy is a symbol of both Remembrance and hope for a peaceful future, as well as an important fundraising tool. The Poppy is used all over the world in this way. But why the poppy? What was the inspiration behind it becoming a symbol of Remembrance?

In 1921 Earl Haig noticed some French widows - inspired by Lt Col John McCrae's iconic poem "In Flanders Fields" - selling silk poppies to raise funds for disabled ex-Servicemen. The poppy, which is central to the poem, was one of the few plants that survived in the churned up battlefields of Flanders, growing by the thousands amidst chaos and destruction.

Haig recognised the potential of these poppies to become both a symbol of Remembrance and also as a means to support the welfare of ex-Servicemen, so he ordered nine million poppies which were sold on 11th November 1921. The Poppy Appeal was born!

Earl Haig's first poppy factory was in Richmond in 1922 but demand for poppies was so high that few reached Scotland. In 1926, Lady Haig established a factory in Edinburgh to produce poppies exclusively for Scotland.

Lady Haig's Poppy Factory is still there today and a team of disabled veterans produce over 2 million poppies for the Scottish Poppy Appeal each year.



Upon establishing the Lady Haig Poppy Factory in 1926, Lady Haig designed a poppy with four petals and no leaf, whereas the version produced in Richmond had two petals and a leaf. This difference remains today.

Since then the poppy has become a symbol of Remembrance and of the sacrifices made by our Armed Forces, both at times of war and in their peacekeeping duties. For nearly 100 years it has raised millions of pounds to support the needs of veterans and their families.



... and here in France there is Le Bluet

The cornflower – like the poppy – continued to grow and these flowers were often the only visible evidence of life, and the only sign of colour in the mud of the trenches.

At the same time, the term *bleuets* was also used to refer to the class of conscripted soldiers born in 1897 who arrived in the lead-up to the Second Battle of the Aisne, because of the *bleu horizon* worn by French soldiers after 1915. The uniform worn by these recruits, many of whom were not even 20 years old, was distinctive because it marked a break from the *pantalons rouges* trousers worn by older soldiers, which were part of the standard uniform before the First World War.

As the war dragged on and the novelty of the term faded, the title endured because the uniforms that fresh arrivals wore into the trenches, were still new and brightly coloured, in contrast with the mud-stained uniforms of veteran troops.

The origin of the badge dates to 1916. It was created by Suzanne Lenhardt, head nurse in Les Invalides, and Charlotte Malletterre. Lenhardt was the widow of a Colonial Infantry captain killed in 1915, and Malletterre was the sister of Général Gustave Léon Niox and the wife of Général Gabriel Malletterre. They were both moved by the suffering endured by the war wounded for whom they were responsible and, needing to provide them with some activity, organized workshops where cornflower badges were made from tissue paper. These were sold to the public at various times, with the money collected providing the men a small income. They gradually became a symbol of the rehabilitation of soldiers through labour.

On 15 September 1920, Louis Fontenaille, the president of Mutilés de France, proposed making the bleuet the eternal symbol of those who died for France. This had the support of the FIDAC (Federation Interalliee des Anciens Combattants).

In 1928, after French President Gaston Doumergue gave his patronage to the bleuet, sales gradually spread countrywide. By 11 November 1934, 128,000 flowers were sold. From 1935, the French government officialized the sale of bleuets on Remembrance Day.



Gill Sweetman





Remember, Remember!

At the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month, we pause to remember. Once again, this year we will stand, sporting our poppies, alongside our French neighbours, some of whom might have found a bluet to wear, at the monument aux morts, singing the Marseillaise and reciting the names of the fallen in recent and not so recent wars. *“Mort pour la France”*.

It brings back memories for me of various churches where I have served. Remembering the poignancy of those who came to church to remember on Remembrance Sunday, in particular, their loved ones who had died, not only in the two world wars, but in the Falklands, Iraq and Afghanistan. For the French it's Algeria and Mali.



Preaching on these occasions is a challenge but also a tremendous privilege. On some occasions I turned to the prophet Ezekiel chapter 37, the passage about the dry bones. You know the bit – “The toe bone connected to the footbone, the footbone ...” and so on. In his vision, Ezekiel surveys the desolation of an old battlefield strewn with the bones of the slain. Not much sign of life there! Then he hears God's question, “Can these bones live?”.

Humanly speaking it's hopeless, as Ezekiel points out, the “bones were very dry.” Ezekiel is told, however, to prophesy and as he speaks God's word, he hears the sound of rattling..... You know the rest of the story.

So, what will it mean to hear God's word as we remember? Can these bones live? Surely, it will mean that our remembering needs to be active, that we will be spurred into action, and, in this context, that we will strive for peace with all our heart and strength. Only thus will the sacrifice not have been in vain.



And talking of sacrifice linked to remembering, I'm drawn back to the fundamental act of worship which we call the Holy Communion. We proclaim Jesus' death and resurrection. These bones did live! And Jesus commands us to “do this in remembrance of me”. We take the bread and wine representative of his body broken and his blood shed. How can we make this remembering active?

I'm struck that in our Communion Services, the receiving of the bread and wine comes at the climactic end of the service. We receive and then we are sent out. God gives us of Himself, not for ourselves, but in order that we might be His representatives out in the world.

“Go in peace to love and serve the Lord!”

Barrie Green



The Golden Age of Dutch Art in the 17th century not only featured great artists such as Rembrandt van Rijn but also several superb female artists including Maria van Oosterwijck. So let's take a look at her life and artistic oeuvre.

Maria van Oosterwijck was born near Delft in 1630. Her father was a Dutch Reformed Church minister as was her grandfather. She showed exceptional artistic talent as a young woman, particularly creating magnificent still life paintings. She never married and instead devoted her life to God and to painting. She worked in Delft, Utrecht and eventually Amsterdam. Her still life paintings were soon in demand throughout Europe. Her patrons included Louis XIV, Holy Roman Emperor Leopold I, Augustus the Strong in Saxony, and King William III of England. Despite her success and obvious artistic talent she was denied membership in the Painters' Guild because of her gender.

A 1671 portrait of her is very telling. It shows her holding her palette and there is an open Bible in her lap. Her still life paintings often contained symbolic elements of her Christian faith including sunflowers representing turning to God, white denoting innocence and butterflies symbolic of Christ's resurrection.



Still Life with Flowers in a Decorative Vase, c. 1670-1675

We can see these elements in her glorious 1670 painting 'Still Life with Flowers in a Decorative Vase'. She was particularly adept at creating what were called "vanitas" paintings. These were meant to portray the fleeting, ephemeral quality of life and contained such images as human skulls, hourglasses, globes and wilted flowers as well as images of resurrection.

Her 1668 painting 'Vanitas - Still Life' is a masterpiece of this genre. She is credited with creating about 30 paintings in her lifetime.

In recent years her art has been rediscovered and admired. Her paintings were included in a 2020 exposition entitled Women Artists of the Dutch Golden Age and, more recently in 2025, in a major expo entitled Women Artists from Antwerp to Amsterdam, 1600 - 1750. Both were sponsored by the National Museum of Women in the Arts (NMWA) in Washington, D.C. Her art hangs in several prestigious museums around the world including the Rijksmuseum in Amsterdam.

I hope you have enjoyed learning about the art and life of this great female artist whose paintings were strongly influenced by her faith and love of God. As always should you have any comments please contact me at kidjeff52@gmail.com. Many thanks for reading!



Portrait of Maria van Oosterwijck, 1671



Vanitas-Still Life, 1668

Chaplaincy Safeguarding

Hello everybody, during the summer, when it was too hot to do anything outside, we caught-up with some overdue safeguarding tasks. As a result we were able to ask the Chaplaincy Council in September to review and approve three important new documents – described below.



Local Wardens have all these documents and will be updating their teams / committees. The documents are freely available to anyone in the Chaplaincy and if you would like a copy emailed to you, please contact safeguarding@churchinaquitaine.org or your local warden.

First, we now have a **Children's Work Policy**. We have been able to draw together the guidance and requirements from our own Diocese in Europe, the Church of England, of which we are a part, and French legal requirements. Many thanks are due to Steph Temple, from Eymet congregation who gave us a lot of help and advice.

Secondly, risk assessments. This is not primarily a safeguarding requirement, but as we had the expertise in our team we prepared this document – **Safer Events Made Simple** giving instruction in how to do a risk assessment and the necessary forms to complete it to cover your congregations' venue(s) and activities.

Thirdly, we have prepared guidance about how we should be recruiting people for roles in our Chaplaincy. This is known as **Safer Recruitment** and is a particularly important procedure and practice for roles involving children and vulnerable adults.

Finally, after 18 months in our roles, Dave and I realise it would be enormously helpful to have some administrative support. We are advertising for a volunteer admin assistant to join our supportive team – please see the box below.

Administrative Assistant

This is a new voluntary role in The Chaplaincy Safeguarding Team. The role is to help with a range of administrative tasks related to safeguarding across the Chaplaincy of Aquitaine. We are a small and supportive team, and you do not need to know a lot about safeguarding but need to be willing to learn. Training and support will be given by the Chaplaincy Safeguarding Officers (CSO) and provided externally as needed.

We are looking for someone to help for up to 3 - 4 hours a week, on a reasonably regular basis.

The Chaplaincy is committed to working within our local safeguarding policy and the safeguarding requirements of our Diocese and the Church of England. Please email safeguarding@churchinaquitaine.org for a role description, more information or to arrange an informal chat.

Ainslie Green and Dave Knight, Chaplaincy Safeguarding Officers

Email : safeguarding@churchinaquitaine.org

Chaplaincy website safeguarding information: <https://www.churchinaquitaine.org/safeguarding/>



Have you checked out the Chaplaincy website lately?
There's lots of information there so it's well worth doing so.
www.churchinaquitaine.org



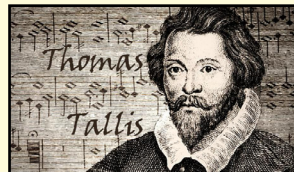


Continuing an exploration of musical periods through history, we move this month to **The Renaissance, c 1400 - 1600**. It was a hugely flourishing period of renewed interest in classical Greek and Roman ideas, human achievement and creativity. Artists explored realism, perspective and beauty. The transition from Early Music to the Renaissance also brought new approaches to composing, with rich harmonies and interweaving melodies (polyphony), producing works that expressed both religious devotion and human emotion.

Let's start by looking at three significant figures from the period, from England, France and Italy....

Thomas Tallis (c. 1505-1585)

Thomas Tallis was one of England's greatest Renaissance composers. He served under several monarchs, including Henry VIII and Elizabeth I, adapting his sacred music to changing religious traditions. His works range from simple English church music (e.g. ['If ye love me'](#) based on John 14, v15 - 17); to, most famously, [Spem in alium](#), a motet scored for eight distinct choirs of five voices each (soprano, alto, tenor, baritone, and bass), totalling 40 independent voice parts!



Josquin des Prez (c. 1450-1521) was born somewhere in north-eastern France, or Belgium. He worked in churches and royal courts across Europe, including Italy. Famous for his expressive melodies and skilful use of interweaving voices, he helped shape the development of Renaissance polyphony. His best-known sacred works include [Ave Maria](#), and [Miserere mei, Deus](#).

Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina (c. 1525-1594)

Palestrina was an Italian composer who became one of the leading figures in Renaissance sacred music. Working mainly in Rome, he composed beautiful, balanced choral music with clear words and flowing melodies. [Stabat mater](#) and [Sicut Cervus](#) ('like as the hart desireth the water brooks...') will give you a good introduction to his work.



World event – Revival of classical Greek and Roman ideas.

Art & architecture – greater realism through rediscovery of classical ideals of beauty, balance and proportion, use of perspective and the study of human anatomy.

Music – exploration of beauty, balance and expression, with increasingly sophisticated polyphony.

World event – Invention of the printing press (c. 1450).

Art & architecture – drawings, engravings and illustrated books circulated widely, spreading new artistic ideas and architectural designs.

Music – compositions reproduced and distributed more widely than ever before, encouraging a shared musical culture.

World event – Exploration and discovery.

Art & architecture – New maps, plants, animals and cultural influences inspired artists, while overseas trade helped fund grand buildings and works of art.

Music - new instruments, sounds and musical influences came to Europe, while expanding trade networks helped spread European music overseas.

The Aquitaine Prayer Team - Strengthening Our Ministry of Intercession



Prayer has always been at the heart of our Chaplaincy. As our community changes and grows, so do the ways in which people need prayer. Sometimes a request can be shared through our regular prayer communications; sometimes a situation arises where prayer is needed now. That is where the **Aquitaine Prayer Team (APT)** has a part to play.

APT is a dedicated group of people willing to be ready to pray when requests arise — particularly when a situation is urgent or especially sensitive.

This does not replace the prayer ministry that already exists across our Chaplaincy. Rather, it builds on and complements it, providing a prepared group who can respond quickly when circumstances require it.

It means that:

- **Urgent situations can receive a rapid prayer response.**
- **A prepared team can be contacted quickly when needed.**
- **The wider prayer community can continue to pray through our existing channels.**

It is about being ready when the need is greatest.

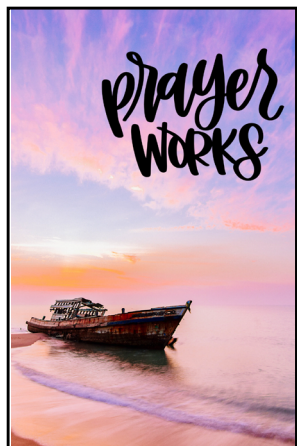
Who is APT for? We are inviting those who feel called to this particular ministry of intercession to consider joining APT in one of the following roles:

Team Intercessor

A Team Intercessor is willing to receive an email when an urgent prayer request requires a rapid response, and to provide continued prayer support when alerted.

Team Member

A Team Member remains part of the wider Aquitaine Prayer Team and continues to pray for others as requests are shared through our existing prayer channels.



Both roles are important. The distinction is simply about being part of a smaller group ready to respond particularly quickly when needed. APT is a ministry of **service, attentiveness and, above all, confidentiality.**

If you feel called to serve in this way, please consider joining the Aquitaine Prayer Team.

Please note that when you sign up, this simply places your email address on the APT circulation list, the same as it would be in Chaplaincy Connect. However the difference is that you will receive Prayer Requests/ Updates as they arrive within the SANCTUARY app, making it a much more dynamic system. The APT sign-up form is available through [SANCTUARY](#).

For any further information please contact:

Dave Lee

Sanctuary & APT - Prayer Coordinator chapsapp@churchinaquitaine.org



Advent

The word “advent” derives from the Latin “*adventus*”, meaning “coming.” This year we shall be lighting the first Advent candle, Hope, on November 29th. It is a purple candle to represent expectation, waiting, and the prophets who foretold Christ’s coming.

Did you know??? The First Sunday of Advent also marks the first day of the new liturgical year in Western Christian traditions.



Principles from God

1. Wake Up !!

Decide to have a good day.

“Today is the day the Lord hath made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.” *Psalms 118:24*

2. Dress Up !!

The best way to dress up is to put on a smile.

A smile is an inexpensive way to improve your looks.

“The Lord does not look at the things man looks at. Man looks at outward appearance; but the Lord looks at the heart.” *I Samuel 16:7*

3. Shut Up!!

Say nice things and learn to listen.

God gave us two ears and one mouth, so He must have meant for us to do twice as much listening as talking.

“He who guards his lips guards his soul.” *Proverbs 13:3*

4. Stand Up!!...

For what you believe in.

Stand for something or you will fall for anything..

“Let us not be weary in doing good; for at the proper time, we will reap a harvest if we do not give up.

Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good...” *Galatians 6:9-10*

5. Look Up !!...

To the Lord.

“I can do everything through Christ who strengthens me.” *Philippians 4:13*

6. Reach Up !!...

For something higher.

“Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and lean not unto your own understanding.

In all your ways, acknowledge Him, and He will direct your path.” *Proverbs 3:5-6*

7. Lift Up !!...

Your Prayers.

“Do not worry about anything; instead PRAY ABOUT EVERYTHING.” *Philippians 4:6*

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📞 **06 52 26 70 08**
✉ bobgillsweetman24@gmail.com

Do you think you may have a problem with alcohol ?

Alcoholics Anonymous is here
to help and support you

There are 2 AA meetings locally
Castillonnes Tues 12 - 1.15pm
Montflanquin Thurs 7 - 8pm - also on zoom

There are also many more meetings all over SW france both in
person and on zoom. All addresses and contact details are on
the AA website - aafrance.net.

Alternatively you can contact Debbie by email
deborahcaswell9@gmail.com or call 0674578164 and she will
be happy to answer any questions you may have.



Installation of Canon Charlotte Sullivan

*Congratulations Charlotte
from your many friends
here in Aquitaine on your
installation as a Canon!*



New Community cafe opens at Holy Trinity, Brussels

Katie Jickling, Project Manager of the Community Cafe, shared the background to the new Community Cafe at Holy Trinity Brussels, and the experience of the first day:

“We’re trying to create a space that welcomes the kind of diverse communities that Jesus welcomed — rich and poor, Christian and those of other faiths, people of all ages and backgrounds and cultures. It’s a pay-as-you-can model with a warm meal, good coffee and cake, and various groups and services.....

We will offer food aid to those in need, and have a space for church members to gather after the mid-week eucharist. We’re also offering various other groups and gatherings — next week, for instance, a Quaker is facilitating a “loss cafe” on grief and mourning.....

In one shift, I heard people speaking English, French, Dutch, Arabic, and Farsi. That makes for a rich experience.”

Extracts from Bishop Robert’s blog....

‘It was a great pleasure to return to the Pro-Cathedral of St. Paul’s Valletta to confirm five young and younger candidates, and to make the first ever St. Benedict Award for outstanding lay achievement.....

This was an excellent context in which to celebrate the long and distinguished ministry of Mr. David Coulston. David is the first recipient of our new ‘St Benedict Award’ for outstanding lay service. Clergy are honoured in the church in various ways. Lay people might be honoured through a public award, such as an MBE – but these are nowadays seldom given for work within the church. It therefore seems fitting that we produce our own award, and St. Benedict as the patron saint of Europe – with the Benedictine motto ‘ora at labora’ - has seemed the ideal saint to attach to such an award.’



Time to
Smile.....

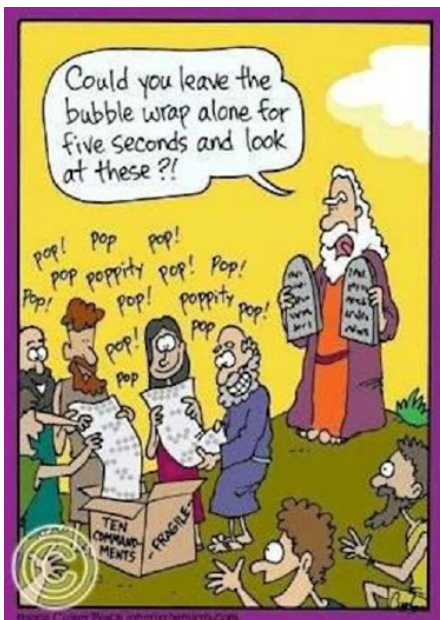


Great truths about growing old

- 1) Growing old is mandatory; growing up is optional.
- 2) Forget the health food. I need all the preservatives I can get!
- 3) When you fall down, you wonder what else you can do while you're down there.
- 4) You're getting old when you get the same sensation from a rocking chair that you once got from a roller coaster.
- 5) It's frustrating when you know all the answers, but nobody bothers to ask you the questions.
- 6) Time may be a great healer, but it's a lousy beautician.
- 7) Wisdom comes with age, but sometimes age comes alone.

A four year old's description of creation

In the beginning, which was close to the start, there wasn't anything except God, darkness and some gas. The Bible says, "The Lord, thy God, is one," but I think He has to be much older than that. Anyway, God made the world and then He said, "Give me some light," and somebody gave it to Him. He split an atom and made Eve. Adam and Eve didn't wear any clothes, but they weren't embarrassed because God hadn't invented mirrors, yet. Adam and Eve sinned by eating one bad apple and they were driven out of the Garden of Eden. I'm not sure what God drove them in because He hadn't invented cars, either. Adam and Eve's son, Cain, hated his brother as long as he was Abel. After a while, all of the first people died, except Methuselah, who lived to be, like, a million years old.



Hymns for Christians over 65 years old

- Give Me the Old Timers Religion
- Precious Lord, Take My Hand, And Help Me Up
- Just a Slower Walk with Thee
- Go Tell It on the Mountain, But Speak Up
- Nobody Knows the Trouble I Have Seeing
- Guide Me, O Thou, Great Lord God, I've Forgotten Where I've Parked The Car
- Count Your Many Birthdays, Count Them One By One
- Blessed Insurance
- It Is Well With My Soul, But My Knees Hurt

How does Moses make coffee?

... Hebrews it!

Around the Chaplaincy: events from our churches



Bordeaux

Protestant Temple,
283 rue Frédéric Sévène,
33400 Talence

CW Barry Gardiner
Milly Vulakoro
ML Adrien Etienne
PC Milly Vulakoro

barrygardiner54@gmail.com
06 22 29 07 62
e.j.ad@hotmail.fr
06 22 29 07 62

November Services

Sunday 01 November	15:00	Holy Communion
Sunday 08 November	15:00	Service of the Word
Sunday 15 November	15:00	Service of the Word
Sunday 22 November	15:00	Holy Communion
Sunday 29 November	15:00	Prayer & Praise

Arcachon: Saturday 7th November 16:30 Arcachon Praise

Harvest Afternoon Holy Communion Service - Reflections from a Bordeaux Church Family Member Abroad!

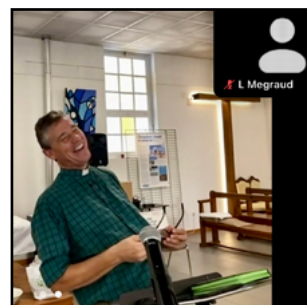
What a wonderful Sunday the 4th of October was! Following an ecumenical morning Harvest Celebration with the Protestant community, orchestrated by Christine and Mustapha and finishing with a shared lunch, a second Harvest Service was held in the afternoon, led by Barry Gardiner and John Bavington.

What a special gift it was for me to join in on the latter, virtually and from the United States of America. Thanks to modern technology and our Zoom experts in the congregation, everyone can enjoy being part of Sunday worship when something gets in their physical way!

Barry, with his double hat as Worship Leader and also researcher in the tree world (in particular, climate stress on forests), gave a short talk on caring for God's creation and recognizing our responsibilities regarding climate change. Uyoyoghene read the scripture readings beautifully and John preached on thanksgiving!

The photos speak for themselves. As you can see, some of John's stories made us smile, as we were encouraged to develop an "attitude of gratitude". And to give to God because of what God has given to us.

A clear and thought provoking message reaching far across the ocean!



As the year draws to a close

As the year comes to a close, time becomes more than a passing calendar—it is an invitation to receive God's grace. Stepping into the new year with faith calls us to lean on three quiet anchors:

- Gratitude: Thanking God not only for the joys, but for the quiet, difficult moments where His grace was silently at work.
- Inner peace: Laying our burdens, regrets, and hurts at the foot of the Cross, met only by Christ's mercy and gentleness.
- Hope: Trusting that nothing sown in love is ever wasted as we place tomorrow into His faithful hands.

Prayer: *Lord, as this year draws to an end, we place both our joys and our quiet burdens into Your hands. Teach our hearts gratitude for the road behind us, grant us the peace of Your forgiveness, and fill us with living hope for the days ahead. Walk before us as we step into this new season. Amen*

God-given talents

We suspect that there may be some of you who are hiding your God-given talents! We are anxious to have volunteers of all sorts. Readers, intercessors, musicians, teachers - please see the local wardens, Barry Gardiner or Mili Vulakoro, or Heather or Nellie to offer your services.



Live streaming of Services

We regularly live stream our Sunday afternoon Services at Talence via Zoom. Members of our church congregation who were temporarily away from home in far away places have been very happy to connect with our church family and the Lord on a Sunday. Our aim is to livestream every Sunday. The link to the livestream is published on Sunday on our Bordeaux Church Family WhatsApp group.

Online Prayers

There are several weekly online prayer gatherings via Zoom (or by a simple audio telephone call) which are either Chaplaincy-wide or Bordeaux church family gatherings. The times are in the calendar on www.anglicanbordeaux.org

Fellowship Gatherings

We have two main groups, Bordeaux Anglican Ladies and Bordeaux Anglican Men who meet for social activities such as bowling, coffee and chat and, of course, lunches.



Our two main sources of online information regarding news, service schedules, special events and online activities are via our website at: www.anglicanbordeaux.org

Also, via Facebook [English Anglican Church Bordeaux](https://www.facebook.com/EnglishAnglicanChurchBordeaux). Please go to facebook and search for: English Anglican Church Bordeaux

WhatsApp - We use private WhatsApp groups so that group members can receive and send information and generally interact about our activities. The main WhatsApp groups are Bordeaux Church Family, Bordeaux Anglican Women and Bordeaux Anglican Men. If you would like to join any of these groups, please speak to one of the committee team members or contact us via phone or email (details below).



WhatsApp

Contact Us



If you have any questions or need help or want to join the WhatsApp groups or generally need more information, then please do not hesitate to call us on:

05 56 40 05 12

Or send an email with your questions or needs to: contact@anglicanbordeaux.org



Enjoy the autumn season and take time to READ. That should include a best-seller: your Bible or a children's Bible which are sources of history, geography, wisdom, grace and prayer!



Ste. Nathalie

Le Bourg, Rte de Sainte-Nathalène,
24200 Sainte-Nathalène

Warden:	Alexandra Billing	05 53 52 27 71
Magazine contact:	Alexandra Billing	05 53 52 27 71
Prayer Chain:	Sheila Campbell	05 53 59 68 78

November Services

Sunday 01 November	11:00	Prayer & Praise
Sunday 15 November	11:00	Holy Communion

4th October Sheila Campbell

Sheila spoke on the Holy Spirit and gave testimonies of the Spirit's miraculous work in her life. We all have a testimony of what God has done in our lives and they encourage others when we share them. Jesus revealed the Father but He still needed to send us the Spirit. We need to receive the Spirit to enable us to live our new life, as children of God. We can see the effects of the Spirit in changed lives. God wants to use us, where He has placed us. We cannot live a goodly life without the Spirit. He changes us from the inside out as He guides us in God's word, as we allow His fruits to grow in our lives and we exercise the gifts He gives, to build up the body of Christ.



18th Oct Harvest Celebration with Rev'd. Barrie Green.



Barrie blessed the contributions donated to Resto du Coeur.

The Israelites got comfortable in the land flowing with milk and honey that the LORD had given them. They turned away from him. He sent swarms of locusts to strip the land. Joel called them to repentance and God restored the land. Today, do we give thanks and care for God's creation or does humanity need to repent of our greed, leading to global warming?

In Matthew Jesus says to seek first the kingdom of God. That is our main focus. It is more important than the practical things that God knows we need. What is God saying to us and how will we respond? We can pray for our farmers. We can share the abundance we have with those

in need. We can repent of our mismanagement of nature's bounty. We can live our lives to benefit the earth.

Our thanks to Rosemary for delivering the donations to the local centre in Sarlat. Thank you to Jeff and Andrew for the readings and to everyone who contributed to the open prayers of thanksgiving and intercession. Several of our holiday home owners were able to be with us, We were bathed in bright sunshine for our shared lunch. It was wonderful for all of us to meet Barrie and Ainslie in person.



Psalm 139:1. You have searched me, Lord, and you know me.

A prayer. *Father, change the parts of me that I try to hide. By your Spirit, change my heart, thoughts, motives, habits and attitudes that don't reflect you, so I can live in a way that brings you glory. Amen.*



November Services

Sunday 08 November	10:30	Morning Prayer
Sunday 22 November	10:30	Holy Communion

We rounded off the September services with a joyous harvest festival at our beautiful church at Monteton which was well attended by both our local congregation and visitors. We welcomed 2 new members to the congregation this autumn, Bill and Linda Del Solar, who drive all the way from Agen to join us. They are already joining in our services and read the lessons clearly and expressively.

The church was beautifully decorated with seasonal flowers and vegetables by Tricia and Hazel. Tricia also made a harvest sheath as a focal point to the display. Rev'd Louise Courtney led the service and her sermon focused on being a cheerful and generous giver. God said that people who stored up their wealth and sat back to enjoy it together with those who didn't thank God and those who didn't consider sharing their wealth, were fools. As always Rev'd Louise gave us plenty to think about!

The choir, led by Peps Inscoe, sang the hymn 'Here I Am Lord' for the anthem with which the congregation joined in enthusiastically. Special thanks to Pamela Thorne for accompanying some of the hymns and to Graham Thorne for joining the basses in the choir. As always we enjoyed refreshments served by Penny and Fiona after the service.



We are looking forward to our communion service on 25th October after which there will be a bring and share lunch at the church for all to enjoy.

Louise Hunter

Margaret Etschmann writes: On the 25th September, whilst we were preparing for our harvest festival or were shopping for our gifts for Resto du Coeur, Pope Leon XIV was arriving in Paris for his papal visit to France. It would be quite impossible here to describe in full his tightly packed programme but rather mention some memorable moments. A most stunning and heart warming event could be seen in the evening at the Stade de France in St Denis, Paris, when 80,000 young people between the ages of 17 and 35 participated in a prayer vigil with the Pope. In his address the Pope said, *"You are the church of today.... and how beautiful it is to see your enthusiasm and vitality."*



The next day 700,000 people, from all over France, thronged the Champs Elysées and Place de la Concorde to have just a glimpse of the Pope and to take part in the mass at 15:00. The Pope appealed to the people to *"quench their thirst at the source of Christ and to bring hope where there is discouragement and spiritual drought."*

The visit continued to Lourdes and then Metz where similar crowds were there to take part in the Pope's visit. TV coverage was extensive and estimated at 23 million viewers who tuned in to all or part of the visit, social media figures were at 80 million. There were complaints to the TV authorities that the coverage was too extensive, exact numbers of these are not yet known. For France this was a most memorable, historical Christian event.



The Church at Bertric-Burée

L'Eglise Saint Pierre – Saint Paul,
Le Bourg, 24320 Bertric Burée

Wardens:	Ann Knight	anniechezfoucaud@gmail.com
	David Stacey	davidandla3@aol.com
Magazine contact:	Ann Knight	)
	Rosie Marland	) bertriccomms@gmail.com
	David Stacey	)
Prayer Chain:	Sheila Marshall	sheilamarshall24600@gmail.com

November Services

Sunday 01 November	10:30	Open Door, church is open for prayer
	16:00	Evensong (<i>note the time change</i>)
Sunday 08 November	10:30	Remembrance Morning Worship
Sunday 15 November	10:30	Morning Worship - Safeguarding Sunday
Sunday 22 November	10:30	Holy Communion
Sunday 29 November	10:30	Advent Holy Communion

Please note: There will be no BCP Holy Communion service on 11th November, as we know many people want to attend their local Armistice Day commemorations.

Harvest Festival

A big thank you to everyone who helped make our Harvest Festival service such a lovely occasion.



It was wonderful to come together as a church family and give thanks for our many blessings. We are especially grateful for the generous gifts of food donated to Les Restos du Cœur, helping those in need in our local community. Thank you all for your kindness and generosity.



Bible in a Day

Thursday 5th November

**Save the date for what promises
to be a fascinating day!**

The Rev'd John Bavington will be leading us through 'Bible in a Day' – a journey through the story of the whole Bible, helping us to see the bigger picture and discover how its different books, people and events all fit together.

Whether you know the Bible well, have always wondered how all the pieces connect, or would simply like to discover more, everyone is very welcome to join us.

It promises to be an interesting, enjoyable and thought-provoking day – and a wonderful opportunity to explore the Bible together.

**For further information, or to reserve a place,
please contact bbwardens@churchinaquitaine.org**

*The
whole story
One day
A deeper
understanding*



Remembering Roger and Liz by Ann Knight

October was a particularly sad month for our church family as we said goodbye to two lovely people, Roger Adams and Liz Faulkner.

Roger sang in our choir and was a wonderfully talented artist. Many of us are fortunate enough to have one of his paintings in our homes, a lovely reminder of Roger and the talent he so generously shared with us.



Liz sometimes played the piano for us and was a remarkably talented and knowledgeable lady who achieved so much during her 92 years. Our thoughts are especially with Colin, who was so very proud of her and will miss her dearly.

Roger and Liz each brought something special to our church family, and we feel very fortunate to have known them both.

They will be greatly missed, but remembered with much love and affection.



Your Church Needs You



There are many different ways in which people help to support the life of Bertric-Burée Church, and at the moment there are two areas where we would particularly appreciate some additional help.



Treasurer

To look after the church finances.



Fundraising and Social Events

To lead and organise our fundraising activities and social events.

If either of these sounds like something you might be interested in, or you would simply like to know a little more about what is involved, please have a chat with one of the wardens at bbwardens@churchinaquitaine.org

HELP SAVE OUR BOOK BARN!

This wonderful facility is at risk of closure. Are you available one morning a week to open at 10.30 and close at 12.30?

YOU could make all the difference!



Please contact Wendy:
thebertricbureebokbarn@gmail.com



Dondas

L'Eglise Saint Martin,
Rte du Bourg, 47470 Dondas

St Médard on D245 north-east of Agen

Contact: Maggie & Dave Lee dondasanglican@churchinaquitaine.org
Prayer Chain: Dave Lee drl4747@gmail.com

November Services

Sunday 15 November 10:30 Morning Worship
Sunday 29 November 10:30 Holy Communion

October saw the first of our second Sunday informal home group type sessions in the church where we all congregated in the south transept for a time of bible reading and prayer and discussing the meanings in the first chapter of the 1st book of Corinthians. Called 'The Huddle', the session was ably led by Margaret Opie-Smith and was very well attended with 17 of us present.

Our special Harvest Festival Holy Communion service, including the Baptism of Isabella on 18th October, was led by our Chaplain. It was a wonderful service with many special moments including Isabella trying to copy the Chaplain to baptise herself. The Chaplain delivered an excellent sermon weaving together the three readings for the day. The service was also live streamed to friends and family of Isabella in far-flung parts of the world. There was a very generous donation of goods, and these will be taken to Restos du Cœur.



Thank you to the duster-wielding and decorating Team members who congregated in the church the Friday before the service.

Our thanks as always go to David Warner-Howard for playing for us and to those who read lessons, lead intercessions for us and help in so many ways.

Our November Huddle will confusingly be on the first Sunday to avoid conflicting with Remembrance Sunday services and a local Christmas Bazaar which involves several members of our congregation.

Our next service in November is Morning Prayer, and this will be led by Georgina Hodgson. We are hoping that our next 'fifth Sunday' service on November 29th will be BCP Holy Communion, but we await a celebrant.



Chancelade and Négrondes

Chapelle Saint Jean, Rte des Carrières,
24650 Chancelade
Église Saint Pierre ès Liens,
24460 Négrondes

Warden: Fiona Calvert 06 73 21 58 77
Magazine contact: Sheryl Tully 05 53 52 77 15
Prayer Chain: Fiona Calvert 06 73 21 58 77
Beryl Wood

November Services

Sunday 08 November 10:30 Holy Communion Négrondes
Sunday 15 November 10:30 Holy Communion Chancelade
Sunday 22 November 10:30 Morning Worship Négrondes

As November approaches it is a time for reflection, a moment to pause and look back on the year so far. As the days grow shorter we are reminded of the importance of being a light in the darkness. The Bible teaches us to shine brightly for others offering hope and love in a world that can often seem gloomy. Let us commit to being a beacon of hope sharing kindness and uplifting one another.

Our communion service on the 11th October was led by the Rev'd Helen Savage and accompanied by Patrick Sturges. We were blessed to have Neil come along to play the music. We had a good attendance but unfortunately

we do still have some parishioners suffering from the effects of Covid and our thoughts are with them for their recovery.

The Gospel reading was from Matthew 22: 1-14. Jesus shares the parable of the Wedding Banquet. ‘Many are invited but few are chosen.’ This sentence captures the essence of the parable. The king’s invitation to the wedding banquet represents God’s calling to humanity. The initial guests who refuse the invitation symbolise those who reject God’s message, while the subsequent gathering of guests from the streets, signifies the inclusive nature of God’s kingdom. Today many people hear the Gospel message, yet not all respond positively. The distractions and priorities that led the initial guests to reject the king’s invitation are still present in our own lives. Work, personal interests and indifferences can prevent us from accepting God’s call. The parable encourages us to examine our priorities and ensure that we are not missing out on God’s invitation.



There will be a service on the 1st November, All Souls’ Day, at 10.30 at Negrondes. This will not be a communion service but a Service of Remembrance and all are welcome to attend. There will be an opportunity to submit the names of loved ones at the beginning of the service to be read out later. Refreshments will be served afterwards to offer additional fellowship.



Condom	Chapel Notre Dame de Pi�tat,	ACW	Caroline Herbert	bcherbert101@gmail.com
	54 Av. Aquitaine, Condom (32)	ML	Caroline Herbert	bcherbert101@gmail.com
			Marion L'Estrange	marian82condom@gmail.com
		PC	Vacancy	

November Service

Sunday 08 November 11:00 Remembrance Service
Thursday 26 November 11:00 Holy Communion

News from the Newts

The Newts finally made it to the training restaurant in N rac on 8 October, where nine of us enjoyed a lovely meal together.



Services

In November there will be a Service of Remembrance on Sunday 8, with the monthly service on Thursday 26. We are planning a **Christmas Carol** service on **Friday 18 December at 17.00hrs** where we will be having our Chap-Aid cakes and bakes stall.

Chap-Aid News

The Chap-Aid auctions have been on hold while life has been rather busy, but we are hoping to get an online book auction organised for the weekend of 23–25 October. We’ll tell you how it went next month!



Libourne

Protestant Temple,
Place du Doyen Carbonnier
33500 Libourne

Contact: Elaine Dinghin

elainedinghin261@gmail.com

November Services

Sunday 01 November	17:00	Holy Communion
Sunday 08 November	17:00	Holy Communion
Sunday 15 November	17:00	Agape
Sunday 22 November	17:00	Holy Communion
Sunday 29 November	17:00	Holy Communion



Harvest Celebration

Libourne English Speaking Church were delighted to celebrate the first Harvest or '*moisson et vendage*' with French friends. It was a joyful, prayerful celebration in both English and French. Friends from Montpon Menesterol led the music and we are very grateful for the participation of 'Le Petit Chœur d'Adagio', Jean Baptiste, the organist and the flautist, Emily. Special thanks to our Catholic friend, Catherine for her precious help and for reading the lesson.



The service was in English and in French, led by Julia Finlay and Elaine Dinghin. Rev'd Nick Finlay gave a meaningful sermon on The True Vine. Friends from Bordeaux joined us and we thank Pamela for reading the Gospel so beautifully. Not forgetting Kris & Adebo for all their help.

The celebration ended with an apero. Jean Pierre, a local winegrower brought his wine to taste and around a platter of hams and cheeses we were able to continue sharing.

Seeds were sown and the desire of everyone was to do something similar again very soon. Praise the Lord !

Save The Date

As is becoming the custom here in Libourne, we will be holding our third **Christmas Carol Service on Friday 4th December** at 6.30pm at the Chapelle de Notre Dame de Condat. 6 allée du Gueslin. 33500 Libourne.

The service will be followed by mulled wine and mince pies.



Doudrac

L'Eglise Saint Jean Baptiste,
Place de l'Eglise, 47210 Doudrac

Warden:

Richard Morris

tractorboy2447@gmail.com

Magazine contact:

Charles Bethune

bethune.charles@orange.fr

November Services

Sunday 01 November	11:00	Holy Communion
Sunday 15 November	17:00	Evening Worship

Over the past weeks, the Doudrac congregation has seen a variety of events.

On 4th October a Harvest Festival with Holy Communion, presided by Rev'd Bramwell Bearcroft, was followed by a bring-and-share lunch. Our donations went to Les Restos du Coeur.



Then on 18th October we gathered in the orchard of the Davisons at Moulinet for a Holy Communion led by Rev'd Liz Morris, followed by a picnic lunch under the cherry trees. The sun shone, the fellowship was warm, and we are all very grateful to Graham and Terri for hosting us.

Future events include Holy Communion on 1st November, to mark both All Saints and Remembrance, and Evening Prayer on 15 November. All will be most welcome!

Marché de Noël - The Old School

On the 5th December in Saint Colomb de Lauzon (47410) the Old School are holding their annual Christmas Fayre (Marche de Noel) . This year Doudrac Church have booked a space with the aim of showing that we are here and would be pleased to share our faith or help people to explore it; perhaps they may want to attend our Advent and Christmas services, or take a bible away to read or just to buy a few Christmas cards.



So, if you want to enjoy a long established French Marché de Noel, and support Doudrac's stall, please pop in on **Saturday 5 December between 10h and 16h30**. For more information please contact Graham Davison, gsd2712@gmail.com.



<u>Limeuil</u>	(24) near Le Bugue, Eglise de Sainte Catherine in Limeuil Haut	CW	The Team	07 66 53 18 33
				06 52 26 70 08
		ML	Linda Heathfield	07 49 80 71 16
		PC	Sandy Berkeley	06 13 74 76 61

November Services

Sunday 08 November	10:30	Remembrance Holy Communion
Sunday 22 November	10:30	Prayer & Praise



At the end of September, David led Morning Praise, and on 11th October, our Chaplain John came to lead our Harvest celebration and Communion with Rev'd Steve Evans preaching the sermon. We were delighted to welcome Rev'd Steve & Margaret as residents rather than occasional visitors as they recently bought their new home near Villereal and we hope they will be with us on a regular basis. Many thanks to everyone who brought items for donating to Restos du Coeur and also to Veronica and her helpers for the church decoration.



At the time of writing we are looking forward to our service on Sunday 25 October after which there will be a celebration lunch of thanks for Amy Owensmith who has now stepped down as the Chaplaincy Administrator.

Also coming up – **Saturday 28 November** will see a **Men's Breakfast** chez Martindale in Ste.Alvere – look out for further details.

Finally, **Raffle tickets for a Christmas Hamper**, and other goodies, are now available, so please make sure you are in touch with Sandy if you would like one or more tickets. Again, all profits will go to our church charities and Chaplaincy funds.

Looking ahead, please plan to join us on **Sunday 13 December** for our **Carol Service at 5pm** – festive refreshments will be served afterwards as usual.



November Services

Sunday 01 November	10:30	Holy Communion
Sunday 08 November	10:30	Prayer & Praise
Sunday 15 November	10:30	Prayer & Praise
Sunday 22 November	10:30	Prayer & Praise
Sunday 29 November	10:30	Lighthouse

The last Sunday in every month is when we at Eymet Temple have recently started our “Lighthouse” Services. The sight of a lighthouse reminds me of the not-so-well-known long distance walk called “O Caminos dos Faros” (The way of the lighthouses) that traverses some of the most beautiful scenery in the world along the North coast of Galicia. It is an extension of the Way of St James, starting in Santiago de Compostella for anyone who finishes the “official” camino and still has some energy left for another 200km walk. I have never quite managed the whole thing - you can actually walk there from Eymet, and with the current cost of diesel, it may be worth the 40 days or so it would take to get there!

The route follows the disturbingly titled “Costa da Morte” or “Coast of Death” in Spanish, and is a far, far cry from the busy Costas of the South. A mix of stunning cliffs, rocks, tiny uninhabited villages and a buffeting Atlantic Ocean which can rear up and swallow you at any moment. The Costa da Morte is among the most dangerous of the world's shipping routes, with more than 150 shipwrecks over the last century – hence, the 14 lighthouses. The lighthouses stand lighting the way for travellers in a hostile and sometimes unpredictable and violent place.



Luckily, Eymet Temple on any given Sunday is a far more calm affair. A reminder that in our current world, God's Word provides a light to safely follow and find refuge. You will also find an incredibly warm welcome, inclusive, fun worship together, and a very nice cup of tea after the service.

Our next Lighthouse service is on Sunday November 29th and everyone is welcome; and don't forget our “**Taste of Heaven**” event on **Saturday 31st October** and our upcoming **Christmas fair** later in November!





CONTACT US

Here are the email addresses so your enquiry
can reach the right person



General Enquiries

hello@churchinaquitaine.org



Safeguarding

safeguarding@churchinaquitaine.org



Pastoral & Worship

chaplain@churchinaquitaine.org



Weddings

hello@churchinaquitaine.org



Funerals

funerals@churchinaquitaine.org



Finance, Accounts & Expenses

accounts@churchinaquitaine.org



Chaplaincy Wardens

wardens@churchinaquitaine.org



Magazine

magazine@churchinaquitaine.org



Communications

comms@churchinaquitaine.org



Website

website@churchinaquitaine.org



Chaplaincy Connect

connect@churchinaquitaine.org



Social Media

socials@churchinaquitaine.org

Useful Numbers & Online Links

Chaplain of Aquitaine: Rev'd Canon John Bavington chaplain@churchinaquitaine.org 07 44 81 37 45

Clergy with permission to officiate:

Rev'd Bramwell Bearcroft 07 88 96 60 18
bramwellbearcroft@hotmail.com

Rev'd Louise Courtney 05 53 27 11 56
louiseanitacourtney@gmail.com

Rev'd Steven Evans +44 7808 795528
se_emh@hotmail.com

Rev'd Nick Finlay 06 82 84 09 63
nick.finlay047@gmail.com

Rev'd Michelle Godbold 07 49 96 36 79
michelle_godbold@hotmail.co.uk

Rev'd Barrie Green 06 11 67 01 27
barriegreen1951@gmail.com

Rev'd Andy Horlock +44 7952 180370
andyhorlock@hotmail.com

Rev'd La Stacey 06 81 43 66 55
revlastacey@gmail.com

Rev'd Neil Llewellyn +33 09 77 44 22 19
wemissourdaughter@hotmail.co.uk

Rev'd Angela Marshall 06 88 03 97 59
rev.ange@hotmail.co.uk

Rev'd David Marshall 06 88 03 97 59
dmrevdave6@gmail.com

Rev'd Elizabeth Morris 06 04 03 31 95
cookingcurate@gmail.com

Rev'd Robin Nash +44 7778 63 89 89
my_quarters@yahoo.co.uk

Rev'd Helen Savage 06 80 26 29 93
helensavage1@gmail.com

Chaplaincy Wardens

Tina Marshall 06 64 48 21 88
Tim Heathfield 07 66 53 18 33
wardens@churchinaquitaine.org

Prayer Chain Co-ordinator:

Nellie Salvi 06 11 37 46 78
contessasalvi@yahoo.co.uk

Chaplaincy Magazine Editor:

Gill Sweetman 06 52 26 70 08
magazine@churchinaquitaine.org

Online Links

Chaplaincy website: www.churchinaquitaine.org

Chaplaincy Connect: <https://chaplaincyofaquitaine.myknowchurch.co.uk/login>

Chap-Aid Website: www.chap-aid.com

Facebook page: [Church in Aquitaine](https://www.facebook.com/ChurchinAquitaine)

Archdeacons of France: <http://anglicanfrance.fr/>

Diocese in Europe: <http://europe.anglican.org/>