

The Grapevine  
June 2025

## Contact details:

<u><i>Chaplain &amp; President:</i></u> Revd Hazel Door Home phone: 05 49 87 71 45 e-mail: Rev.hazel@wanadoo.fr  <u><i>Vicarage:</i></u> 27 rue de Malvoisine, 85110 St Vincent Sterlanges: Vicarage Phone: 02 51 31 23 71	<u><i>Churchwarden:</i></u> Chris Milton: Phone : 06 70 64 53 38 e-mail: chrisannmilts@hotmail.com  <u><i>Churchwarden and Lay Vice-Chairman:</i></u> Margaret Kent: Phone: 05 49 72 27 72 e-mail: maguyjelley@gmail.com  <u><i>Lay Minister:</i></u> John Matthews: Phone: 05 49 75 29 71 e-mail: <a href="mailto:matthewsj@wanadoo.fr">matthewsj@wanadoo.fr</a>
--	---

*Website:*  
[www.allsaintsvendee.fr](http://www.allsaintsvendee.fr)

Welcome to this month's Grapevine !

As Hazel points out in this month's 4-thought, June is a busy month for the Church. In ASV's case, all the busier for some, as half of the Churchwardens' responsibility passes to Chris Milton, Doug having handed over the reins after many years of faithful service, patient encouragement and wisdom. No pressure, Chris ! Margaret Kent will, of course, oversee a smooth transition and we wish Chris all the best in his new role.

I am happy to report (with my fingers crossed) that the computer issues that affected May's issue of the Grapevine seem to be behind us. I was grateful to receive some layout advice and comments from readers who understand these things better than me!

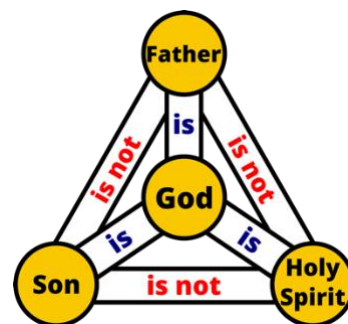
The photo shows the church of Saint-Jean-Baptiste in La Châtaigneraie, after its cleaning and restoration.

Grapevine June 2025

June is a busy month in the Christian calendar. We celebrate Pentecost (Whitsuntide) on the 8<sup>th</sup> with our service at Puy de Serre. Pentecost is one of the Great feasts in the Eastern Orthodox Church, a Solemnity in the Roman Rite of the Catholic Church, a Festival in the Lutheran Churches, and a Principal Feast in the Anglican Communion. Many Christian denominations provide a special liturgy for this holy celebration. Since its date depends on the date of Easter, Pentecost is a "moveable feast". The Monday after Pentecost is a legal holiday in many European, African and Caribbean countries.



Then there is Trinity Sunday on the 15<sup>th</sup> which coincides with our Sunday service at Vouvant. Trinity Sunday celebrates the Christian doctrine of the Trinity, the three Persons of God: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. It is a day of celebration of "the one and equal glory" of Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, "in Trinity of Persons and in Unity of Being". It is celebrated on the first Sunday after Pentecost. Trinity Sunday is one of the seven principal feasts of the church year.



This icon of the Trinity was painted around 1410 by Andrei Rublev

On the 19<sup>th</sup> is the commemoration for Corpus Christi. Corpus Christi is a festival that has been celebrated by many Christians, particularly the Catholic Church, in honour of the Eucharist since 1246. The name "Corpus Christi" is a Latin phrase that refers to the body of Christ. This event commemorates the Last Supper on the day before Jesus' crucifixion, as described in the Bible. Corpus Christi is primarily celebrated by the Roman Catholic Church, but it is also included in the calendar of some Anglican churches.

The birth of St. John the Baptist is commemorated on the 24<sup>th</sup> July. John's mother, Elizabeth, was a cousin of Jesus' mother, Mary.

The 29<sup>th</sup> sees the commemoration of St Peter and St Paul. Together they are honored as founders of the Church of Rome, having been separately martyred there during the reign of Emperor Nero sometime between AD 64 and 68.

There are traits that unite Saint Peter and Paul, these two men so different, and ensure that they are celebrated together, in their common will to spread the Gospel message and the legacy left by the human and mortal experience of Jesus.

If Peter was the “stone” on which the Church was built, as well as leading the flock of God, Paul was the most fervent preacher of the Word in the whole Mediterranean world, the first missionary in history.

Have a very blessed June!

Hazel



## Churchwardens' Notes, June 2025

A few words from the new Churchwarden at Puy-de-Serre :

Hello everyone. For those of you who may not know me I am Chris Milton (full title is Christopher John - only used by my mother when I was naughty!).

I would like to begin by saying 'Thank you' to all of those who voted for me in the hotly contested election for this prestigious role. Also I would like to thank the other nominees for putting up such a fight in this wonderful and closely run battle.

Having now been elected I now realize that, like the circus clowns, I have some mighty big shoes to fill. Ann and I have been coming to Puy-de-Serre for many years now and I have always been impressed by the 'tight ship' that Doug Green has captained. He will be a hard act to follow but hopefully with his mentorship and with the aid of Maggie Kent, if I can do even half the decent job of looking after the church that they have done, I will, with the Lord's blessing and your prayers, hopefully not do a bad job.

Chris Milton

# Churchwardens' Report June 2025

It was sad to hear of Joyce Bossard's death in mid-June. She died with her son Pascal by her side after her battle with cancer. I remember her fondly as the little lady who attended La Chapelle Palluau regularly and provided us with the much appreciated coffee and biscuits at the back of the church after the service. Her son Pascal occasionally came to the services from his home in Nantes and they both enjoyed the 'Bring and Share' lunches at Colin and Hester Grimshaw's house afterwards. She is clearly and dearly missed.

We have also heard of the recent death of Carol Stocking, who returned to the UK with her husband Bill. He died some time ago. They were both long time members of our congregations and first engaged the church with supporting Resto du Coeur. Our condolences go to their family.

At our AGM after the service of Holy Communion at Puy de Serre on 11 May, we are happy to report that after the resignation of Doug Green as Churchwarden and Secretary Linda Gorton, we have two new members of the Church Council. Our new Churchwarden is Chris Milton and the new Secretary is Kate Slater. We welcome them both and hope that they will enjoy their new roles. Doug has promised to act as Churchwarden Emeritus and elder statesman!

The dates for our Morning Worship summer services at Vouvant are 15 June, 20 July and 17 August. The services will be in the church in the village and commence at 11.00. These are always joyful services and followed by coffee in the garden of Jules and Rupert Catell at the Chateau Recept. Do come, bring your friends and visitors and encourage holidaymakers too.

Have a happy, sunny and blessed summer,

Your Churchwardens,

Chris Milton and Margaret Kent



# ASV Treasurer's Report for April 2025



April 2025:

Income: 760.00 €

Expenditure: 955.29 €

We have a small negative balance for the month: - 195.29 €

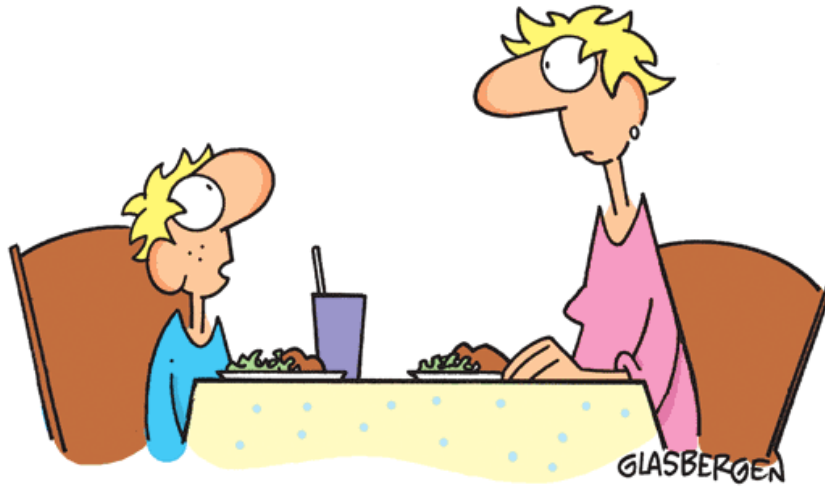
Thank you all for your continuing support for ASV. Financially, this was a very quiet month, with low expenditure.

I have sent out the tax rebate forms for 2024 to those who have contributed via the Planned Giving Scheme. Please let me know if you not received one (or perhaps check your spam first!)

If you would like to join the Planned Giving scheme - please contact me ([mcgregor@lalogette.com](mailto:mcgregor@lalogette.com)), and I will send you the details. Participating will give you about 66% off your French tax bill!

Iain McGregor  
(Treasurer)

## ◆ Elucubrations ◆



"Some religions don't eat meat on Friday because there's separation of church and steak."

C S Lewis,

*« I am a democrat [proponent of democracy] because I believe in the Fall of Man.*

*I think most people are democrats for the opposite reason. A great deal of democratic enthusiasm descends from the ideas of people like Rousseau, who believed in democracy because they thought mankind so wise and good that every one deserved a share in the government.*

*The danger of defending democracy on those grounds is that they're not true. . . . I find that they're not true without looking further than myself. I don't deserve a share in governing a hen-roost. Much less a nation. . . .*

*The real reason for democracy is just the reverse. Mankind is so fallen that no man can be trusted with unchecked power over his fellows. Aristotle said that some people were only fit to be slaves. I do not contradict him. But I reject slavery because I see no men fit to be masters. »*

*An exasperated mother, whose son was always getting into mischief, finally asked him, "How do you expect to get into Heaven?" The boy thought it over and said, "Well, I'll run in and out and in and out and keep slamming the door until St. Peter says, 'For Heaven's sake, Dylan, either come in or stay out!'"*



As always, the volunteers at **Resto du Cœur** in **La Châtaigneraie** are extremely grateful for the contributions they receive from ASV – and particularly the response to their request for diapers, for which there is a constant need.

They also noticed some tins of ready meals amongst our donations and mentioned that these were also particularly welcome.



The manufacturer or supermarket is not important, but a variety undoubtedly is.

***A heartfelt thank you, everyone !***

Trudy

## Sunday Club

"No one will be turned away, everyone is welcome

Calling all children, including holidaymakers, to attend Sunday Club. **Do *please*** let us know a couple of days in advance, if you'd like to come, so that we can prepare something special for you."\*

*Please contact Jenny if you require more information: email:*

[jennywilkinson213@gmail.com](mailto:jennywilkinson213@gmail.com)



# Prayer List

Please remember in your prayers:

**Jo and Brian**

**Colin and Hester**

**Millie-Jean and her parents**

**Tim and Sharmila**

**Maureen**

**Nel (Mair and John's daughter)**

**Irene**

**Pat and Roy**

**Bob and Caroline**

The prayer list is compiled by David Pearson : davidlpearson@orange.fr.

# L'Espérance... réelle ou artificielle ?

Balade œcuménique à Fontenay le Comte

Dimanche 6 juillet 2025

## Programme

**11h** Célébration œcuménique  
église St Jean

**12h** Repas partagé salle St Nicolas

**14h30** Départ de la balade avec  
des pauses thématiques (3km)

**18h** Concert d'orgue (45min) église  
Notre Dame

Bienvenue à toutes et tous !

Gratuit, libre participation aux frais

### Pour plus d'informations :

Jean-Pierre Foulon : 06 77 85 53 47

Lilian Seitz : 06 04 14 58 92

Maison paroissiale : 02 51 69 04 16

Iain Mc Gregor : 06 30 56 44 81



# Dates for your Diary

<b>May</b> 2025	
25th	Sunday 11h Holy Communion at Puy-de-Serre
<b>June</b> 2025	
1st	Sunday 11h Holy Communion at La Chapelle-Palluau
8th	Sunday 11h Holy Communion at Puy-de-Serre
15th	Sunday 11h Morning Worship at VOUVANT
22nd	Sunday 11h Holy Communion at Puy-de-Serre
29th	
<b>July</b> 2025	
6th	<b>No Service at La Chapelle-Palluau</b> Œcumenical walk, Fontenay.
13th	Sunday 11h Holy Communion at Puy-de-Serre
20th	Sunday 11h Morning Worship at VOUVANT
27th	Sunday 11h Holy Communion at Puy-de-Serre
<b>August</b> 2025	
3rd	Sunday 11h Holy <Communion at La Chapelle-Palluau
10th	Sunday 11h Holy Communion at Puy-de-Serre
17th	Sunday 11h Morning Worship at VOUVANT
24th	Sunday 11h Holy Communion at Puy-de-Serre
31st	
<b>Setember</b> 2025	
7th	Sunday 11h Holy Communion at La Chapelle-Palluau
14th	Sunday 11h Holy Communion at Puy-de-Serre
21st	
	Sunday 11h Holy Communion at Puy-de-Serre

[illegible]

# Forward Planning

If the information shown here is inaccurate, out-of-date or incomplete, please could I be told of any changes in time for the next issue of Grapevine.

Many thanks !

<b>Responsibility</b> (Organiser)	Puy de Serre 11h Services
<b>Refreshments after the service</b> (Jenny Wilkinson at PdS)	Jenny W Trudy C
<b>Flower Rota</b> (Barbara Matthews)	Barbara M



## ASV LADIES' CIRCLE

### The Ladies' Circle Meeting and Sewing Group

#### Women's Fellowship – Ladies' Group

The last meeting was on 23rd May at 2.00 pm at Debbie's house in Menomblet. **Anyone wanting to host these meetings in the future, please contact me !**

The times and places for future meetings will be announced as soon as they can be arranged.

New members very welcome!

Contact [jennywilkinson213@gmail.com](mailto:jennywilkinson213@gmail.com)

ALL PREVIOUS **SERMONS** and TALKS can be accessed at:  
[www.allsaintsvendee.fr](http://www.allsaintsvendee.fr)

I hope you have found this issue of the Grapevine useful !

Please consult the  
website for updates:  
[www.allsaintsvendee.fr](http://www.allsaintsvendee.fr)

## And finally...

If there is anything relevant to the **All Saints Vendée** community, whether of general interest (events, stories, announcements...), which you'd like to be published in the **July 2025** issue, do make sure you submit it\* to me,

Nigel, at [njp78@hotmail.com](mailto:njp78@hotmail.com)

**before June 15<sup>th</sup> 2025 !**

Huge thanks as always to all contributors ! I look forward to all next month's offerings.

NJP

*\*preferably in a format I can edit, if necessary!*