

CHAPLAINCY OF ALL SAINTS' MARSEILLE WITH AIX-EN-PROVENCE AND THE LUBERON

NEWSLETTER MARCH 2021



There's lots going on this year in Holy Week and beyond. Our Lent groups finish this week and have been enjoyed by all who came. We have been looking at the reflections of Rowan Williams on the pandemic, written last year, and they have been thought provoking and interesting. If you missed the Lent course, you can still read them, published as a book called Candles in the Dark. Thanks also to those who shared their reflections on 'Why faith matters' on Wednesday evenings during Lent.

What's On

28th March is Palm Sunday, with a service at All Saints' Marseille at 10 am and a zoom service at 11.30. Both services will include a reading of the Passion Gospel with different people taking parts. Don't worry if you haven't got a palm cross – it's fine to use sprigs of olive trees (which is the tradition in Provence, though any foliage will do). And don't forget the clocks go forward an hour.....

Holy Week then continues with a series of Compline services at night which will begin with a short reflection. These will be on zoom, on Monday 29th March, Tuesday 30th March and Wednesday 31st March and will start at an earlier time than our normal Compline service: 9 pm French time, 8 pm British time.

Maundy Thursday on 1st April will be celebrated on zoom by a service of Holy Communion at 8 pm French time, 7 pm British time. As its not possible to carry out the traditional washing of the feet and removal of the church ornaments this will be done by the use of symbols – tune in to find out how this works! You are invited to have a candle or other single light with you at home, to be extinguished at the end of the service as we recall Christ's agony in the Garden of Gethsemane.

Good Friday on 2nd April will be marked by a set of meditations on The Way of the Cross, which will be emailed out for people to use as they wish – either at intervals during the day or between 12.00 and 1.30 pm French time, 11 to 12.30 pm British time. We will then gather for the Liturgy of Good Friday, streamed from All Saints' Marseille at 1.45 pm French time, 12.45 pm British time.

For Easter Eve on Saturday 3rd April we will have an Easter Vigil and Service of Light via zoom at 10 pm French time, 9 pm British time.

Easter Day on 4th April will be celebrated by a service of Holy Communion at 10 am at All Saints' Marseille which will be streamed, another service of Holy Communion at Oppède at 10.30 am (instead of the 2nd Sunday of the month) and a service of Holy Communion via zoom from Dauphin at 11.30 am. All times are for France – one hour earlier for Britain.

Then it's back to our normal worship pattern from Wednesday 7th April with Compline at 10 pm French time, 9 pm British time, and then Holy Communion every Sunday at 10 am in All Saints' Marseille, followed by a zoom service of Holy Communion at 11.30 am (10.30 am British time).

Everyone is welcome to all of our services – no matter where you live or how often you normally worship. We will send out the service sheets for all our services so if you can't make it at the published time you can go through them at your leisure.



Bishop Robert's 2021 Lent Appeal

Bishop Robert writes: "My Lent Appeal this year is concerned with restarting ordained ministry in a chaplaincy that has gone through tough times but where there is great potential. The new chaplain is one of the (very few) stipendiary, trained curates from our own diocese. The Reverend Guy Diakese trained for the priesthood in Nigeria and Rome. He speaks French, English and Italian fluently and we are very proud of him as an example of black minority ethnic

leadership in the Diocese. The money raised through this appeal will enable the beginning of Guy's ministry in Liège, a former industrial city which is now home to large numbers of migrants from beyond Europe." Details on how to give to this appeal are on the Diocesan website on europe.anglican.org

Pastoral Care

Do you feel that you might have a vocation for pastoral care? Our chaplaincy needs committed people willing to do the necessary training and practise a vocation of pastoral care ministry. For more details, please contact our Chaplain, Jamie Johnston, on anglican.marseille@gmail.com

New international mass for Seafarers

On Saturday, 6 February a new monthly online International Mass for seafarers was launched on YouTube, streamed live from the Basilica of Notre-Dame de la Garde in Marseille at 09h00 (CET).



Welcoming fellow clergy from across Marseille, including our Chaplain Jamie Johnston, the Recteur of Notre-Dame de la Garde, Père Olivier Spinoza, spoke of the Basilica's vocation as the 'Cathedral for Seafarers'. He recalled that prayers have been offered for their protection and wellbeing on the site of the Basilica since the 15th century, and that for the last 150 years the statue of Notre-Dame holding the infant Christ looking out to sea has been experienced by seafarers from across the world as a source of blessing.

The monthly Mass, which takes place in English, is intended for sailors anywhere in the world who are unable to leave their ships because of the pandemic. Many have suffered great hardship through the

months of lockdown, thousands of miles from family and friends, uncertain when they may be able to return home, meanwhile confined to small cabins with little by way of support available to assist their mental and emotional wellbeing.

Reflecting on the service afterwards, Jamie commented: "There was a tangible sense of the seafarers sharing the Mass with us, despite the distance that separated us from them. The prayer of Spiritual Communion (which is used where worshippers cannot share bread and wine together in person) was recited in seven different languages – French, English, Spanish, Italian, Ukrainian, Russian and Swahili – itself a comment on the huge international mix of seafarers who in normal times visit the Seamen's Club in the port of Marseille. God's Kingdom is infinite and borderless: what the pandemic has taught us is that technology can help us witness to that truth and celebrate it even in the darkest of times."



Home Communion

Just a reminder that your ministry team is willing and able to bring you Communion at home if you would like us to. For those of us still unable to get out and about or make a long journey to church, the service can be held at home. Again, just contact Jamie on anglican.marseille@gmail.com and he can arrange for a member of the ministry team to come and see you.

Prayer on Beginning to See the Light Peep through the Clouds

God of new beginnings,
you sent a rainbow to Noah to promise a future bigger than the past;
by your Holy Spirit send your people signs of hope,
that we may begin to imagine a future beyond isolation,
a society not stricken by disease,
and an economy not crippled by inaction.

Shape in us wiser, gentler, kinder ways,
that while we long for the pandemic to be behind us,
we may retain what we have learned
about who we are and who you are;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Dates for Diary

(All times given are French time – please subtract an hour if you are joining from the UK.

28 th March Palm Sunday	Holy Communion 10.00 am All Saints' Marseille Holy Communion 11.30 am via zoom
29 th March	Compline 9.00 pm via zoom
30 th March	Compline 9.00 pm via zoom
31 st March	Compline 9.00 pm via zoom
1 st April Maundy Thursday	Holy Communion 8.00 pm via zoom
2 nd April Good Friday	The Way of the Cross 12.00 – 1.30 pm (to read individually) Liturgy of Good Friday 1.45 pm streamed from All Saints' Marseille
3 rd April Easter Eve	Easter Vigil and Service of Light 10.00 pm via zoom
4 th April Easter Day	Holy Communion at All Saints' Marseille 10.00 am (streamed) Holy Communion at Oppède at 10.30 am Holy Communion at 11.30 am via zoom
7 th April	Compline at 10.00 pm via zoom
9 th April	Evening Service with Prayers for Healing at 6.00 pm via zoom
11 th April	Holy Communion at All Saints' Marseille at 10.00 am Holy Communion at 11.30 am via zoom
14 th April	Compline at 10.00 pm via zoom
18 th April	Holy Communion at All Saints' Marseille at 10.00 am Holy Communion at 11.30 am via zoom
21 st April	Compline at 10.00 pm via zoom
24 th April	Chaplaincy Council meeting at 2.30 pm via zoom
25 th April	Holy Communion at All Saints' Marseille at 10.00 am

28th April Holy Communion at 11.30 am via zoom
Compline at 10.00 pm via zoom
2nd May Holy Communion at All Saints' Marseille at 10.00 am
Holy Communion at 11.30 am via zoom

We wish you all a very happy and peaceful Easter.



If anyone has any articles or news for this newsletter, please email them to:
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