

Church of All Saints in the Vendée  
"To know and to share Jesus Christ"

 *The Grapevine* 

DIOCESE IN EUROPE  
THE CHURCH  
OF ENGLAND



**September 2021**

**GOOD NEWS...**

First Services:

12<sup>th</sup> September

Puy de Serre

&

3<sup>rd</sup> October

La Chapelle Palluau

**CONTACTS:**

**Chaplain & President:**

**Revd Hazel Door**

Phone no: 05 49 87 71 45

email address:

Rev.hazel@wanadoo.fr

**Vicarage:**

27 rue de Malvoisine,

85110 St Vincent Sterlanges:

Vicarage Phone no: 02 51 31 23 71

**Church Warden & Lay Vice-Chairman:**

**Doug Green:** Phone no: 05 49 72 18 46

email address: greensinfrance@yahoo.co.uk

**Church Warden:**

**Margaret Kent:** Phone no: 05 49 72 27 72

Email address: maguyjelley@gmail.com

**Lay Minister:**

**John Matthews:** Phone no: 05 49 75 29 71,

e-mail: matthewsj@wanadoo.fr

**Website:**

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



*Thanks to John Matthews (Lay Minister) for contributing:*



*PREFACE – 4-Thought  
September 2021*



What memories will any future mention of COVID-19 bring back to you? While the period since March 2020 has brought most of us many inconveniences and difficulties, sadly, for others, memories will include their own, or loved ones, periods of illness or the loss of a family member or friend. Our thoughts and prayers will be with them as we, and they, anticipate life gradually getting back to 'normal'.

But what do we now regard as "normal"? What have we missed from our previous routines, or from our weekly schedules? Will we joyfully return to the priorities and activities which filled our pattern of ambitions pre-Covid, or would we prefer to make some changes?

The media has focussed attention on the pressure the Covid precautions have put on health and care services, schools, employment, hospitality services. At the same time enforced 'togetherness' has often put strains on domestic life- as families have tried to adapt to having to spend more time together; often in the absence of adequate professional help when relationships are put under severe strain.

But this past 18 months has also often presented us with more free time and thus the opportunity to spend it on activities which interest us. Another blessing from this period has been a chance for each of us to reflect on how we have been spending our time - and to decide what's now important to us, what we seem to do well, what we enjoy doing, and what we'd like to achieve in this next stage of our lives. While family and friends can help us to clarify our thinking, we have to take our own decisions on how best to spend our time, skills and resources in the coming years.

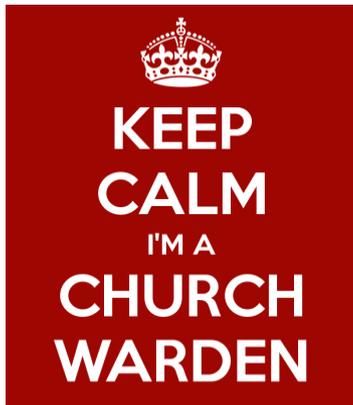
Many Christians have said how much they have missed the fellowship of weekly worship in church. Some have found regular Sunday worship via Zoom, Facebook and other digital services very helpful, while former worshipping members of ASV, now living elsewhere, have been able to join our own regular Zoom services.

Others feel such services, while appreciated, simply do not 'cut it', and they have longed for the return of handshaking, hugging and the expressions of personal approval or commiseration which are possible when we, the 'Church', worship together in close physical proximity.

So how do we decide "where next?". What would Jesus do? We know that, though he knew the mission he had been given, he felt it essential to regularly retire to a quiet place, desert, mountain or lakeside, to pray to (talk with) the Father about the next stage of his ministry and mission. Do we share his faithful trust in the God who loves, protects and saves us?

Whatever our personal thoughts might be about how we, individually and collectively, operate as 'Church' in the Vendée and Deux-Sevres, let's follow our Lord's example - let's talk, and listen, to God in prayer, before we move on.

*John*



## *Churchwardens' Notes*

### *for September 2021*

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We do hope that as many of you as possible will come to the picnic arranged at Bois du Roc, Puy de Serre from 11.00 a.m. on Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> September. It will be a great opportunity to renew friendships and meet with folk we may not have seen for perhaps 18 months. Those of you on the ASV contact list should have received an email copy of a poster for it\*. Please contact one of us, or any other member of the Church Council if you need more details. Let's hope for good weather and don't forget to bring your own chairs and table if possible, also your own picnic and drink and Passe Sanitaire and mask. There is a room available if the weather is poor and toilets available too. We won't be able to socialise after our initial church services, so this is an ideal opportunity for fellowship. Do bring your friends and family, they will be most welcome.

Hopefully our first church service will be resumed at Puy de Serre on the 12<sup>th</sup> September and at La Chapelle Palluau on 3 October. We will have to conform not only to French rules, but those laid down by the Diocese of Europe, as written in the last edition of Grapevine.

We welcome back Hazel and Martin from their visit to the UK and are pleased to report that Hazel's toe seems to be on the mend.

By September, Marian Rackham will have re-located to her home in England. She will be greatly missed, as was her dear husband, Richard. They both contributed so much to the life of All Saints Vendée in so many ways. We wish her God's speed and all good wishes for her life in England.

Life for us all is seeming to return to some semblance of 'normality' at last!

In love and prayers,

Doug and Margaret

\* The poster appears later in Grapevine on pages 10-11

# LECTIONARY READINGS

## September into October 2021

*Our Lectionary Readings are included so you can use them for your personal devotions*

*As and when the Covid-19 Restrictions are lifted, please refer to the Church Wardens or website for service times.*

### 5<sup>th</sup> September 14<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity

Proverbs 22.1-2, 8-9, 22-23

James 2.1-10 [11-13] 14-17

Mark 7.24-end

*Psalm 125*

### 12<sup>th</sup> September 15<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity

Proverbs 1.20-33

James 3.1-12

Mark 8.27-end

*Psalm 19 [or 19.1-6]*

### 19<sup>th</sup> September 16<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity

Proverbs 31.10-end

James 3.13-4.3, 7-8a

Mark 9.30-37

*Psalm 1*

### 26<sup>th</sup> September 17<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity

Esther 7.1-6, 9,10; 9.20-22

James 5.13-end

Mark 9.38-end

*Psalm 124*

### 3<sup>rd</sup> October 18<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity

Job 1.1; 2.1-10

Hebrews 1.1-4; 2.5-12

Mark 10.2-16

*Psalm 26*



## *Sunday Club*



will take place once again in

the Salle at Puy de Serre when our services recommence.

If you know of any children who would like to join our Sunday Club please bring them along at 11a.m. They will be most welcome.

All children welcome from all denominations, we have lots of interest

*Please contact Jenny if you require more information:*

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

*Now turn to the end of this edition of Grapevine to find our September message.....*



# Dates for your Diary



September 2021

Please check with the website and/or the Churchwardens for any alterations following changes in the Pandemic Restrictions.

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1<sup>st</sup> September Wednesday **Picnic** 11hr00 LE BOIS DU ROC site Puy de Serre  
For directions, see "Grapevine" \_ *Contact: GreensinFrance@yahoo.co.uk*

5<sup>th</sup> Sunday 11h00 **Zoom Service**

9<sup>th</sup> Thursday 2pm **Ladies' Circle Sewing Group** *Contact jpsmorandiere@outlook.com*

12<sup>th</sup> Sunday 11hr00 **First Service at Puy de Serre**

19<sup>th</sup> Sunday

23<sup>rd</sup> Thursday **Ladies Circle** Activity to be decided. *Contact jpsmorandiere@outlook.com*

26<sup>th</sup> Sunday

30<sup>th</sup> Thursday

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# Dates for your Diary



October 2021

Please check with the website and/or the Churchwardens for any alterations following changes in the Pandemic Restrictions.

1<sup>st</sup> October Friday

3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday 11h00 First Service at La Chapelle Palluau

10<sup>th</sup> Sunday

14<sup>th</sup> Thursday 2pm Ladies' Circle Sewing Group Contact [jpsmorandiere@outlook.com](mailto:jpsmorandiere@outlook.com)

17<sup>th</sup> Sunday

24<sup>th</sup> Sunday

28<sup>th</sup> Thursday Ladies Circle Activity to be decided. Contact [jpsmorandiere@outlook.com](mailto:jpsmorandiere@outlook.com)

31<sup>st</sup> Sunday

# Prayer List

*Please remember in your prayers:*



**Anne**  
**Barbara**  
**David** and Chris  
**Dick**  
**Heidi** and **Millie-Jean** and  
their parents, Joël and Jo'.

**Ken**  
**Malcolm**  
**Mike**  
**Pat** and David  
**Pat** and Roy  
**Peter**

*....and for the bereaved:*

*The family and friends of:*

**Richard Batten** (Maggie Kent's brother)

*[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: davidpearson@orange.fr]*



## Grapevine Treasurer's report:

July 2021:

Income: 627.00 €

Expenditure: 765.57 €

Once again, the only income was the planned giving contributions, for which many thanks.

We had more bills to pay this month, and, even though none of them were very large bills, it was enough to tip us into the red by **138.57€**.

If anyone else wishes to join the planned giving scheme, please contact me. Keep smiling, keep safe!

Iain McGregor  
(Treasurer)

**Did you miss the last Zoom-Service?  
or maybe you're a little Hard-of-Hearing?**



**Did you know it's possible to read  
PREVIOUS SERMONS and TALKS  
at:**



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

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### EAST & WEST VENDÉE – CHURCH SERVICE ROTA

DATE 2021	VENUE	TIME	SERVICE	PRES-IDENT	PREACHER	WORSHIP LEADER	ORGAN-IST	CHALICE	INTER-CESSOR	READERS	WEL-COMERS	NOTES
5 <sup>th</sup> September	Zoom	11.00	Morning Worship				SS-J					14 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity
12 <sup>th</sup> September	Puy de Serre	11.00	1 <sup>st</sup> Service				SS-J					15 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity
19 <sup>th</sup> September												16 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity
26 <sup>th</sup> September												17 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity
3 <sup>rd</sup> October	La Chapelle Palluau	11.00	1 <sup>st</sup> Service				SS-J					18 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity

### WEST VENDÉE – FORWARD PLANNING ROTA

Date 2021	Salle Setup/ Clearing away (Chris Green at PdS)	Refreshments after the service (Jenny Wilkinson at PdS)
5 <sup>th</sup> September Zoom		
12 <sup>th</sup> September PdS	-	-
19 <sup>th</sup> September		
26 <sup>th</sup> September		
3 <sup>rd</sup> October LCP		



These are YOUR pages.....



My thanks to all the Contributors of notices and articles for this month's "Grapevine":  
ASV Picnic Notice and Reminder, "Women's Fellowship";  
"Resto du Coeur", "Sunday Club", Carole Stocking's poems,  
and Ken Ivin remembers



Mike Mylod is our link with  
**Restos du Coeur**



He will continue to collect your gifts  
of dry goods, etc. which are  
particularly important now and  
which will be delivered to the local  
depot at Coulonges-sur-l'Autize.

Please phone Mike before leaving goods with him  
at Mouilleron-en-Pareds: 02 51 51 07 36



## ASV WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

Hi everyone,

Our meetings will take place on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Thursdays.  
No details to date - to be decided!

Love  
Joan

Details from Joan at: [jpsmorandiere@outlook.com](mailto:jpsmorandiere@outlook.com)



*...If you go down to the  
woods today...*



# **ASV Picnic**

for

## **Family and Friends**

### **Le Bois du Roc, Puy-de-Serre**

**Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> September**

**11:00 hrs onwards**

**All friends of ASV are welcome –**

**A time to catch up with friends and acquaintances!**

Please bring your own food and drink, as this cannot be a bring-and-share lunch

**Bring picnic chairs and a table if possible**

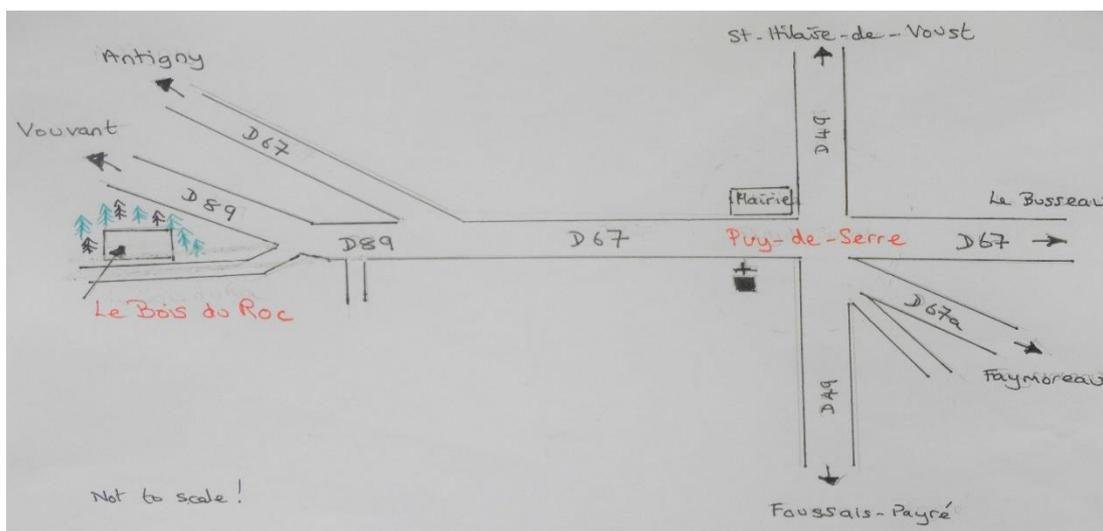
(there are a **few** picnic benches)

There are toilets, a salle (for wet weather!), boule terrain and a table tennis table, so bring your boules and ping-pong bats!

Plenty of parking, and some gentle woodland strolls.

Don't forget your **masks** and **passé sanitaire** (hand gel provided)

Directions: 1.5 kms due west of Puy-de-Serre crossroads on the D89 Vouvant<->Puy-de-Serre road. Turning for Le Bois du Roc clearly signposted 1.2 kms from Puy-de-Serre.



Any questions, please contact Fiona at [mcgregor@lalogette.com](mailto:mcgregor@lalogette.com)



## *Sunday Club* *September 2021*



THE GOSPEL what does the Gospel mean? It means the good news,  
Bringing people and God together (reconciliation)

Read Mathew chapter 15 verses 21 to 28.

So, the gospel today is about Jesus' most difficult encounters about " FOREIGNER'S "

First of all, have any of you been abroad??

If so, do you believe God can hear your prayers even though you're not at home??

Of course he can!

But in the days when Jesus was alive, people were unsure whether God could be found in  
foreign countries - or indeed FOREIGNERS could pray to him!!!

So Jesus's disciples learnt that we have to spread the word in every foreign country near and far,  
as in the Bible there are lots of foreigner's.

Let us pray 🙏

Prayer of forgiveness.

Be kind and compassionate  
To one and another  
Forgiving each other,  
Just as in Christ God forgave you  
Ephesians 4:32

Let's play a game.  
Commander.

One person's the commander. He turns his back and counts to 10.  
Everyone behind moves closer.  
The moment he finishes counting he turns and everyone freezes - one wobble and they're out!

The aim is to get to the commander and touch him.  
Have fun  
God Bless  
Jenny Wilkinson

# “Heaven”

*A Poem circulated by Carole Stocking (4<sup>th</sup> May 2011)  
under heading ‘Best Poem in the World’*

I was shocked, confused, bewildered  
As I entered Heaven’s door,  
Not by the beauty of it all,  
Nor the lights or its decor.

But it was the folk in Heaven  
Who made me splutter and gasp -  
The thieves, the liars, the sinners,  
The alcoholics and the trash.

There stood the kid from 7<sup>th</sup> grade  
Who swiped my lunch money twice.  
Next to him was my old neighbour  
Who never said anything nice.

Bob, who I always thought  
Was rotting away in hell,  
Was sitting pretty on cloud nine,  
Looking incredibly well.

I nudged Jesus, “What’s the deal?  
I’d love to hear Your take.  
How’d all these sinners get up here?  
God must have made a mistake.

“And why is everyone so quiet,  
So sombre; give me a clue”.  
“Hush child”, he said, “they’re all in shock.  
No one thought they’d be seeing **you**.

## What’s this telling us?

### Judge not !!

**Remember**.....Just going to church doesn’t make you a Christian;  
- any more than standing in your garage makes you a car !

Every saint has a PAST....

....Every sinner has a FUTURE;

Ken Ivin remembers...



My late Mother appears in a photograph.

Ken



**Just a reminder**.....from Doug and Margaret....

We do hope that you and your friends will come to the

**Picnic at the Bois du Roc**  
on 1 September commencing at 11.00 a.m.

Here are just a few things to note in case you are not sure:



Bring your own - Passe Sanitaire

- Mask
- Food and drink (not 'bring and share')
- Cutlery and crockery
- Hand sanitiser
- Bag to take away rubbish
- Table and chairs

The weather forecast is good, so we are looking forward to a day of fellowship and fun

*This from Carole Stocking....this poem was read at a recent family wedding:*

# Maybe

(Author unknown)

**Maybe...** We are supposed to meet the wrong people before meeting the right one so that, when we finally meet the right person, we will know how to be grateful for that gift

**Maybe...** it is true that we don't know what we have got until we lose it, but it is also true that we don't know what we have been missing until it arrives

**Maybe...** the happiest of people don't necessarily have the best of everything; they just make the most of everything that comes along their way

**Maybe...** the best kind of love is the kind you can sit on a sofa together and never say a word, and then walk away feeling like it was the best conversation you've ever had

**Maybe...** you shouldn't go for looks; they can deceive. Don't go for wealth, even that fades away. Go for someone who makes you smile, because it takes only a smile to make a dark day seem bright.

**Maybe...** you should hope for enough happiness to make you sweet, enough trials to make you strong, enough sorrow to keep you human, and enough hope to make you happy

**Maybe...** once in a lifetime you find someone who not only touches your heart but also your soul, someone who loves you for who you are and not what you could be.

**Maybe...** Love is not about finding the perfect person; it's about learning to see an imperfect person perfectly.

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I hope you have enjoyed this edition of "Grapevine".  
My thanks to all the Contributors.

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

Send your items for the **October edition** to:

Jacqui at: [sjfamily66@hotmail.com](mailto:sjfamily66@hotmail.com)

**before 15<sup>th</sup> September 2021**



