

The Grapevine

October 2025

Welcome to October's Grapevine!

It was great to see Rev. Hazel not only in good shape, but back in Church at Puy-de-Serre on 14th September, taking the Harvest Festival service. Welcome back, Hazel, and may your recovery continue as strongly as it has begun!

Thank you to Doug and Geoff for their Harvest photos. I was obliged to use only one, in order to restrict the size of the Grapevine for email sending purposes. When I have learnt more about reducing the size of an attachment, I shall be able to include more photos!

ASV Contact details:

<u><i>Chaplain & 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: matthewsj@wanadoo.fr
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Website:
www.allsaintsvendee.fr

4-thought

Rev Hazel

Each month in preparing this 4thought, I look up the list of Saints for the month. I check first those I know, and then those, if any, from Yorkshire (still got deep roots!). There are frequently many I have never heard of, I'm sure you would find the same?

Here, with thanks to Wikipedia, is part of the list.

4 [Francis of Assisi](#), [Friar](#), [Deacon](#), Founder of the [Friars Minor](#), 1226

6 [William Tyndale](#), Translator of the Scriptures, [Reformation Martyr](#), 1536

9 [Denys](#), [Bishop of Paris](#), and his Companions, Martyrs, c.250

9 [Robert Grosseteste](#), [Bishop of Lincoln](#), [Philosopher](#), Scientist, 1253

His name intrigued me, actually he was known as Greathead and not the literal translation!

12 [Wilfrid of Ripon](#), [Bishop](#), [Missionary](#), 709

He was not only connected to Ripon, but also France.

12 [Elizabeth Fry](#), Prison Reformer, 1845 12 [Edith Cavell](#), [Nurse](#), 1915

13 [Edward the Confessor](#), [King of England](#), 1066

At one time he was the patron saint of England.

15 [Teresa of Avila](#), Teacher of the Faith, 1582

19 [Henry Martyn](#), Translator of the Scriptures, Missionary in [India](#) and [Persia](#), 1812

26 [Cedd](#), Abbot of [Lastingham](#), Bishop of the [East Saxons](#), 664

Again, a Yorkshire connection as Lastingham was only 8 miles from my home in Yorkshire.

31 [Martin Luther](#), Reformer, 1546

There are of course many others, and it is intriguing to read about them. Perhaps you have a saint/s close to your heart?

This October will see the wedding of our grandson, Christopher, and Martin and I will commemorate our wedding anniversary by revisiting the church of St. Martin on the Hill, (coincidence honestly!) So a great deal to look forward to.

I am recuperating well following the surgery on my spine to relieve the trapped spinal cord. We have been blessed by having our daughter Becky to stay for a while : not only has she taken on many of the tasks I've been unable to do for some while, but I have also had to do as I'm told, a novel experience.

My heartfelt thanks to the Lord for the skills of the Surgeon and Nurses who have taken such wonderful care of me, to the many of you for your messages and prayers, and lastly to Martin who has been my rock through the whole thing.

Hazel



Churchwardens' Report October 2025

It seems after a wonderful hot summer, that Autumn is suddenly upon us. The leaves are beginning to fall and with the much needed rain, the countryside is beginning to look green again. So now is the time to think about re-starting the quizzes! We'd better get on with some new question topics to get your minds buzzing!

We've had a great crop of apples this year and this brings me to the subject of the Harvest Thanksgiving at All Saints Vendée. At 10.15 on Sunday the 14 September the church at Puy de Serre looked much as normal. By 11.00 it was transformed! There were baskets of fruit and vegetables decorated with pine cones and vines and flowers. Then there were lots of gifts of other goods donated to Resto du Coeur - certainly more than the usual generous monthly offerings. So thank you to all those who helped with the preparation of the church and to those who brought food for the use of others in need. Trudy and Christine had great difficulty in loading it all into Trudy's car afterwards. I know that these gifts will have been really appreciated.

I'm afraid that there will be no service at La Chapelle Palluau in October and the service at Puy de Serre on 12 October will be one of Morning Worship, lead by John Matthews, as both Hazel and Tony will not be available.

We look forward to the seasons to come and count our blessings, as we continue to worship our Lord Jesus Christ in this beautiful area of south-west France.

Your Churchwardens,
Chris Milton and Margeret Kent

Prayer List

Please remember in your prayers :

Bob and Caroline

Gini and Martyn

Hazel and Martin

Jo and Brian

Maureen

Millie-Jean and her parents, Tim and Sharmila

Nel(Mair and John's daughter)

Pat and Roy

Carole and her sister **Linda**

(If you would like a name to be added to the Prayer List, please contact David Pearson.

Tel: 02 51 61 05 04 or Email: davidlpearson@orange.fr)



Music in Church

It has become a tradition at Puy-de-Serre, for the musicians to play not only to accompany the hymn singing, but also during the taking of Communion by members of the congregation. Several people have been interested to know the names of the pieces played for communion, so below is a list of those played in recent months.

Hymn to Freedom

Air from Suite No 3 in D

The Old Rugged Cross

Lascia ch'io Pianga

Ave Verum Corpus

Oscar Peterson (*Arr. Bobby Cyr*)

J-S Bach (*Arr. Kaiserin Rebecca*)

George Bennard (*Arr. Jennifer Cook*)

G.F. Händel (*from original score*)

W.A.Mozart (*Arr. Stephen DeCesare*)

A hundred years ago this month...

In October 1925, lots of things were not going all that well in Europe, largely as a result of the mismanagement of the aftermath of the Great War. The unrest and dissatisfaction felt across the continent led to the sort of dangerous polarisation that looks vaguely familiar today. Mussolini declared himself the fascist leader of Italy, and Hitler's memoir-manifesto *Mein Kampf* was published. The hope that 'lessons have been learnt' does seem to be fading...

On the plus side, October 1925 saw the publication, among other gems, of the songs *Tea for Two* and *I'll See You in my Dreams* – lovely songs that have stood the test of time !

ASV Treasurer's Report



August 2025:

Income: 1467.68 €

Expenditure: 319.02 €

We have a positive balance for the month: 1148.66 €

There was very little expenditure in August, giving us a very healthy balance for once! I'm not sure that next month will be quite as rosy!

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

Iain McGregor
(Treasurer)



A heartfelt thank you, everyone !

As you can imagine the volunteers at the Resto du Cœur in La Châtaigneraie were amazed and delighted with your Harvest Festival Gifts, and, as always, grateful.

As Maggie said during prayers on Sunday, the care-worn faces of many of the people queuing outside, make it clear that the Resto is a lifeline for them, so your donations are precious.

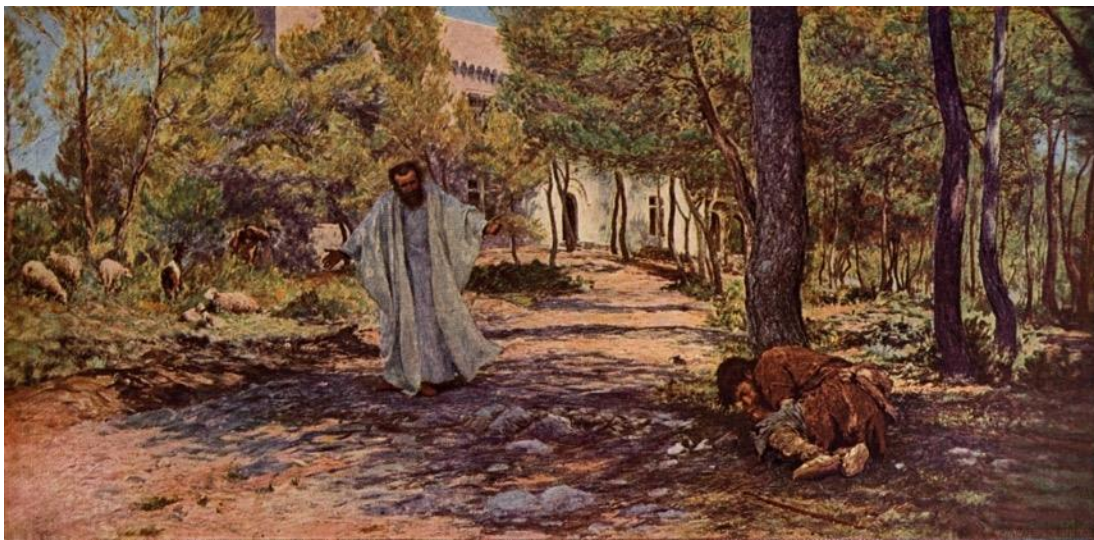


My thanks too for your generosity. Trudy



Elucubrations:

*« Time is what keeps everything from happening at once... »
(from Ray Cummings' short story The Time Professor (1921)).*



Eugene Bertrand
1896 *The Prodigal son* (Der verlorenen Sohn)

Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravenous wolves..... by their fruits you will know them.

Matthew 7:15-20

« Son nom, Ieschoua, extrêmement répandu à l'époque, est une contraction du nom biblique de Yehôshoua, Josué, le successeur de Moïse. Il signifie « YaHWeH sauve » ou « Dieu est le salut ». Jean-Christian Petitfils

a thirteenth-century Dominican blessing :



May God the Father bless us.
May God the Son heal us.
May God the Holy Spirit enlighten us,
and give us eyes to see with,
ears to hear with,
hands to do the work of God with,
feet to walk with,
a mouth to preach the word of salvation with,
and the angel of peace to watch over us
and lead us at last, by our Lord's gift, to the Kingdom.
Amen.

Thanks as always to Trudy for these.



Uganda 2

Linda Gorton



Part of the reason I was so eager to visit Uganda was to see the work of Deaf Link Uganda which was founded by my friend Nassozi in 2007. I had known her since she was a student living next door to me in East London. She had been training as a teacher for the Deaf and always planned to return to Kampala to set up a school. However things didn't go as planned and she adapted by setting up a NGO, but works alongside the Deaf schools that are already there. Her organisation also sponsors children and young people, with work projects and advocacy.

“Remnants”



We were blessed to be able to hold another meeting this Sunday. We welcomed two couples who joined us so 11 in total. One couple is known to All Saints Vendee, having attended previously before returning to England. They brought their friends from the congregation in Droitwich who were also holidaying in France. The meeting was followed by a bring and share. It was a great time for fellowship and bonding. Our beloved Peggy is now 95 years young.



Ladies' Group Meeting

All welcome !

The next meeting is planned for the 25th September.
Please contact Janny for further details :

Jennywilkinson213@gmail.com



ASV Service Rota

October 2025 to January 2026

D	M	Venue	Time	Service	President	Worship Leader	Organist	Inter-cessor	Readers (2)
	2025								
12	Oct	PdS	1100	MW	JM	JM	AM	CM	GK/JW
26	Oct	PdS	1100	HC	HD	MK	AM	DP	SP/CM
2	Nov	LCP	1100	HC	HD				
9	Nov	PdS	1100	HC	HD	AC	AM	DG	AH/CH
23	Nov	PdS	1100	HC	HD	DG	AM	CG	FMG/IM G
7	Dec	LCP	1100	HC	HD				
14	Dec	Vouvant		Lessons and Carols	HD		Yves		
24	Dec	Faymoreau	1100	HC	HD	MK	AM	AC	BC/TC
	2026								
4	Jan	LCP	1100	HC	HD				
11	Jan	PdS	1100	HC	HD	AC	AM	MK	BC/KS
25	Jan	PdS	1100	HC	HD	CG	AM	DG	AH/CH

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

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

ASV LADIES' CIRCLE

The Ladies' Circle Meeting and Sewing Group

Women's Fellowship – Ladies' Group

The next meeting is on

For details and directions, please contact Jenny – email below. **Anyone willing to host these meetings in the future, please contact Jenny !**

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

Don't forget

All previous sermons and talks can be accessed at:
www.allsaintsvendee.fr

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

Please also consult the
website for any updates

And finally...

Thank you, if you managed to get your contribution to Grapevine in to me by this week. I know we all have busy lives, and it is much appreciated that I don't (usually!) have to chase people for copy.

Having said that, there's always room for more, and if anyone would like to (for example) put together a couple of hundred words about their year, their summer, a happy family event or any other blessing, don't hesitate !

If there is anything which you'd like to be published in the **November 2025** issue, do make sure you submit it* to me,

Nigel, at njp78@hotmail.com

before October 15th 2025

I look forward to all next month's offerings!

NJP