

Newsletter August 2020

Church services

We are continuing to hold services every Sunday morning at 10.00 am at All Saints' Marseille, and every 2nd Sunday of the month at 10.30 am at the church in Oppède. We have not yet resumed services in Aix as the majority of Aix attendees are still self-isolating. In addition, our programme of Zoom services continues to flourish, with a communion service every Sunday morning at 11.30 am and Compline or night prayer every Wednesday evening at 10.00 pm (French time). Our thanks to everyone making this possible. We are planning to get wifi installed in All Saints' church this month which will enable us to broadcast our services from there in future.

Covid-19

The *départements* of the Paca region (particularly Bouches-du-Rhone) are now designated red areas under the Covid precautionary measures – quite what the consequences of this are remain unclear at present but it is now obligatory to wear masks outside in Marseille, parts of Aix, Nice, Cannes and a number of other large towns. Our own protocols for personal attendance in church remain unchanged – wearing masks, using hand sanitizer, signing the register, cleaning your space after use etc. We are monitoring the position as cases in France of infection are continuing to rise and it may be necessary once more to review worship in church buildings.

Chaplaincy Council meeting

Our next chaplaincy council meeting is to be held on the 12th September via Zoom. Further details to follow for members.

Chaplaincy AGM

Due to the confinement we were unable to hold our AGM in the spring and it has been rescheduled to 4th October at 11.15 am at All Saints' Marseille. Any outstanding reports for inclusion in the annual report to Jane Quarmby, please, before 13th September. There are a few changes which those standing for the council need to address – as below.

Christine Portman, our Safeguarding Officer, writes:

The AGM's around the corner! Will you offer to stand for the next Chaplaincy Council?

A healthy, functioning chaplaincy needs a lively council with members who represent all our congregations. True, church members need to be kept fully informed of what's going on, but more than that, everyone needs to be able, through their representatives, to bring ideas or concerns to the council's attention. If you feel able to offer yourself for this service, please don't hesitate to contact either Jamie or Jane and let them know that you would like your name to go forward at the AGM.

As you know, safeguarding is at the heart of the Church's commitment to provide a safe and caring environment for all its members. It reflects our faithful adherence to Christian values. All council members have a clearly spelled-out Duty of Care to their congregations¹, so the Church of England has asked all those who undertake specific roles within the Church to provide various pieces of information to ensure that, as far as possible, parishes and chaplaincies are following safe practice.

Many thanks to those of you who intend to stand for the council and have already sent in photocopies of the documents listed below. However, if you have not yet done so, please be sure during September to send to our Safeguarding Officer, Christine Portman, the documents that she needs to see:

- A photocopy of your ID (passport, *carte d'identité* etc.)
- A photocopy of your new *casier judiciaire*. This can be applied for online in English at: <https://casier-judiciaire.justice.gouv.fr/mai-web-b3-presentation/pages/accueil.xhtml?cid=1> or in French at: <https://casier-judiciaire.justice.gouv.fr/pages/accueil.xhtml>
The service is free of charge and the document will be sent to your home address within two weeks.
- A completed Confidential Declaration Form. This can be found on the diocesan website at: <https://europe.anglican.org/downloads/safeguarding/2019/confidential-delaration-form-cdf.pdf>

For those who have previously filled in the CDF, you'll be pleased to know that a shorter Confidential Renewal Form can now be found at:

<https://europe.anglican.org/downloads/safeguarding/2019/confidential-renewal-form-crf.pdf>

Christine can send you either of these as an email attachment if you'd prefer.

- Finally, you'll need to send her a copy of the certificate you will receive when you complete the new, Church of England Basic Awareness C0 Safeguarding training. The course gives an excellent overview of the essentials you'll need to know as a member of the Chaplaincy Council. It's free, takes around an hour to complete and can be found online at: <https://europe.anglican.org/safeguarding/online-training>
Click on the red link under 'Basic Awareness, C0 Online course. If you haven't done Safeguarding before and don't already have an account, enter your own name under "Username" when prompted. Then create a password for your personal account. Please make a note of this in case you need to access it in future. If prompted for the name of the Chaplaincy, enter marseille.
The course is easy to follow and functions more smoothly than the previous version. However, if you have any difficulties, please don't hesitate to get in touch with Christine at safeguarding.anglican.marseille@gmail.com
This is the address to use when you send in the supporting documents.

We hope that you'll join us and so help to make our church even more responsive to our members' needs.

¹ Promoting a Safer Church – House of Bishops 2017
<https://www.churchofengland.org/sites/default/files/2019-05/PromotingSaferChurchWeb.pdf>

Our Chaplaincy's History Part 3 - FOR THOSE IN PERIL ON THE SEA: Our Mission to Seamen

Even before All Saints' Church was built, an important part of the chaplaincy's mission was the Mission to Seamen. Life at sea is often dangerous, and in a port such as Marseille seafarers have always faced additional dangers even when ashore. Quite apart from the moral dangers of drink and 'loose women', there were very real physical risks for British and American sailors abroad, as illustrated in this vivid snapshot written by a locum priest in our chaplaincy.

“[Marseilles has acquired] a reputation for peril and adventure which still holds, and not without cause. The sounds of struggle, stifled screams, and the sudden report of firearms, followed by as ominous a silence, are no infrequent occurrences in the night there [. . .] Some, not infrequently, are waylaid thus even now, robbed, mishandled, even murdered, their bodies being found later in the water, 'cause of death unknown'. There is a need of a worthy club for British seamen putting in at this notorious port, not worse, perhaps, than others of like kind, but probably far more populous, and extremely undesirable for young lads to be adrift in. The very fact of their not knowing the language puts them at a disadvantage from the onset. They look about for someone who can speak their own tongue, and very often the wrong person speaking it turns up, only too willing to act as tout and guide, and with an eye to a profitable remuneration.”

In the 1880s the Anglican Diocese of Gibraltar (now the Diocese in Europe) had become very concerned with the wellbeing of British sailors, and in 1878 the first of a succession of Sailors' Clubs in Marseille was set up near the docks.

The Club was popular, and if anyone feared that the Sailors' Club would be invaded by the stereotypical 'drunken sailor' they could be assured that “the genteel behaviour of these cleanly-clad seafarers showed unmistakably that they do appreciate the amenities of an Institute such as this, and the demands upon the canteen (held by Miss Lucena and run on strictly temperance grounds) disproves the popular belief that Jack ashore must have liquor to enjoy himself.”

The Club was increasingly well frequented until, with the outbreak of World War II, the port area (including the Seamen's Club) was closed. However, the premises were still used, and the courage of several people working clandestinely ensured the safe return of many others to their respective home countries.

While the activity at the Mission has necessarily taken place in the dock area, our chaplains have frequently held services on board ship, and groups of officers and men have also attended services in the church itself: in 1956, All Saints was “full to the rafters” with the aircraft carrier *Bulwark* in port, and the crews of HMS *Ulysses* and HMS *Urania* in church. The chaplain, Revd. William Passmore, had also celebrated Holy Communion on HMS *Ulysses*, and reported that the large number of communicants is not unusual on a destroyer.

A similar willingness to attend church to commemorate fellow seafarers is illustrated in the case of “Joe”. Joe was a native of the Cook Islands, known to his fellow sailors only by his Christian name, who died helping to make his ship fast during a storm. He was an Anglican (very probably as a result of the Anglican missionary presence in the Cook Islands) and the chaplain reports that “nearly 100 seamen and dock hands turned up to his funeral” in 1962, even though “not one of them could speak English”.

Throughout the second half of the twentieth century, the advent of air travel meant that the port lost much of its former importance. Apart from the small leisure craft berthed in the Vieux Port, most of the

maritime traffic now consists of container ships, ferries to North Africa, and the huge cruise ships which make a brief stop at Marseille.

In 2013, however, the *Association Marseillaise des Amis des Marins* (AMAM) built a new *Foyer des croisières* a few metres from Porte no.4, in order to cater to the cruise ship crews, and a band of volunteers from the chaplaincy now regularly welcome crew members of all nationalities from the massive cruise ships which dock there. Each ship carries some 6000 people, of whom 1000-1200 will be crew members; they are mainly Filipino, but also come from Indonesia, Latin America, Spain and Italy, and the *lingua franca* is English so an anglophone welcome is still much appreciated. The seafarers comprise not only sailors, engineers and technicians but also cooks, waiters, dancers, musicians and tour guides; just as 100 years ago, everyone behaves impeccably at the Club.



Some of the seafarers at the *Foyer des croisières* at Porte 4

Residency

Just a reminder to those needing to apply for residency that the French government portal opens on-line on 1st October 2020. We then have until July 2021 to get our applications in.

Donations

In order to continue to refresh our services and keep a good quality of them on-line, we urgently need donations towards the Chaplaincy's 2000 costs in euros. Anyone who can help with this appeal please contact Jane Quarmby our Warden.

Diary dates

Sunday 30 th August	Holy Communion at All Saints' Marseille at 10.00. Holy Communion via zoom at 11.45
Wednesday 2nd September	Compline via zoom at 22.00
Sunday 6 th September	Holy Communion at All Saints' Marseille at 10.00 Holy Communion via zoom at 11.45.
Wednesday 9th September	Compline via zoom at 22.00
Saturday 12 th September	Chaplaincy council meeting via zoom 14.30

Sunday 13th September	Holy Communion at All Saints' Marseille at 10.00 Holy Communion at l'Eglise Sacré-Coeur, Oppède at 10.30 Holy Communion via zoom at 11.45.
Wednesday 16th September	Compline via zoom at 22.00
Sunday 20 th September	Holy Communion at All Saints' Marseille at 10.00 Holy Communion via zoom at 11.45.
Wednesday 23rd September	Compline via zoom at 22.00
Sunday 27 th September	Holy Communion at All Saints' Marseille at 10.00 Holy Communion via zoom at 11.45.
Wednesday 30th September	Compline via zoom at 22.00

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