



CHRIST CHURCH BRITTANY

'To know Jesus Christ and make Him Known'
Ploërmel + Huelgoat + Rostrenen

Newsletter February 2009

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Prayer Focus February 2009

- ❖ That we may be ever mindful of the uneven distribution of the harvest.

- ❖ That the light of Christ will continue to shine brightly in this corner of France

- ❖ For all those who are sick in body mind or spirit.

Priest-in-Charge: Revd Hazel Door
79 rue Glatinier, 56120 Josselin
Tel: 02 97 22 31 38
e-mail: rev.hazel@wanadoo.fr.

Churchwardens: Chris Wilson (Tel: 02 97 72 19 29)
e-mail: wilson.christopher@orange.fr

Barbara Dunford (Tel: 02 97 27 19 37)
e-mail : mdunford@orange.fr.

Local Contacts:

Huelgoat: Keith Beswetherick (Tel: 02 98 78 21 28)
e-mail: beswetherick.keith@wanadoo.fr

Rostrenen: Robin and Laura Hillman (Tel: 02 97 51 74 26)
e-mail: kermoran@wanadoo.fr

**CHRIST CHURCH BRITTANY – PART OF THE DIOCESE IN EUROPE
(CHURCH OF ENGLAND)**

Services for February 2009

PLOERMEL

February

| | | | |
|------------------|-----------------------------|-------|---|
| 1 st | Epiphany 4/Candlemas | 11-00 | H C order 1 |
| 8 th | 3 rd before Lent | 11-00 | Prayer & Praise Followed by shared lunch |
| 15 th | 2 nd before Lent | 11-00 | H C order 1 |
| 22 nd | Sunday next before Lent | 11-00 | FAMILY SERVICE WITH HOLY COMMUNION |
| 25 th | Ash Wednesday | 11-00 | H C with imposition of ashes. |

ROSTRENEN (Chapelle de Manoir du Campostal.)

| | | | |
|------------------|-----------------------------|-------|-------------|
| 8 th | 3 rd before Lent | 10-30 | H C Order 1 |
| 22 nd | Sunday next before Lent | 10-30 | H C Order 1 |

HUELGOAT Parish Church in the town centre

| | | | |
|-----------------|-----------------------------|-------|------------|
| 8 th | 3 rd before Lent | 16-30 | HC Order 1 |
|-----------------|-----------------------------|-------|------------|

For further information about any of these services please get in touch with The Rev'd Hazel Door, Churchwardens or the local contacts.

Other dates for your diary

Christ Church Brittany - Annual General Meeting 2009

As announced in the last Newsletter the 2009 Annual General Meeting will be held on Sunday 29th March 2009, immediately following the service.

Elections will take place at the AGM for the following:

1. Two Churchwardens – A Churchwarden's term of office is for 1 year only. The election of the Churchwardens takes place before the commencement of the AGM and only if there are more than two Churchwardens nominated will a vote be necessary. The nominee, proposer and seconder, must all be members of the Electoral Roll and nominations must be received no later than the day before the meeting.
2. Elected Council members - Elected Members terms of office are for 1 year only and existing elected members must therefore apply for re-election. The number of members to be elected depends on the size of the Electoral Roll and on present numbers 11 members can be elected. Nominations can be accepted up to the start of the meeting. The nominee, proposer and seconder, must all be members of the electoral roll, and nominations must be received before the meeting. If eleven or less are nominated no voting will take place.
3. Independent Examiner – We will wish to elect an independent examiner, whose term of office lasts for one year and who audits the accounts and financial statements. The Independent Examiner is not a member of Council.
4. Sidesmen – The Council would again like to appoint a number of Sidesmen (male or female) to be elected at the AGM. Sidesmen will not be members of the Church Council. Anyone interested please contact Hazel or one of the Wardens.

The Electoral Roll is mentioned in a number of places above and it is emphasised again that only those whose names are on the Roll will be entitled to vote. A new Electoral Roll was produced for the 2007 AGM and you need do nothing more if your name is on there; you will be entitled to vote at the AGM. If you are uncertain whether or not you are on the Roll please check with Don Dykes (02 97 27 10 41).

If you are not on the Roll and you would like to be so; please ask Don Dykes or one of the Wardens for the appropriate form. The criteria for applying to be on the Roll are as follows:

1. You are aged over 16 years and have been baptized.
2. You have signed an application form (obtainable from Don Dykes).
3. You are a member of the Church of England or of any church in communion with the Church of England and you have attended public worship in the parish during the six months prior to application for enrolment.

The Council will revise the current Electoral Roll with a closing date on 10th March 2009, so if you need to apply you must do so before this date if you wish to vote at the AGM.

Spring Concert

As mentioned in the last Newsletter we are in the process of organising a charity concert. It will take place on Friday 17th April 2009 commencing at 8.00/8.30pm (actual time to be confirmed later), in the Amphithéâtre of the Lycée La Mennais, Ploermel. The concert is to raise funds for Water Aid, an international charity to provide clean water.

We are looking for acts and for assistance and would be grateful if you would complete one of the forms, which are in the coffee room. Tasks will include taking admissions, ushers, collections, distribution of publicity, provision and serving catering and provision of raffle prizes. We are also wishing to form a choir, who can commit to practising regularly after services.

We would be grateful if you could sign up as soon as possible and try and interest as many people as you can in this event. We are intending the concert to be for a French and English audience.

For further information please contact John or Helen Edge on 02 97 74 97 96.

Fellowship Meetings – February 2009

St Vran

Fellowship meeting dates for February are the 12th and 26th starting with a shared lunch. All are welcome. For further information please contact Joyce and Alex Fraser on 02 96 56 13 22 or e-mail alex.fraser@wanadoo.fr.

Redon Area

If you would like further information about the Group and the date of the next meeting please contact Joy Morin on 02 99 71 12 30 or Chris Wilson on 02 97 72 19 29 or e-mail wilson.christopher@orange.fr.

Rostrenen Area

Rostrenen area Home Group meeting will be on Wed Feb 11th, 10.30 am, followed by shared lunch, at Julia's in Glomel. Advance notice of Lent Course meetings: March 4, 11, 18 & 25, April 1st, same time and place. We shall be following the book Lentwise by Paula Gooder. For further information contact Robin or Laura 02 97 51 74 26 or e-mail to kermoran@wanadoo.fr.

Bannalec

Meetings usually take place at the Chapel at David and Rebecca Pugh's on Tuesday evenings at 6.00pm. For further information and to check on dates beforehand please contact Rebecca or David on 02 98 35 46 59.

OTHER MATTERS

News from Huelgoat Church.

Another year has passed us by and we are thankful to have been able to continue our Services at Huelgoat. We have listened to a variety of sermons in different styles, some have been challenging and perhaps left us thinking about our own lives and how we live them, we have heard about the lives of others who have not only been challenged but given their lives for their Country offering some thought provoking comparisons with the relevant readings of the day.

However, the highlight of our year has to be our Joint Carol Service. This Annual event was attended by over 200 people, the congregation a good mix of French and English. A joyful and shared experience which seemed to have no language barrier at all, indeed we all seemed to enjoy singing in French, an opportunity to test our language skills, or perhaps lack of them!

The local children added colour and simplicity with their mobile collage of the nativity which were quite beautiful to behold and were brought individually to the Altar during the readings.

Of course something had to go wrong, and once all the kettles were switched on for the refreshments the lights went out, but as we are all used to such things no one showed any concern at all and carried on regardless.

The nuns provided wonderfully tasty refreshments and all the Breton cake and biscuits were attacked with relish by the large queue forming to enjoy them.

The Service was very well promoted in the Local area and more people have been made aware of the fact that this is very much a shared service, hosted by our Catholic Church colleagues and friends.

A small working party decorated the Church which again was simple and yet beautiful utilising what is all around us in the gardens, forest and woodland which forms so much of the heart of this beautiful place.

The congregation at Huelgoat would like to pass on every good wish to all our friends within Christ Church Brittany and again extend an invitation for anyone who would like to join us; you will be made very welcome.

Carole Turner. Huelgoat church

The following humorous sentences appeared in church bulletins or were announced in church services (not at Christ Church I hasten to add).

The Fasting & Prayer Conference includes meals.

The sermon this morning: 'Jesus Walks on the Water.' The sermon tonight: 'Searching for Jesus.'

Our youth basketball team is back in action Wednesday at 8 PM in the recreation hall. Come out and watch us kill Christ the King.

Ladies, don't forget the rummage sale. It's a chance to get rid of those things not worth keeping around the house. Bring your husbands.

The peacemaking meeting scheduled for today has been cancelled due to a conflict.

Remember in prayer the many who are sick of our community. Smile at someone who is hard to love. Say 'Hell' to someone who doesn't care much about you.

Don't let worry kill you off - let the Church help.

Miss Charlene Mason sang 'I Will Not Pass This Way Again,' giving obvious pleasure to the congregation.

For those of you who have children and don't know it, we have a nursery downstairs.

The Rector will preach his farewell message, after which the choir will sing: 'Break Forth Into Joy.'

Irving Benson and Jessie Carter were married on October 24th in the church.

So ends a friendship that began in their school days.

At the evening service tonight, the sermon topic will be 'What Is Hell?' Come early and listen to our choir practice.

Eight new choir robes are currently needed due to the addition of several new members and to the deterioration of some older ones.

Scouts are saving aluminium cans, bottles and other items to be recycled. Proceeds will be used to cripple children.

Please place your donation in the envelope along with the deceased person you want remembered.

The church will host an evening of fine dining, super entertainment and gracious hostility.

Potluck supper Sunday at 5:00 PM - Prayer and medication to follow.

The ladies of the Church have cast off clothing of every kind. They may be seen in the basement on Friday afternoon.

This evening at 7 PM there will be a hymn singing in the park across from the Church. Bring a blanket and come prepared to sin.

Ladies Bible Study will be held Thursday morning at 10 AM. All ladies are invited to lunch in the Fellowship Hall after the B.S. is done.

The pastor would appreciate it if the ladies of the congregation would lend him their electric girdles for the pancake breakfast next Sunday.

Low Self Esteem Support Group will meet Thursday at 7 PM. Please use the back door.

The eighth-graders will be presenting Shakespeare's Hamlet in the Church basement Friday at 7 PM. The congregation is invited to attend this tragedy.

Weight Watchers will meet at 7 PM at the First Presbyterian Church. Please use the large double doors at the side entrance.

The Associate Minister unveiled the church's new tithing campaign slogan last Sunday: 'I Upped My Pledge - Up Yours'

With Age comes wisdom -- but it is an option!

and finally.....

Last month I wrote about prayer, and suggested we might consider having a Chaplaincy prayer day once a month. I often am told that we do not pray together often enough, which is quite true. That is one of the unfortunate side effects of the area we cover, it is very difficult for us all to assemble. However, I was very surprised that I have had no response whatsoever, not even privately. Perhaps we all perceive the distance as prohibitive in this time of economic crunch? Most of us are considering in one way or another how to cut down on travel, back to the wartime slogan I suppose: "Is your journey necessary?"

So if we cannot get together physically, perhaps we *can* gather spiritually. It is important too to listen to God, and we should allow time in the prayers to hear His voice. Prayer is not a "shopping or wish list" it is the corner stone of our relationship with our creator. All relationships depend on dialogue, prayer is a two way street. For those of you who would like to 'join' me, can I suggest that at 10-30 on the morning of the 30th of each month (Feb 28th) we in our separation each have an hour of prayer using the prayer focus from the newsletter, for the first session? I'll make space, if you would like to share responses, in the next Newsletter. Perhaps some one would be willing to take on the choice of topics for future months? As Christ church, we need to focus on our journey and the decisions that must be made for the future, the council will be meeting soon to consider where we believe we should be in the months and years to come, please pray for the members and officers. Pray for all those who have recently been ill, pray for yourselves and for your neighbour.

With every blessing,

Hazel.

Christ Church Newsletter Contributions: For the March 2009 issue, please e-mail your contributions to Chris Wilson at wilson.christopher@orange.fr the deadline is Monday 16th February 2009.