



CHRIST CHURCH BRITTANY

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

Newsletter May 2009

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Prayer Focus May 2009

- ❖ That events being planned will be successful.
- ❖ That in our lives we may reflect the love that Christ has for us.
- ❖ That we find the tolerance to listen to those with whom we disagree, and accept the divergence of their views, in every aspect of our lives: church, or faith or community.

Priest-in-Charge: Revd Hazel Door
79 rue Glatinier, 56120 Josselin
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Churchwarden: Greg West (02 97 93 57 87)
e-mail: ghwest@wanadoo.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 MAY 2009

PLOERMEL

May

3 rd	Easter 4	11-00	H C Order 1
10 th	Easter 5	11-00	Prayer and Praise followed by shared lunch
17 th	Easter 6	11-00	H C Order 1
24 th	Easter 7	11-00	Family Service with Holy Communion
31 st	Pentecost	11-00	Something different??

ROSTRENEN - Chapelle du Manoir de Campostal.

10 th	Easter 5	10.30	H C Order 1
24 th	Easter 7	10-30	H C Order 1

HUELGOAT - Parish Church in the town centre

10 th	Easter 5	16-30	H C Order 1
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For further information about any of these services please get in touch with The Rev'd Hazel Door, Churchwarden or the local contacts.

OTHER DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Fellowship Meetings – May 2009

St Vran

Fellowship meeting dates for May are the 7th and 21st 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

The Home Group meets regularly at either Joy Morin's home in Redon or at Maureen Wilson's in Glénac. If you would like further information about the Group and the date of the next meeting please contact Joy on 02 99 71 12 30 or Maureen on 02 99 08 21 94.

Rostrenen Area

The Home Group is returning to monthly meetings now Lent is over so the May meeting will take place on Wednesday May 13th from 14.30 - 16.00 followed by afternoon tea (note change of time). We shall again be meeting at Julia Evans' home in Glomel. All are welcome and for further information please telephone Robin or Laura Hillman - 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.

Malestroit Area

There is a new Fellowship Group opening up at the home of Val and Dave Smith at La Née on Tuesday 5th May commencing at 12.00 midday, and will start with a Bring and Share Lunch. We will also meet on Tuesday 19th May. It is hoped that we will always meet on the 1st and third Tuesday of every month. All are welcome. For further details please ring Val on 02 97 75 25 32.

OTHER NEWS

Church Council

The Christ Church AGM took place at Ploërmel on Sunday 29th March 2009 and a total of 45 people attended. Your new Church Council is now made up of the following members:

Chairperson: Rev Hazel Door
Lay Vice Chairman: Greg West (Churchwarden)
Lay Members: Guy Barnard
Mary Beswetherick
Barbara Dunford
Don Dykes (Treasurer) (Co-opted Member)
Alan Mason (Stewardship Officer)
Derek Richards

Mary Richardson
Sue Smith
Carole Turner (Co-opted Member)
Chris Wilson

Archdeaconry
Synod Reps:

Martin Door
Laura Hillman
Robin Hillman

Easter at Huelgoat

A Lent course in Bannalec organised by David and Rebecca Pugh and held at Chez Pugh led us up to Good Friday. On Good Friday (also at chez Pugh) a time of fellowship and meditation led by Lionel brought us into a greater understanding of the sacrifice made for us and we feel very blessed that we could enjoy the peace and tranquillity which brought us to the Easter festivities.

Easter Sunday was enjoyed with many of the congregation in fellowship, over a tea of hot cross buns, simnel cake and scones with jam and Cornish clotted cream, at chez Beswetherick in Scignac. This was then followed by an Easter Service at 6.30 pm at Huelgoat church led by David Clark and with many new faces joining us for that service the praise and Alleluias were heard all over Huelgoat, ably led musically by David Franklin on the organ. It was a joy to be able to partake in the pleasure of singing accompanied by David's musical talent which will be sorely missed at the next two Huelgoat services owing to David's work commitments in the UK.

19 people attended our Easter service which considering we were 8 or 9 regular communicants down owing to family visits, trips abroad and Bob Armitage being ill .

We are encouraged by the increasing regular numbers attending and slowly we are growing in strength with the help of the Lord

Water Aid Concert

As you are probably aware we organised a concert on Friday 17th April, the profits from which are to be donated to Water Aid.

115 people attended, a good proportion of whom were French and the evening seemed to have been enjoyed by everyone.

We would like to thank all involved for giving their time, effort and support in making this a successful fund-raising event. Without everybody's various input, it wouldn't have been possible to organise such an evening.

The total raised was 873€16, of which 156€ was from refreshments, 245€ from sale of programmes and raffle tickets and 472€16 was collected. Of this 200€ was for the hire of the amphitheatre and 40€ was for miscellaneous expenses. There will still be a charge to be deducted for performing rights (SACEM).

If anybody would still like to donate, there is the bottle in the coffee room at Church or Euro cheques can be accepted, made payable to Les Mains Ouvertes.

Once again, we would like to thank everyone for their efforts. Subsequent to the success of this evening, we are hoping to organise another Concert later in the year, the proceeds of which would be for Christ Church.

Helen and John Edge

First Wedding at Christ Church, Ploërmel

The first wedding ceremony at our church in Ploërmel took place on the afternoon of Easter Monday, 13th April, when Ceri Lloyd, daughter of Molly and John, married Justin Hervey Adams. The flowers were arranged by Christ Church ladies, Barbara Dunford, Barbara Woodford and Val Smith and what a wonderful job they made of it. Best wishes go to the happy couple from all at Christ Church Brittany.



Prayer Diary

Following a request at the recent AGM we are hoping we can shortly re-introduce the Christ Church Prayer Diary. The Diary is made up of a list of people from our Chaplaincy allowing them to be prayed for by name against each day of the month. So if you would like your name to be included in the Prayer Diary please inform Hazel or a Council Member or e-mail to wilson.christopher@orange.fr.

Prayer Meeting

Each Sunday at Ploërmel a group meets for quiet prayer time in one of the downstairs rooms at La Source. You may feel the need for special prayer for yourself or someone you know or you may just wish to sit quietly and listen. If you would like to know more have a word with Barbara Woodford or just come along for as long or as short a time as you would like. Prayers start at about 10.20am and last for approximately half an hour.

Exhibition of Paintings

Those who have visited Ploërmel will I am sure have noticed that there is an exhibition of Allen Foye's paintings in the downstairs coffee room. The paintings are for sale and Allen makes a contribution of 20% of the price to Christ Church. The exhibition will continue until the end of May so if you would like to see the paintings or purchase one please do so before this date.

INTERESTING STUFF

If a statue in the park of a person on horse and it has both front legs in the air, the person died in battle. If the horse has one front leg in the air the person died as a result of wounds received in battle. If the horse has all four legs on the ground, the person died of natural causes.

Q. Most boat owners name their boats. What is the most popular boat name requested?

A. Obsession

Q. If you were to spell out numbers, how far would you have to go until you would find the letter 'A'?

A. One thousand

Q. What do bulletproof vests, fire escapes, windshield wipers, and laser printers all have in common?

A. All were invented by women.

Q. What is the only food that doesn't spoil?

A. Honey

In Shakespeare's time, mattresses were secured on bed frames by ropes. When you pulled on the ropes the mattress tightened, making the bed firmer to sleep on. Hence the phrase..... 'goodnight, sleep tight.'

It was the accepted practice in Babylon 4,000 years ago that for a month after the wedding, the bride's father would supply his son-in-law with all the mead he could drink. Mead is a honey beer and because their calendar was lunar based, this period was called the honey month, which we know today as the honeymoon.

In English pubs, ale is ordered by pints and quarts.... So in old England, when customers got unruly, the bartender would yell at them 'Mind your pints and quarts, and settle down.'

It's where we get the phrase 'mind your P's and Q's'

Many years ago in England, pub frequenters had a whistle baked into the rim, or handle, of their ceramic cups. When they needed a refill, they used the whistle to get some service. 'Wet your whistle' is the phrase inspired by this practice.

Now this may look weird but believe it or not, you can read it.

I cdnuolt blveiee that I cluod aulactly uesdnatnrd what I was rdanieg. The phaonmneal pweor of the hmuan mnid aoccdnrng to rscheearch at Cmabrigde Uinervtisy, it deosn't mtttaer in what oredr the ltteers in a word are, the olny iprmoatnt tihng is that the first and last ltteer be in the rghit pclae. The rset can be a taotl mses and you can still raed it wouthit a porbelm. This is bcuseae the huamn mnid deos not raed ervey lteter by istlef, but the word as a wlohe. Amzanig huh?

YOU KNOW YOU ARE LIVING IN 2008 when....

1. You accidentally enter your PIN on the microwave.
2. You haven't played solitaire with real cards in years.
3. You have a list of 15 phone numbers to reach your family of three.
4. You e-mail the person who works at the desk next to you.
5. Your reason for not staying in touch with friends and family is that they don't have e-mail addresses.
6. You pull up in your own driveway and use your cell phone to see if anyone is home to help you carry in the groceries.
7. Every commercial on television has a web site at the bottom of the screen
8. Leaving the house without your cell phone, which you didn't even have the first 20 or 30 (or 60) years of your life, is now a cause for panic and you turn around to go and get it..
10. You get up in the morning and go on line before getting your coffee.
11. You start tilting your head sideways to smile. :)
12. You're reading this and nodding and laughing.
13. You are too busy to notice there was no 9 on this list.
14. You actually looked back to check that there wasn't a 9 on this list.

AND FINALLY.....

In the September issue of this newsletter I concluded by saying:

“Give thanks that there are many folk, (like him), who serve the risen Christ in others; and count it a privilege to do so. Pray that Kingdom values are more important than the monetary values of this age.”

I invite you to continue praying not only for the Chaplain I was then referring to, but in addition, all those who give their time and talents freely and unstintingly in the service of others. It is all too easy to criticise others, to stand aside and in a few words destroy what others have worked hard to achieve.

As individuals we are all facing the financial problems shared globally. Nor, is Christ Church, Brittany exempt; a great deal of careful thought will need to be given to managing our budget in order to serve God’s people in our area. It is accepted that people are giving what they can in monetary terms, though I know that Alan Mason, the Stewardship Officer, would be delighted to welcome more contributors through the envelope scheme! As council begin to plan for the coming year, they will be asking for your support, not for your Treasure, but for the two other T’s: Time and Talent. This is not only to assist with services, but with other important elements of our church life. For example Rhiannon Jones made an appeal at the AGM for folk to sign up for the coffee rota; it need only be as simple as that. Or it might be that you could run a stall at a coffee morning, or hold a coffee morning at your home. I’m very conscious of the fact that we are a scattered community, and it is difficult for some to be able to afford to travel great distances, so why not do your bit in your local area? Involve other members of your congregation and open events to your local community. Not only would you be “waving the flag” for Christ Church, you may meet new folk and involve them in worship too! If we could spread out our FUNdraising across the region, having several easily managed local events, and perhaps one big event, we may be surprised at what God will do. Any thoughts or better still, suggestions or offers will be gratefully received. Please continue to pray for all who give their time talents as well as treasure in serving our Lord Jesus Christ, who gave his life for us.

Hazel

Christ Church Newsletter Contributions: for the June 2009 issue, please e-mail (or post) your contributions to Chris Wilson at wilson.christopher@orange.fr the deadline is Monday 18th May 2009.