

Church of All Saints in the Vendée

“To know and to share Jesus Christ”

The Grapevine

May 2015

CONTACTS:

Priest: Reverend Caroline Sackley:

Vicarage: 27, rue de Malvoisine, 85110 St Vincent Sterlanges:

Phone no: 02 51 46 39 51 mobile: 06 73 94 40 01

e-mail addresses: revcarosack1@gmail.com and allsaintsvendee@gmail.com

Church Wardens: Barbara Kenyon: Phone no: 02 51 40 51 59, email: bandrkenyon@orange.fr

Doug Green: 05 49 72 18 46, email: greensinfrance@yahoo.co.uk

Reader: John Matthews: Phone no: 05 49 75 29 71, e-mail: matthewsj@wanadoo.fr

Website: www.allsaintsvendee.fr



Preface



We are already half way through the year and it feels as if it has been a busy time for us all. Lent of course has a momentum all of its own which doesn't allow us to forget what season it is. Now summer is

coming and many of you will be busy with visitors, gardening etc and it can be difficult sometimes to find the space to be quiet with God. I know how easy it is for a time for reading His Word can become just another task like brushing teeth, or sometimes left out in the busyness. But it is how we keep our faith alive, time to talk, time to listen, time to learn. Life with the living God need never be boring or mundane, but can often become that. If you remember, God didn't want rules, sacrifice and duty, he wanted love freely given. So if you find your daily time with God becoming a task or a duty what can you do? Sometimes a change is as good as a rest; trying something different, a new way of doing things, going to hear a speaker who may inspire you, worshipping in a different way, being with other Christians, reading a book, and asking God for his help with the problem!

As you are probably aware by now I have a passion for ecumenical work, despite the language barriers for me in France and I spent a fascinating day with ladies of "Action Catholic Femme". It was exhausting because of working all day in French but so good to be included in their day retreat when they were looking at prison and prisoners and how we can all be imprisoned in some way.

All sorts of things can affect how we behave, from our past especially and sometimes they need to be brought into the light of day and examined to see if they still hold true or not; or if they even ever did! When I was being prepared for confirmation I was told I had to make sure my hat did not have too big a brim, to remove my gloves and not wear strong perfume. That might have been essential teaching then, and when thought about made sense in those days, but we do need to question things, not do them out of habit. Is there a valid reason for what we are doing? I have sworn to use approved services for example, if I decide I no longer wish to do that I must leave the Church of England; I don't want to do that, so I put up with what I don't like and do things I do like at other times, I don't throw out the baby with the bathwater! So, self-examination may be a way of rejuvenating your spiritual life by finding a freedom from what is holding you back. Our God wants a right relationship with him, and as with any relationship this can be exciting, rewarding and definitely not dull. I pray that you find that and grow in love for him and others.

God Bless,

Caroline

MAY into JUNE CHURCH SERVICES WITH BIBLE READINGS

All Services start at 11am except where indicated

[We have also included the Psalms for each week, as they may inform your own reading at home]

3/5/2015 1 st Lesson: Acts 8: 26-end	11am	LCP Epistle: 1 John 4: 7-end [Psalm 22: 25-end]	Easter 5 Gospel: St John 15: 1-8
10/5/2015 1 st Lesson: Acts 10: 44-end	HC	PDS Epistle: 1 John 5: 1-6 [Psalm 98]	Easter 6 Gospel: St John 15: 9-17
17/5/2015 1 st Lesson: Acts 1: 15-17,21-end	HC	LCA Epistle: 1 John 5: 9-13 [Psalm 1]	Easter 7 Gospel: St John 17: 6-19
24/5/2015 1 st Lesson: Acts 2:1-21	HC	LCA Epistle: 1 Romans 8:22-27 [Psalm 104: 26-end]	Easter 3 Gospel: St John 15:27-27+16:4b-15
31/5/2015		No Service	Trinity Sunday
7/6/2015 1 st Lesson: 1 Samuel 8: 4-11	HC	LCP Epistle: 2 Corinthians 4:13-5:1 [Psalm 130]	1st after Trinity Gospel: St Matthew 3: 20-end

LCA = La Chapelle Achard; PDS = Puy de Serre; LCP = La Chapelle Palluau, MW=Morning Worship; HC(CW)=Holy Communion (Common Worship); BCP=Book of Common Prayer;



PLEASE JOIN US

for Tea, Coffee & Biscuits after our services, followed by a Bring & Share Lunch.

Everyone is welcome to join us

- even if you have not brought anything, there is always enough to go round!

(Unfortunately, when there is a service on the fifth Sunday in the month, the hall is not always available).





Dates for your Diary



2nd May, Saturday: Marian and Richard's non-annual **Coffee Morning and Plant Sale** [Please see below]

4th May, Monday **9.30am Etente Evangelique Meeting.** (See Revd Caroline for more information)
2.30pm Council Meeting.

5th May, Tuesday 10.00am Ministry Team Meeting

6th May, Wednesday. Faites le Plein. 7pm for 7.30pm start

at Maison du Diocèse, 62 rue Maréchal Joffre, La Roche sur Yon (see details on page 7)

14th May, Thursday, Coéx Home Group. All welcome. If you need directions or more information, please call Suzanne on 02 44 36 62 90 or email SiSuPatter@neuf.fr

15th-17th May, Friday-Sunday, Louange Cote Ouest

28th May, Thursday, 2.30pm: Ladies Circle at Mouilleron en Pareds.

For more details, please contact Joan Stewart on 02 51 00 34 70

,,,and looking ahead

9th June, Tuesday, Treasure Hunt

Please check website or contact Marian and Richard Rackham on 0251 27 64 67



A Thousand Gifts, a Thousand Blessings!



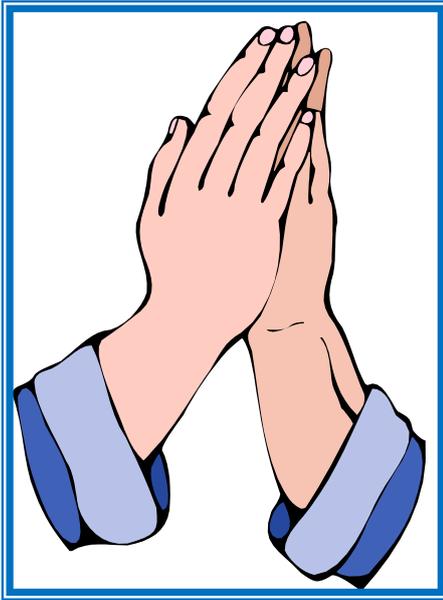
Don't forget your gifts on the 2nd Sunday of each month.

Bill and Carole will collect them and pass them on to Restos du Coeur in Coulonges.

For more details of these Events, please visit our Website: www.AllSaintsVendee.fr

Names on our Prayer List.....

Please remember in your prayers :



- **Peter Hutchinson** who is still in hospital
- **Jean Mylod** and Mike
- **Paul Brechet** and Anne
- **Tony Calton** and Maggie
- **Pat Darley** and Roy
- **Joëlle Gosseline** and Bernard
- **Tamsin Webb** and her husband.
Tamsin is the daughter of Jack and Val Goadby.
- Shirley Hardwick** and Dick.

And please continue to remember all those whom we know and whose names do not appear here, who are in need of prayerful support at this time.

Our Prayer Co-ordinator is David Pearson. Please let him have details of any folk you become aware of who need our prayers. ☎ 02 51 61 05 04 ✉ david.sally@orange.fr

“Thank you all for your continuing prayers”

You may sometimes hear of members or friends of our congregations who are not wanting to go on our Prayer List, but who are ill or in need.

In these cases, please let David Pearson, our Pastoral Organiser, know.

ASV Membership List

This is a request to everyone who attends a service at any of the ASV Churches.

A piece of jewellery was found after one of our recent services and, although we could remember who was at church, we did not have contact details for everyone. This has highlighted a need for a full membership list which will remain confidential and for ASV use only.

In order to compile this Membership List will you please complete the form printed in Grapevine and return it to me as soon as possible - by email, post or by hand. Please would EVERYONE complete a form, even if you are on the Electoral Roll, so that I can check the details and update as necessary.

This List will only be of benefit if it is up to date so if, in the future, you change your phone number or email address please let me know the changes.

Many thanks

Chris Green, La Vialiere, 79240 Largeasse. greensinfrance@yahoo.co.uk



Notes from our Church Wardens

The most important word in the title above is "our". We are your Churchwardens and have a duty to the Congregations that elect us, to the Priest with whom we work and to the Bishop as we are "officers of the Bishop". So we need to hear from you throughout the year to do our job properly. In early May both the new Council and the Ministry Team have a meeting so, if there is anything you wish discussed, please let us know.

In this edition of Grapevine you will see a reference to a "membership list". Chris Green has volunteered to produce this list, thanks Chris, and it will be confidential to ASV only. We need EVERYONE who attends any service to send her their details please to make this list useful - AND to let her know if your details change in any way from then on (especially email address and phone numbers).

Elsewhere in Grapevine you will find details of what is happening in May. Don't forget Marian and Richard's coffee morning and plant sale May 2nd. It is a major event for us, it is always enjoyable and an excellent opportunity for you to bring along your friends and neighbours - and if you can make a cake or savoury to be sold on the cake stall, even better. Marian and Richard would also like to hear from you if you wish to take part in the car treasure hunt on June 9th.

There are 5 Sundays in May. All being well we will hold another "Church Day" and details will be provided later. Please can we remind you to check the ASV Website frequently www.allsaintsvendee.fr. There is a Stop Press box at the top, right hand side of the home page. Here you will find the latest news, often with a link to further details.

Looking forward to a good Summer and worshipping with you

Barbara and Doug



COFFEE MORNING

**2nd May 2015
at 15 Rue de la Curé THIRÉ 85210**



The organisers will welcome any assistance which people would like to give on the day. Please contact Marian and Richard asap. We would also welcome gifts for the raffle, tombola, vide grenier and any jewellery beforehand please; **but** cakes and plants on the day, please!

However, most of all...

The organisers will welcome your friends and neighbours, **And YOU!**

Publicity for the event is of paramount importance.

Please consider printing or photocopying the flyers and posters, provided in both French and English at the end of this Grapevine and distributing them in your area.

Marian and Richard RACKHAM, Tel. 02 51 27 64 67
richard.rackham@cegetel.net richard.rackham2@gmail.com

Letter from the Editor



I remember the first I saw a Judas tree. I was in Spain and I had walked into a square full of large trees in quite remarkable bloom. Such a strong pinky-purple colour and, as I looked more closely, I saw that the flowers were covering every branch and seemingly coming directly out of the wood. I was enchanted and had to find out what tree this was. I was perplexed when I was told it was a Judas tree – and surprised when I was told that it was believed to be the type of tree that Judas had hanged himself on. Such an awful idea for such a beautiful tree! However, since that day, I had always wanted to have a Judas tree in my garden, so it was one of the first trees we planted

when I came here. Some years the bloom is caught by late frosts, but this year, despite cold winds, it is blooming beautifully and giving me such happiness.

This is such a lovely month. Have you noticed how all the traditions associated with the month of May are to do with flowers and celebration? In Roman times it was the month associated with Flora, the goddess of flowers and Spring. `Flora`s holiday`, her festival, took place at the end of April into May. It was called Floralia. Our own cultural traditions, from the May Queen`s crown of flowers to the dressing of wells in a blanket of blooms; from the maypole topped with a garland of flowers to morris dancers` hats reflect the same celebration – of flowers. You can probably think of many more.

Here, in our adopted country, it is the tradition to give lily of the valley on the 1st May. Apparently, in 1561, Charles IX received muguet on the first of May as a lucky charm. He decided to give this symbol of Spring to all the ladies of the court – and so the tradition was born. [A stem of muguet that has thirteen little bells on it is particularly auspicious, so look out for one!]

And, when you receive yours this year, remember to give a kiss in return!

Happy Floralia!

Joan Stewart



Do you pay French taxes?

If so did you know that for every 100 euros that you give to our Church the taxman will reduce your tax bill by 60 euros thus a 100 euro donation will only cost you 40 euros (and you will be able to increase your donation!!!)

You simply need to make your donation in a recordable manner.

You can put your donation in numbered envelopes in the collection box, set up a standing order (virement) or send money to the planned giving officer (Mike Mylod) giving your name and address. At the end of the year your contributions will be totted up and a certificate issued. You enter this amount on your tax return (no need to send proof, just keep your certificate in case you are asked for it) and the taxman will reduce your tax bill by a figure equal to 60% of your donations.

Donations to the vicarage renovation can also qualify for tax relief if made through A S V.

Start planned giving now and let the taxman help our Church.

Contact Mike Mylod 02 51 51 07 56 (joseph.mylod@wanaoo.fr)

Or Colin Grimshaw 02 51 98 67 91 (colingrimshaw@orange.fr)

To find out how easy it is!!!

Urgent request!



**A sit on mower is urgently needed for the 'Vicarage ' garden.
Does anyone know of one needing a new home please?
Our neighbours use a little robot mower, one of those keeps it really trim!**



Seriously, we do need help with this, so would appreciate you keeping your ears open.

Thank you!

Caroline



The date has been decided!



*The Treasure Hunt will take place on the afternoon of Tuesday 9th June...
If you have already subscribed, please look out for further information shortly...*

As car numbers are limited for safety reasons, you may now be too late! Please talk to Richard or Marian...

*Marian and Richard RACKHAM, Tel. 02 51 27 64 67
richard.rackham@cegetel.net richard.rackham2@gmail.com*



All are welcome to the COËX HOMEGROUP.....

Our next meeting will be at 2.30PM on Thursday 14 May 2015, Chez Suzanne, 109 La Maigrière, 85220 COËX, where we shall be studying ACTS 3.

If you would like to come and need directions, please call Suzanne on 02 44 36 62 90 or email SiSuPatter@neuf.fr.





**'Faites le Plein' !
Wednesday 6th May
From 7pm for a 7.30pm start**

All welcome at the Maison du Diocèse, 62 rue Maréchal Joffre, La Roche sur Yon

In the large restaurant at the back of the parking area, on the right hand side

Please join us for a time of contemporary sung worship and listen to our guest speaker while enjoying refreshments. You'll be made very welcome, even if you're a newcomer.

The guest speaker for May will be **Hélène Goussebayle**, speaking on going further into worship, based on

Romans 12:1

"Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship".

Hélène writes, composes and plays. As a catholic, with a ministry in worship music and working towards Christian unity, she seeks a close relationship with the Lord. Hélène tells us that worship is much more than music but more a style of life, walking with God, for all Christians, whether musicians or not !

We look forward to meeting and greeting you !

Liz JOND for the "Faites le Plein" team

For more info: liz.jond@wanadoo.fr

<http://www.thefillingstationfrance.com>



**Please send your contributions and letters for the
June issue to:
"The Grapevine" Editor at: jpsmorandiere@free.fr before 15th May**



Requests to be included on the emailing list should be addressed to Jacqui Stainton-James at: sjfamily66@hotmail.com

THE CONGREGATIONS OF ALL SAINTS, VENDÉE – MEMBERSHIP LIST

Confidential – for ASV use only

Surname

First Names(s)

French Address

.....

.....

.....

Phone No.

Mobile No.....

Email

2nd email

If French address is a “maison secondaire” please supply the following details

British address.....

.....

.....

.....

Phone no.....

Can you access emails in France ? YES / NO

Please return form to Chris Green by one of the following methods.

Email - greensinfrance@yahoo.co.uk

Post – La Vialiere, 79240 Largeasse, Deux-Sèvres.

Or hand to one of the Wardens at the next church service

Many Thanks.

COFFEE MORNING

Saturday 2nd May 2015

10.00h—12.30h

15, rue de la Cure, Thiré

Free entrance

Everybody welcome

coffee, tea, plants, jewellery
cake stall, tombola, vide grenier

In aid of
All Saints Anglican Church,
Vendée

COFFEE MORNING

Saturday 2nd May 2015

10.00h—12.30h

15, rue de la Cure, Thiré

Free entrance

Everybody welcome

coffee, tea, plants, jewellery
cake stall, tombola, vide grenier

In aid of
All Saints Anglican Church,
Vendée

Tous sont invité

COFFEE MORNING

Samedi 02 Mai 2015

10.00h—12.30h

15, rue de la Cure, Thiré

Entrée gratuite

Café, Thé, Plantes, Bijoux
Gateaux, Livres, Vide Grenier

Au profit de Tous Saints,
La Vendée
(Eglise Anglican)

Tous sont invité

COFFEE MORNING

Samedi 02 Mai 2015

10.00h—12.30h

15, rue de la Cure, Thiré

Entrée gratuite

Café, Thé, Plantes, Bijoux,
Gateaux, Livres, Vide Grenier,

Au profit de Tous Saints,
La Vendée
(Eglise Anglican)