

# Jubilate

MAGAZINE OF THE CHAPLAINCY OF  
CHRIST THE GOOD SHEPHERD  
POITOU CHARENTES

April 2008

Price 2€

## CHAPLAINCY OF CHRIST THE GOOD SHEPHERD POITOU CHARENTES

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**Continued on last page**

## **Christ's Manifesto for our lives (Luke 4: 18-19)**

The passage from Luke's Gospel will form the basis of our Parish Conference on May 10th (at La Maison de la Nature, Civray). We shall have the privilege of welcoming The Revd. Michael Wilcock as our speaker.

Christ sets down, as the first goal of his manifesto: "to bring good news to the poor" - and he's referring, of course, to those who recognise their true poverty - in other words, their need of salvation. "Blessed," he says, "are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the Kingdom of heaven." (Matthew 5:3) His Kingdom is one without favouritism or prejudice; it is one in which every barrier that divides humanity has been laid low. All are invited, all are called. Those who are blessed are those who are humble enough to confess their need and open their hearts to him.

The second goal of Christ's manifesto is "to proclaim freedom for the prisoners." In their original context, these words would have been interpreted in terms of the Jews living in exile; prevented from joining in the life of God's people because of their ongoing imprisonment. But Christ gives the passage a far wider brief - in fact, he applies it to everyone who's been excluded from the people of God through the imprisonment of their spirit.

The community around us is full of people who are captive to the things that have happened to them; to their hurts and hates and fears. And all of us, of course, can be subject to the bondage of bad habits and bad behaviour patterns that can drag us down time after time. But this second objective of Christ is to bring his people release: To proclaim to those in bondage that God has bought their freedom.

The third goal of Christ's manifesto is that of proclaiming "recovery of sight for the blind". The prophet Isaiah writes, "The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness, on them light has shone" (9:2). The coming of the Messiah would herald the coming of light into a dark world. Those who had previously stumbled, trying to follow the ways of God, would now be able to see clearly.

And the fact is that through the Holy Spirit dwelling within us, God opens our eyes to see the world as he sees it; he enables us to see the poverty and oppression that Jesus came to release people from and so gain a true perspective on life. He enables us to see through the lies and subterfuge that underpin so much of secular thought and even to see one another, and ourselves, the way God sees us.

The final goal in Christ's manifesto is "to release the oppressed and proclaim the year of the Lord's favour." The law of Moses provided for a Jubilee year - indeed, every 50 years all slaves had to be released. And so here, Jesus is proclaiming that that year has now come - not literally the 50th year - but a symbolic Jubilee; a year in which God is going to free anyone who is oppressed in any way.

The gospel proclaims freedom from futility; freedom from loneliness, freedom from the fear of sickness and death, and freedom from our own selfishness. It brings a purpose to life; it brings us into a community of mutual support, it promises us eternal life, and it provides a focus outside of ourselves onto God and his will for the world. Christ's manifesto is now our manifesto : His ministry is our ministry . . .

"Go therefore," says Jesus, "and make disciples all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, even to the end of the age." (Matt 28:19,20)

**Michael.**

## Calendar

### **6th April Easter 3**

10.30am Holy Communion St. Léger de la Martinière parish church (79)  
10.30am Holy Communion Les Granges St. Jean d'Angély (17)  
7.00pm Prayer and Praise, Salle Annexe (behind the Marie) Civray (86)

### **Thursday 10th April Service of ' Wholeness and Healing'**

11.00 am Chez Ann and Nick Gillibrand  
D166 Lesterps t St Maurice des Lions about 1 kilometre from Lesterps. Lesterps is 6 miles, (8.5km). Due East from Confolons. La Maison de L'Eveque, Les Picardies.  
16420 Lesterps. For more information ring Nick or Ann on 05 45 85 55 94

### **13th April Easter 4 Dedication**

10.30am Holy Communion Ambernac parish church (16)  
10.30am Morning Worship La Chapelle de l'Ecole de la Providence, Cognac

### **20th April Easter 5**

10.30am Holy Communion Magné parish church (nr Gençay) (86)  
10.30am Morning Worship Les Granges St. Jean d'Angély (17)  
10.30am Morning Worship Le Temple Protestant Barbézieux (16)  
7.00pm Prayer and Praise La Rochefoucauld parish Room (16)

### **27th April Easter 6**

10.30am Holy Communion La Chapelle de l'Ecole de la Providence, Cognac  
10.30am Morning Worship La Rochefoucauld parish Room(16)  
7.00pm Evening Prayer (BCP) The Chapel St. Nicholas de Civray

### **4th May Sunday after Ascension**

10.30am Holy Communion St. Léger de la Martinière parish church (79)  
10.30am Morning Worship Les Granges St. Jean d'Angély (17)  
7.00pm Prayer and Praise, Salle Annexe (behind the Marie) Civray(86)

### **11th May Pentecost**

10.30am Holy Communion Ambernac parish church (16)  
10.30am Morning Worship La Chapelle de l'Ecole de la Providence, Cognac

### **18th May Trinity Sunday**

10.30am Holy Communion Magné parish church (nr Gençay) (86)  
10.30am Holy Communion Les Granges St. Jean d'Angély (17)  
10.30am Morning Worship Le Temple Protestant Barbézieux (16)  
7.00pm Prayer and Praise La Rochefoucauld parish Room (16)

### **Choir Practice**

1st, 2nd & 4th Fridays 2pm—4pm The Upper room Civray parish church 3rd Friday – Workshop. If you would like more information on the choir contact Gareth Williams 05 49 48 29 68 or Carolyn Kimber 05 45 84 19 03. Tenors needed

**April 16th AGM.**

Salle des Fêtes, St Pierre de Exideuil. 10;30 am. Coffee from 9.30am and the meeting will be followed by a “Bring & Share Lunch”

**Prayer Meeting, Monday April 21st,** 2pm start. At the home of Rosemary Coleman 4, Chemin du Ravelin, Courbanay, Maire Levescault, 79190, 05 49 07 69 05 Pray you will be there.

**Services of Confirmation**

**Conducted by David Hamid 2nd November at St Léger de la martinière**

Anyone wishing to be confirmed in the Autumn should contact the Chaplain as soon as possible in order to enrol for the preparation classes during the months of September and October.

**SCRABBLE CLUB**

Will be on Thursday 17th April 2pm– 5pm. Chez Fidler, Touch Penon 86250 St Romain. Please phone to book your place 05 49 87 18 84 E-mail jane.fidler@orange.fr A game of scrabble in English or French followed by tea and cakes 3€/per week.

**Fun and Laughter  
Cabaret Concert Party  
4th April- 6.00 PM (for Apéritif)**

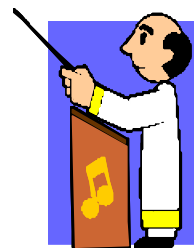
Chez  
Gill and Adrian Estcourt  
Bring and share buffet  
Bring own tables chairs, cutlery and plates  
and choice of drink



More information contact Carolyn Kimber 05 45 84 19 03

**CHORAL CONCERT Saturday April 12<sup>th</sup>**

**Montbrom Parish Church 8.30pm**  
Concert to be given by the Ladies Choir of St. Hilda’s College, Oxford, under the direction of their conductor Dr. Jonathan Williams, and the choir of the Chaplaincy of Christ the Good Shepherd with their choir master Mr Gareth Williams. The organist will be Mr Julian MacNamara.



**B - B - QUIZ**  
TUESDAY MAY 20TH  
CHEY DON & MARGARET  
LA MLABRANCHERE, CHEY (79)  
6.00pm for 6.30 prompt. quiz starts to be followed by B.B.C.  
**12 euro p.p. Bring your own drinks**  
(any profit will be shared between the Chaplaincy and the  
'Clean Water Project')  
For details and **TO BOOK** 05 49 29 97 81



## **ST GEORGE'S DAY SERVICE**

Pere Bernard Jobert, the French Catholic priest in Chabanais (16) has invited The Revd Ann Gillibrand to join him at a special Ecumenical Service to celebrate the patron saint of England, St George. The parish of Chabanais already celebrates St Andrew's day, usually at the church of St Andre in Exideuil - sur - Vienne and the invitation was made following the St Patrick's day service at Montbron. How international can you get?

The service will be based on the Anglican service of Evensong and will be in the parish church of St Pierre, Chabanais on St George's Day, Wednesday, 23<sup>rd</sup> April at 7pm. The service will be celebrated in English and French and there will be a "bring and share picnic" in the nearby Parish rooms (Maison Paroissiale) afterwards. A "verre d'amitie" will be offered by the Chabanais Parish.

More details will appear in our various centres of worship in the next few weeks but please mark this date in your diaries. Pere Bernard is always keen to promote "international fellowship" especially with the English-speaking community, and it would be really good if there were lots of Chaplaincy members present to applaud his efforts.

Contact Craig on [mccolville@orange.fr](mailto:mccolville@orange.fr) or 05 4589 3350 for details

### **Prize Draw**

As oil & gas prices spiral ever upwards & the price of wood follows not far behind .....it makes good sense to seek alternative sources of heating for the cold winter nights & to also choose an environmentally friendly option.

Well, your Summer Fete committee has the answer ..... a nice warm Patchwork quilt for the bedroom & we have just the one that will fit the bill.

All you have to do is to buy tickets between now & the day of the Fete and you might just win it & thus avoid all the hassle of tramping round the shops to buy one.

The quilt, which measures 250 x 250cms, is absolutely beautiful. It has been lovingly assembled by members of the French Branch of the Soldiers, Sailors Airmen & Families Association and donated by them to raise funds for our Chaplaincy.

The donation is an expression by SSAFA of their sincere appreciation for the generosity shown by the Chaplaincy in providing urgent support for individuals in desperate straits whilst SSAFA were seeking grants or annuities for them from benevolent institutions in the UK.

Photographs of the quilt can be seen at all our services and other functions and tickets for the draw will also be widely available at all venues. This thoughtful gesture by SSAFA deserves a positive response from us all ..... so buy tickets and lets raise a record sum of money for the Chaplaincy.

SSAFA was established in 1885 as the National Welfare Charity to help serving and ex-service members & their families, [including widows and widowers] & dependants in need. One quarter of the UK population is eligible for SSAFA's help – that is 12 million people.

In France, SSAFA has 60 volunteer Caseworkers and many helpers. In 2007 they answered over 80 calls for assistance, including many from people requiring financial aid following a family bereavement or help to redeem difficult financial situations, and raised more than 120000€ from UK Charities for distribution in France plus a further £57000 to resolve specific problems for some that had arisen in the UK. If you know anyone, whom you think SSAFA could help, encourage them to contact SSAFA on their dedicated phone line 05 53 01 64 54 – it has a 24hr answering facility.

**John Roberts.**

## Summer Garden Fete

June 7<sup>th</sup> Chez Firth, Le Bois de Messé 79120 Messé

As I look out of the window and the sun's shining, I'm reminded that summer is just around the corner and with it the summer garden fete. This year we are returning to the home of Alan and Gwynneth Firth who have kindly offered us their facilities. We are planning to make it an enjoyable and relaxing way to spend a sunny afternoon, somewhere you would love to bring your friends and family.

We will have all our usual stalls, plants, cakes, books, jewellery, white elephant, toys and puzzles. In addition there will be a raffle, games and competitions for you to enter. There will be refreshments available throughout the day.

We are looking for DIY items, especially tools that you no longer use which you would be prepared to donate to us. Also perhaps you have tools that you would be prepared to hire out to others, the hire charges would be given to the fete funds.

Last year we introduced the idea of a "Mini Show". We have decided to include this again this year. Everyone is welcome to enter. There are to be five classes. The classes include:-

a) a chocolate cake, b) a jar of strawberry jam, c) a piece of needlework/knitware, d) a collage, e) a floral table decoration

There is an entry fee of 1 euro per class. Further details can be found in this edition of Jubilate.

We are also having a quiz, which will be available before the fete and the winners announced on the day.

Of course all this cannot happen without your generous support in time and donations to the stalls. We would welcome any offers of help and suggestions, so please get your thinking caps on.

Please contact Jane Fidler 05 49 87 18 84

jane.fidler@orange.fr for more information

### PRODUCE STALL FOR SUMMER FETE – 7 JUNE 2008

Pam Clarke and I will be manning the produce stall and ask you to look in your cupboards to please spare a pot or two of homemade **jam, jelly, chutney or marmalade**. If the cupboard is bare after the winter maybe you will be making some with the new season's fruits and will think to put aside some for the Fete.

For the gardener's amongst you, we hope that by early June you may have some carrots or broad beans or other vegetables that you would be able to spare a bunch for the stall.

Please bring them along on the day, or give them to one or other of us at the following churches: Melle, Ambernac or Magne or to housegroup leaders who can always contact me on shorneyed@aol.com or 0545 31 06 00.

A big thankyou in anticipation of your generosity  
Shorney Edwards



### *Summer Fete Raffle*

It's that time again and once again I would be grateful for donations of quality prizes or cash

donations for the raffle.

Margaret Mace

La Malbranchere, 79120 Chey

05 49 29 97 81

## Summer Garden Fete Saturday June 7<sup>th</sup>

### Mini Show Schedule

**Class 1** A jar of strawberry jam

**Class 2** A chocolate cake\*

**Class 3** An item of needlework

**Class 4** A collage

**Class 5** A floral table arrangement

Entry fee 1€ for each class,  
payable on the day  
A prize will be awarded for each  
class.

\* The chocolate cake must be  
made using this recipe.

Entries to be taken to the venue,  
Chez Firth  
Le Bois de Messé, 79120 Messé  
by 11.45 a.m. on 7<sup>th</sup> June for judging.  
Contact Jane Fidler 05 4987 18 84  
jane.fidler@orange.fr

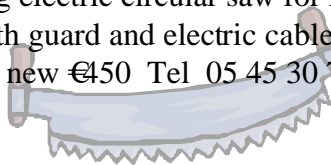
**The judges decision will be final.  
The Chaplaincy of Christ the  
Good Shepherd Poitou-Charentes  
bears no responsibility for the loss or damage to entries.**

### Recipe for Chocolate Cake

100g / 4oz s.r.flour  
2 level tbs cocoa  
100g/4oz butter  
25g/1oz golden syrup  
½ tsp vanilla essence  
2 medium eggs  
4 tsp milk  
Prepare deep 8 in tin or 2x7 in  
sandwich tins  
Sift flour and cocoa together.  
Cream butter, sugar, syrup and  
vanilla essence together  
Beat in eggs one at a time. Fold in  
milk and dry ingredients.  
Transfer to tin/s  
Cook in the centre of moderate  
oven 180c 350f for 35 to 40 mins  
for a deep cake or 25 to 30 mins for  
two sandwich cakes.  
When cold sandwich together with  
cream or butter cream. (No icing)

### For Sale

Free standing electric circular saw for log cutting.  
complete with guard and electric cable;  
Unused - As new €450 Tel 05 45 30 73 25



### CALLING ALL CHAPLAINCY ARTISTS

Wanted for the Christmas Bazaar- Original Paintings. If you are  
interested in donating one of your masterpieces for the Christmas Bazaar  
- contact David Johnson on 0545 300072 or davidjohnson@orange.fr  
They can be framed for the cost of materials



## CHAPLAINCY CHARITABLE GIVING 2007

What did we give and where did it go?

When the Chaplaincy collects money in euros for a charity it is given to CATCH to send on to the charity. This is often the Bishop's appeal, which is sometimes for orphanages and sometimes for water projects. The following list is a summary of money passed through the CATCH account. There has often been other giving within the Chaplaincy which has not been passed through CATCH, for example money given in £ sterling, such money is not included here.

### GIVING WITHIN THE CHAPLAINCY

Bishop's Lent Appeal 2007 €498.                      Bishop's Advent Appeal 2007 €145.  
Christian Aid 'week' 2007 €908.                      The Isaac's orphanage €305.  
Money collected in Chaplaincy groups for the clean water project €419.

### GIVING BY GROUPS

Chaplaincy members often raise funds through coffee mornings or in other ways, sometimes in association with friends who are not Chaplaincy members. This is of course to be encouraged and CATCH is sometimes used to pass the money on to the Charity concerned. However these gifts are not considered as direct Chaplaincy giving and so are not recorded here. They are reported in the audited accounts of CATCH.

### GIVING BY INDIVIDUALS

CATCH is not restricted to giving by the Chaplaincy, or by groups. It can receive individual donations for charitable purposes, may be for an organisation or for an individual in need where anonymity is wanted. These gifts are shown in the audited accounts of CATCH.

CATCH was set up by members of the Chaplaincy to pass money raised for charity to the charity in a way that is in keeping with French law.

It deals not only with money raised by the Chaplaincy of Poitou Charentes but is open to the Chaplaincy of the Vendee and to individuals.

If you would like to know more about CATCH your interest would be welcome. Please do contact David Johnson whose phone number is printed on the last page of Jubilate, or myself by e mail [randrbeech@free.fr](mailto:randrbeech@free.fr)

Membership which costs €5 for 2008 would enable you to receive the annual report and accounts of CATCH.

These will be presented at the AGM of CATCH on the afternoon of Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> May at the home of Richard and Rhiannon Beech. You would be welcome, and the short meeting is followed by a traditional English 'high tea.' Lunch will also be offered to those who have to travel a long distance.

**Richard Beech**

## **\* \_The Current Situation\_ \***

There seems to be a little confusion about Christian Aid and giving. Giving is part of the Christian life as the Disciples did after Christ' death. They sold their belongings and gave them to the group. Of course that is finite, at some stage they run out of belongings and they have a 'cash flow' problem. Hence Paul asking his Churches in Asia Minor and Greece to donate generously to the Christians in Jerusalem.

### **The 1<sup>st</sup> Christian Aid bit: \_**

The Bishop's Appeal. This is a one off appeal directed at Ethiopia for Lent. It is coincidental that it is linked to Christian Aid. He, the Bishop, has two appeals each year at Advent and Lent. The last two were linked to Christian Aid.

### **The 2<sup>nd</sup> Christian Aid bit: \_**

I was contacted and sounded out by a Council member about a long term charitable giving project for the Chaplaincy. Water/clean water was the project chosen as it benefited all the community targeted, especially the children. This was put to the AGM and passed last year. I did not put it to the AGM!

### **The 3<sup>rd</sup> Christian Aid bit: \_**

Christian Aid Week, month here, is their major fundraiser. The money goes into their General Account. They are therefore able to send £100,000 to the Bangladesh Flood Appeal immediately. It helped to save the lives of the whole population of Malawi (5 ½ Million) a few years ago when drought struck the area. The UK Government also contributes to this Account. This fundraiser targets May each year.

Christian Aid as far as I know is the only big Agency that has crossed the Channel into Europe.

God bless you all.

Nick

Cancer Support Office and Drop in Centre is open every Tuesday 10h00 until 12h30.

Le Bourg 16350 Benest

(located behind the Mairie. The entrance is from the school playground)

A 24 hour answer phone is in place on 05 45 89 30 05

**Because of space restrictions we are unable to publish Elisabeth Barnett's book review this month, they will continue in the next issue. We are sorry for any disappointment this may have caused. Ed.**

## Greetings,

Brian had a very interesting experience recently: he fell off the Rec. Room. Roof!  
But don't panic, read on:

We are doing up the Recreation room and adjacent 'cow byre' to create a 1-maybe 2-bed, 2-bath cottage for our 'old age' with all 'mod cons' – including a full kitchen. After installing the new bay windows, B had to repair a leak in the glass roof, requiring him to climb onto it from the terrace.

The roof gutter is only about 6 feet above the terrace – an easy ladder climb – but accessing the roof itself was a horse of a different color. He had his left foot on the roof and was pushing himself up by the top end of the ladder to plant the other foot there when the ladder slipped out and away. The way he tells it is that he forgot the laws of physics (not to mention that clever invention by Sir Isaac, viz: gravity), and got the fulcrum and mechanics all wrong.

I was in the Rec. room drawing up the new *arrière cuisine*, when there was a crash of ladders, followed by a shout from our cleaning lady who was brushing down the sitting room terrace, and I rushed out to find him lying stretched out on the tile deck, still in one piece, eyes open and fully coherent – if a little dazed.

As he remembers it, he was giving himself the final push when he found himself leaning on air. At that point he was some 8 to 10 feet above the ground (the ladder is 9 feet tall), and nowhere to go but down. All he then knew was hitting the tiles with an almighty wallop, and feeling as Elvis put it: 'all shook up'.

He does recall starting off all doubled up (to get the right foot on the roof while holding the ladder), and then hitting the tiles on his right side – shoulder, arm, hip, knee and lower leg all in one flat plane *and at the same moment. And that is the most remarkable thing!*

He remembers pushing the ladder away – but then his arm should have been above his head. But it wasn't; it was at his side protecting his body. He could/should have fallen head first (putting him completely out of action!); or on his shoulder, breaking that, or badly damaging a hip (he is, after all, well into his 70s).

He could have fallen onto the ladder or on some of the broken roof tiles on the deck. He could have had some tools in the right pants pocket (as is normal) and they could have done serious damage\*. The ladder could have smashed into the windows and scattered the glass on the floor where he fell. But, thank God, none of that happened. After landing he even reached up to prevent the other ladder from falling on him, showing an amazing sense of his position.

\* Indeed, next day he found a 'sand-like' powder in the right pants pocket, which upon closer inspection turned out to have once been a whole hard candy!

Even more remarkable is that although he must have fallen at least 8 feet, *he had not a single bruise, mark or scratch on him, anywhere* - and he usually bruises just like the rest of us if he runs into the corner of the bench!

It took him a few hours to work out the reason for his incredible survival, and it is now quite clear: it was simply the presence of his *Guardian Angels*.

Throughout his life he has been aware of them many times when he was spared serious injury (in the person of a policeman in Newcastle and in Cairo, and as a businessman in California to prevent a potentially fatal accident, among many others). Thus he now fully understands that *they* were there on Monday, too, instantly, although he was too busy falling to notice them.

But they did what needed to be done, landing him safely on his side, without even a scratch, and for that he is eternally grateful, and thanks them, and God who sends them, from the bottom of his heart. Amen.

In addition, B wrote to a good friend asking for his opinion on the question "does everyone have guardian angels?" I believe his reply is also worthy of inclusion:

*It was David, long before he was King David, who kept his flock as a shepherd boy, and whose angels protected him from the lion and bear that attacked his sheep, and were with him when he volunteered to go up against Goliath.*

*Were they at his right hand because he had prepared himself by knowing where his ultimate safety lay? As a shepherd he took time to give thanks, and left his thoughts of praise for those of us some 3,000 years later who value them as our Psalms.*

*He wrote, (Psalms 91:11-12) "For he shall give his angels charge over thee, to keep thee in all thy ways. They shall bear thee up in their hands, lest thou dash thy foot against a stone."*

*Then, centuries later, Jesus recalled David's words as he began his three-year mission of teaching and healing. He was tempted by the prospects of power, and the devilish thought came to check out his power by jumping off a high building to see if he would be safe. "For it is written, he shall give his angels charge over thee, to keep thee:" (Luke 4:6-13).*

*But he, like David, knew that his angels weren't on call for merely selfish, personal pursuits, and had no trouble overcoming these temptations, but went on to live his life as he urged us to, that we might all be known as God's beloved children, in whom He is well pleased. So our angels not only protect us from what seem like physical calamities, but are also spiritual intuitions, comforting, guarding and guiding. Your question: does everyone have them? I believe God makes them available to everyone. They, like Him, are omnipresent, and it's up to each to choose to welcome them or ignore them (or even deny they exist!). But God, infinite Love, always supplies these spiritual guardians to us all.*

*Malcolm*

Hala Hunt

#### CHAPLAINCY RANDONNEE CLUB



11th APRIL: ARNAC: This will be a slightly longer undulating walk in the beautiful Mont du Blond led by Angus and Angela Worthington along wooded tracks with spectacular views and huge granite rocks. JOSEE will lead a slightly shorter walk for those who prefer. Weather permitting, bring your own picnic and rendezvous at 12h00 at Arnac.

From the D675 (St Junien- Bellac) take the D9 at le Chene Pignier towards Oradour-sur-Glane. After approximately 2 kms turn left to Arnac - about 1 km. The walks will start at the usual time of 14h15 - assemble at 14h00. For further information contact Josee on 05 49 87 64 85;

Patsy on 05 49 55 05 77 or June on 05 49 97 12 58.



Thank you to those of you who have offered cots etc. to

Christine Roberts for her list.

The Mothers' Union "theme" for 2008 is "Relationships". We are planning to have two meetings in May, one in the "north" of the Chaplaincy and one in the "south" to consider the

discussion papers produced at Mary Sumner House – "Relationships Matter". They look very interesting.

The dates for the Summer Fetes are 31<sup>st</sup> May in the "south" and 7<sup>th</sup> June in the "north". We shall be taking some part in both of these events, and later in the summer we hope to arrange an Information Day for members and non-members, to raise awareness of the exciting things that MU is involved with worldwide. We are also planning another Quiet Day in the autumn.

As soon as the dates and venues for all the above are confirmed you will each receive a programme card for the year.

The Lent lunches raised about 300 euros and were all very enjoyable. Thank you to those who hosted them.

I trust that you all "survived" the storms in March and hope that they will herald a good summer this year.

With my love, Joyce

### **Thank you note**

Thank you so much to all of you who prayed for John and me whilst I was in hospital again recently. Thank you, too, to all of you who visited me and who gave me very welcome gifts; and to those of you who telephoned and sent cards. Even though I still have a lot of clips in my left shoulder, I was allowed to return home at least ten days earlier than expected, and this must have been because of your prayers. As always, we are so very grateful to you.

God bless you all and with love from us both, Audrey.

### **USED STAMPS**

Thank you to Shorney Edwards and Alan and Pat Jenkins for offering to help extend our Used Stamps collection scheme within the Chaplaincy. In future we hope to have boxes available at church-venues - probably near the coffee-table or with the leaflets and publicity - for your used stamps. Or, of course, you can hand them direct to Shorney, Alan and Pat, or myself.

Michael is actually going to ICS offices and can take them in April, so this month would be ideal to bring them to church or the AGM.

The ICS Stamp Dept has given us the following information as to what it can use: "Stamps from Great Britain: any except normal definitive, first /second class and lower values, or low value Christmas, though the higher values are good to have, The same is true of all other countries, except ones such as Netherlands who issue sets of 8 or more at Christmas, of which collectors try to assemble complete sets. It hinges on the numbers issued initially - the smaller the number printed the greater the rarity value."

*Carol Fischer*

## Home Groups

During Lent home groups have been studying a variety of courses. Our group along with several others have been using "Lift up your hearts" adapted by Michael (with permission) from the Carlisle Diocese. It is a six week course with study leaflets and a CD to accompany it. Our overall impression has been a very positive one as it has helped us to really focus on the needs of the Chaplaincy. In an informal atmosphere we had time to discuss at length our thoughts and feelings about the worship centres we attend. We looked at areas where we need to improve and discussed ways in which we could go about it. We also had the opportunity to see where we as individuals fitted into the scheme of things. Were we really doing all we could to support the Chaplaincy and our fellow members or leaving it up to others and merely turning up on a Sunday. What gifts had we got and were we using them to full effect or again just leaving it to others. How could we be sure we were really leading a full Christian life. Was our love and commitment to the Lord reflected in the way we live our lives. Do our non-Christian friends and neighbours know we are practising believers, if not why not.

Flexibility was something we all agreed on, often difficult, considering the variety of our Church backgrounds and experiences. If we all pursue our own personal agenda's and not God's then we won't develop into a "healthy Church".

Rosemary Colman

### **Lent Course.**

The two Vienne Homegroups are using a study by David Adam entitled 'Knowing and Growing.' David Adam was the vicar of Lindisfarne for thirteen years until he retired. He says, he sees Lent as a time of lengthening and letting the Son's power strengthen in our lives. He sees Lent as a time of growth and hope. 'I do not ask people, 'What are you giving up for Lent?' I ask them, 'What are you doing for Lent?'

Each week for eight weeks, we shall be looking at one of Jesus' parables and trying to visualise them in a new light, exposing us to the mysteries and challenges. Every time we extend ourselves to reach beyond the obvious and the immediate, we are reaching towards a higher awareness and potential. In fact the parables call for a change in us.

Each week there are suggestions for hymns to be sung, prayers to be said together and a specific reading of one of the parables. We are then led to read quietly some meditative thoughts surrounding the story and invited to respond in a way that may be mirrored in our own lives.

To end each session we are challenged to remember a spiritual quotation and to tune in daily to the reality of God's presence and say often: 'God is my strength and my salvation, a very present help in trouble', or :- 'You are here, Lord'. Each week we are given a new prayer to tune into, to take us through the coming week.

Some of the challenges and resolutions which have been suggested to us have resulted in some quite dramatic and life-changing decisions.

## **POURSAC GROUP**

We have just completed week four of the Chaplaincy Lent Study. This has been very well received by our group and has raised a lot of relevant issues both for the group and for individuals. At least one of these issues, spirituality, will be the subject of a separate session. Session three in particular raised many individual development and training needs. These have been passed onto Michael. We are looking forward to the usual feedback session after the AGM in May.

## **NEWS FROM CSG (CLBSBH)**

What do you mean, you have never heard of us? We are, of course, the Chaplaincy Small Group (Charente Limousine branch, meeting in the Building Site which used to be the Bishop's House) Oh, all right this is the house group which meets at the home of Ann and Nick Gillibrand, near Lesterps (16); Nick always welcomes us to what he calls "the building site"

Just to report that we can be as many as 19 and we have been spending this recent period of Lent, discussing the Lent course which was prepared by Michael and the Chaplaincy, and we have enjoyed a simple soup and cheese lunch every Friday. Either we are very argumentative (surely not?) or we have become completely engrossed in the various themes of the course as we have usually run out of time and twice we have had to delay the second part of the proposed theme until the following week. At the time of writing, we have two subjects still to deal with and no more Fridays. We will have to carry on after Easter.

We may be a long way from the geographical centre of our chaplaincy, but we are still very much a working, thinking, sharing and praying part of it, despite our title.

## **HOME GROUP SERVICE - PRESSAC -VIENNE (86)**

Commencing at 11.00 hrs on every 4th. Sunday in the month, an informal service is held at the home of Fionna and Brian Bardwell, Moulin Fargan, Pressac.

We welcome everyone to an informal family service, where there are planned 'young peoples and children's church activities.' (Due to Child Protection legislation we ask parents to accompany their children and stay in attendance.)

Our aim is to nurture and help children and others take their first steps, and subsequent stepping stones towards a deeper and meaningful relationship with our Lord Jesus.

Following the service there is the opportunity to share lunch together. (Bring and share - We usually co-ordinate the arrangements and have a sit-down meal together.)

For more information or directions on how to find Moulin Fargan, please do not hesitate to telephone Fionna and Brian Bardwell (Tel. 05 49 48 47 56) or Lenna Clark (Tel. 04 49 84 19 26)

More Home Group reports will appear next month. Ed.

## List of Home Groups.

### DEUX SEVRES

**Leaders** - Rosemary Coleman/ Margaret Mace - Meet fortnightly on a Wednesday afternoon at 2.30. Finishes around 5pm. 4,Chemin du Ravelin, Courbanay, Maire -Levescault. 05 49 07 69 05

**Leaders** - Anne & Owen White - Meet weekly on a Wednesday afternoon at 2.30. Jassay, 79120 Chenay 05 49 60 48 56

### VIENNE

**Leaders** - Jean Rose & Jane Fidler- Meet fortnightly on a Wednesday afternoon at 2pm.Chez Rose, le Bourg, 86350 St Martin L'Ars, 05 4 9 87 76 71

**Leaders** - Lenna Clark & Errol Niblett - Meet fortnightly on a Wednesday afternoon at 2.30. Chardat, 86460 Pressac, 0549841926

**Leaders** - Mike & Margaret Willis - meet weekly on a Tuesday evening at 7pm. Les Roches, Savigne, 86400 (nr Civray) 05 49 87 89 16

### CHARENTE

**Leader** - Jeanne Major - Meet fortnightly on a Wednesday morning at 10.30am at Rue Marcel Chapon, 16700 Taize- Aizie, 05 45 71 76 67

**Leaders** - David & Doris Johnson - Meet weekly on a Tuesday evening at 7pm. Le Bourg, 16700 Poursac, 05 45 30 00 72

**Leaders** - Ann & Nick Gillibrand - Meet fortnightly on a Friday morning at 10.30. Cynthia Bean - 8, rue des Primaveraes, 16150 Chabanais, 05 45 29 68 18

### CHARENTE - MARITIME

**Leader** - Michael Painter - Meet fortnightly on a Tuesday morning at 10am. 46, avenue de Cognac, 17700 Brizambourg, 05 46 97 59 12

**Leaders** - Joyce & Alan Bache - Meet fortnightly on a Wednesday morning at 11arn. Home of Trevor Wignall - Chez Giraud, 17500 Champagnac

**Leader** - Karen Phillips - Meet fortnightly on a Wednesday afternoon at 2pm. Home of Ron & Sylvia Walker - Chillac, 16480 Barbezieux ,05 45 98 43 57

### VENDEE

**Leaders** - Doug & Chris Green - Meet fortnightly on a Tuesday afternoon at 2.15pm. La Vialiere, Largeasse, 79240, 0549 72 1846

**Leaders** - Tony & Sylvia Bushell - Meet fortnightly on a Tuesday afternoon at 2.15pm. ll,ruedeL'Eglise, Fontaines, 79240

**Leader** - John Golding - Meet fortnightly. 20, Chemin Du Neau, 85540, Moutiers Les Mauxfaits. (contact John Matthews for times )

**Leader** - Alison Taylor - Meet fortnightly. 3805, Route Garateries, 85270, Notre dame De Riez (contact John Matthews for times)

## GARDEN TIPS

April is always a busy month in the garden and time to eliminate some of those garden pests. If you are reluctant to use the chemical remedies available there are other ways of trying to control the insects that attack our plants.

The carrot root fly is low flying, laying its eggs at the base of the stem and the larvae then burrow down into the carrot. A 2-foot temporary barrier of fleece or plastic erected around the carrot bed should solve the problem. Another way is to plant rows of carrots in between leeks, garlic and onions as the smell is reputed to deter the flies. Moles. There are explosive devices on the market that are placed in the entrance hole, but unless you are an explosives expert it's better to find another means! The French have a cruel method of dealing with the problem by putting down the entrance hole cuttings from prickly bushes and roses resulting in the moles bleeding to death. Moles are deterred by a lot of activity overhead such as mowing the grass playing football etc. otherwise one has to live with them. The soil from the mole-hills is ideal for pot plants and containers.

Wireworms that attack potatoes can be attracted to an early crop which you are prepared to sacrifice prior to planting the main crop in that area, otherwise the only thing to do is dig the ground over examining it carefully as you do so and removing any you find – rather tedious but worth it if they are prevalent in your garden.

Caterpillars are attracted to brassica crops, especially those laid by the cabbage white butterfly (yellow and black in colour). The eggs are yellow and generally laid on the underside of the leaves – easy to squash by hand. These caterpillars can strip leaves in no time flat. The plants can be protected by placing old net curtains or fleece supported on sturdy sticks covered with small flower pots making sure the caterpillars cannot get to the plants from underneath. To prevent the covering being blown away by the wind, weigh down the corners and other places with large stones or bricks. Another remedy is to fill a watering can with salty water.

Slugs and Snails hide under stones and odd corners, under flower-pots and leaves. Scatter some old roof tiles, upturned flower pots or anything similar and check and remove them each morning, especially after rain in the case of snails. Hedgehogs adore slugs and thrushes eat the snails if you are fortunate to have them visit your garden. Chickens and ducks are partial to a meal of slugs and snails so collect them in an old ice cream carton - they will be your friends for life!

Plant dwarf French marigolds or basil between your tomato plants to deter the whitefly. Garlic planted between roses is reputed to deter aphids and nasturtiums grown up through apple trees are believed to drive away woolly aphids.

Prepare your beds for tomatoes, courgettes, cucumbers and melons by digging the ground over and forking in plenty of fertilizer or garden compost. Prune any shrubs, such as forsythia, that have finished flowering and deadhead daffodils and tulips after flowering leaving the leaves to die naturally. Give all bulbs dying and flowering a good feed of fertilizer to ensure flowers next season. Seeds sown in trays last months will probably be strong enough to prick out into larger trays or containers or into the garden. Remember that we can still have frost in April so protect any plants that are tender.

So, here's to a successful year in the garden for everyone! June Connolly

## **WANTED**

Our popular gardening columnist, June Connolly, has decided to hang up her wellies to spend more time in other pursuits.

We need another green-fingered volunteer to take over from June as soon as possible. If you think you could pick up the spade, and pen about 450 words per month please contact Margaret at [edjubilate@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:edjubilate@yahoo.co.uk)

**A request to new contributors – we are always pleased to include contributions from new sources. If you are kind enough to contribute by e-mail please include the word Jubilate in the subject of your message. Thank-you.**

## **DEADLINE FOR CONTRIBUTIONS**

**Please** note that any contributions received after the 15th of the month will not normally be published in the following month's edition – please send all contributions to the editor unless requested otherwise.

**Would you also check details such as dates, telephone numbers and/or addresses that are included in notices.**

**Margaret Mace, Editor. Many thanks.**

**Tel. 05 49 29 97 81                      [edjubilate@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:edjubilate@yahoo.co.uk)**

## **Disclaimer**

**The Chaplaincy of Poitou-Charentes, the Chaplain and Editor accept no liability for the contents of this magazine. Information provided and views expressed are neither endorsed nor supported but are solely those of the individual contributors**

**As from the Annual General Meeting held on 18<sup>th</sup> April 2007 the Officers and Elected Members of the Council are as follows:-**

Michael Hepper President Pamela Clarke Treasurer

Michael Curtis Warden/Secretary Jackie James Planned Giving Officer

Brian Wright Warden & Chair of Finance/ Vice President

Alan Jenkins Regional Warden Charente Maritime

Ann Gillibrand Assistant Chaplain

Pat Jenkins Archdeaconry Synod Rep

Joyce Bache Archdeaconry Synod Rep

Ann White Minute Secretary

Elisabeth Barnett Diocesan Synod Rep

Carolyn Kimber Member

Colin Fidler Regional Warden Deux-Sevres/Vienne

Margaret Mace Member

Janet Cambell Regional Warden Charente

Liz Whittome Member

Len Wilson Member

Full details of Council Members are listed in the Chaplaincy Handbook (available through Local Wardens at all church venues)