



# CHRIST CHURCH, BRITTANY

*To know Jesus Christ and make him known*



CHRIST CHURCH BRITTANY  
DIOCESE IN EUROPE  
(CHURCH OF ENGLAND)  
Ploërmel + Nantes + Huelgoat + Bonen  
'To know Jesus Christ and make Him Known'

La Source, 14 rue Général Dubreton, Ploërmel, Tel: 02 97 74 24 82

Website: [christchurchbrittany.org.uk](http://christchurchbrittany.org.uk)

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## **November 2006 - Prayer focus:**

- For our new priest-in-charge, the Revd Hazel Door and her husband, Martin, as they prepare to move to Brittany in January.
- That a suitable house may be found for Hazel and Martin.
- For the victims of war and the work of the Royal British Legion.

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Priest-in-Charge: Currently vacant

Reader: Robin Hillman  
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Clergy with permission  
to officiate: The Revd Michael Grainger,  
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The Revd Dr John Marvell,  
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Churchwardens: Greg West (Tel: 02 97 93 57 87  
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Chris Wilson (Tel: 02 97 72 19 29)  
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Deputy Wardens: Malcolm Dunford (Tel: 02 97 27 15 58)  
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Nantes: Greg Woodhouse (Tel: 02 99 70 29 71)  
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Huelgoat: Wendy Bishop  
(Tel: 02 98 67 66 58)  
e-mail: [wendy.bishop@yahoo.fr](mailto:wendy.bishop@yahoo.fr)

Bonen: Robin or Laura Hillman (details as before)

## **SERVICE DETAILS – Ploërmel (all services at 11.00)**

### **NOVEMBER**

5<sup>th</sup> (4<sup>th</sup> BEFORE ADVENT)

Holy Communion - The Revd Michael Grainger

Act of Remembrance followed by Holy Communion - The Revd John Marvell

PLEASE NOTE: i) This service will start at 10.55 in order to include the Two Minutes Silence at 11.00; ii) Names of any persons to be specifically remembered by name should be given to John before the service.)

12<sup>th</sup> (3<sup>rd</sup> BEFORE ADVENT – REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

19<sup>th</sup> (2<sup>nd</sup> BEFORE ADVENT)

Holy Communion – The Revd Michael Grainger

26<sup>th</sup> (CHRIST THE KING, SUNDAY NEXT BEFORE ADVENT)

All Age – Churchwardens

## **SERVICE DETAILS – other areas**

### ***BONEN (in the Parish Church)***

NOVEMBER 26<sup>th</sup>

Holy Communion – The Revd Michael Grainger

Service commences at 10.30

***NANTES*** (Communion service every 2nd Sunday at 18.30 The Revd Peter Knapper)

***HUELGOAT*** (First Sunday - 11.00 - Fellowship meeting)

TUESDAY NOVEMBER 14<sup>th</sup>, 16.30

HOLY COMMUNION - The Revd Michael Grainger

Next Fellowship Meetings at St Vran – Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> November and Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> November and every subsequent fortnight. 12 noon for shared lunch. All welcome.

Contact Alex & Joyce Fraser 02 96 56 13 22

**For further information about any of the services please get in touch with a Churchwarden, Reader, or contact as shown earlier in this letter.**

## IN REPLY TO RECENT NEWSLETTER CONTRIBUTIONS

JESUS, the Saviour of the World.

We would like to express our concern about recent discussions, which could be misleading and lead to misunderstandings.

We are ALL for harmony and peace, and as Christians we are most certainly called to live in unity with ALL men whatever their background. Jesus indeed taught us to: "love your neighbour as yourself" (our neighbour being anyone we come into contact with).

However, we are not called upon to accept, embrace or celebrate their faith. As Christians we believe in and celebrate Jesus Christ as the Saviour of the WHOLE world. HE came to atone for ALL humanity. Romans 3 v 22-23 tell us: "There is no difference, for ALL have sinned and fall short of God." Then in verse 25: "God presented HIM (Jesus) as a sacrifice of atonement through faith in HIS blood."

Therefore, we are only saved through the shed blood of Jesus Christ and NOT by following a given set of rules. Romans 3 v 20 states: "Therefore NO ONE will be declared righteous in HIS sight by observing the law."

By looking into other faiths, there is the inherent danger that we could be misled. Unless our faith in Jesus Christ is rock solid, we could be persuaded to believe that there are other ways which lead to Heaven, in contradiction to the Bible's teaching. JESUS said: "I am the Way, the Truth and the Life. NO ONE comes to the Father except through me." (John 14 v 6).

Margrith and Andy Jay

## **NEW PRIEST IN CHARGE.**

As we are sure you will know we are delighted to announce that the Revd Hazel Door has been appointed as our Priest in Charge and will be commencing her duties on January 21<sup>st</sup> 2007. Hazel is currently Assistant Chaplain to the Revd Michael Hepper in Poitou-Charentes and has lived and worked in France for many years. Her experience in helping the growth of the congregations in Poitou-Charentes will be extremely helpful to us as we continue to spread the word of Christ throughout Brittany.

Details of Hazel's official Institution and Licensing are being finalised with the Acting Archdeacon of France, the Revd Ken Letts, and we are hoping to be able to announce details in the next week or so (it is hoped however that this will take place on Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> January and you may therefore wish to keep this date free in your diary). In the meantime however it is planned that Hazel's first service as our Priest in Charge will be held in Ploermel on Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> January 2007 when she officially commences her duties in Brittany. Hazel will take her first service at Bonen on January 28<sup>th</sup>.

Finally the PCC are currently looking for a house as accommodation for Hazel and her husband Martin so if anyone knows of a house to rent within easy travelling distance of Ploermel then please contact a member of the Council.

## **WATOTO CHILDREN'S CHOIR - PLOËRMEL 15th SEPTEMBER**

Further news of the Watoto Children's Choir. Monies received on the night and raised from the sales of goods added up to a total of £1,000. It is a tribute to all those who helped make it happen including the Frères at Maison Mère de Lamennais who were so generous with the facilities they made available.

## **CHRIST CHURCH CONCERT – 26<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER**

The concert held in the theatre at Maison Mère was well attended and was a great success. All of the performances were excellent and it was wonderful to see the depth of talent in our congregation. The event was a great opportunity to socialise and have a little fun and we were able to raise the magnificent sum of almost 550 Euros from the sale of raffle tickets and refreshments. A big thank you to all who took part. It is hoped we can plan another concert next year.

## **Marché de Noël**

On 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> December Ploërmel will be holding its Marché de Noël and as last year it planned to have Open Days at La Source when it is hoped we will again be able to offer mulled wine and mince pies. This was extremely popular with French people last year so is well worth the effort.

## **Locarn Carol Service**

9<sup>th</sup> December sees the annual carol service being held again at Locarn commencing at 3.00pm.

## **Huelgoat Carol Service**

A joint Anglo-French carol service is to be held in the Roman Catholic church in the main street in Huelgoat on Saturday 16th December commencing at 2.30pm. Refreshments and hot drinks will follow the service which will be held in French and English.

## **NEWS FROM ICS**

Alexandria: an international church in the Islamic world.

Alexandria is the second city of Egypt where five times a day the Islamic call to prayer (the Adhan) echoes around the city and provides the backdrop the ministry of Mark and Juliet Cregan. Mark is part of a team with two Egyptian clergy colleagues and one Sudanese, and their congregations share two church buildings. Church meets on Fridays, and on Sundays for those who are not at work. Mark told me:

My role as Chaplain to the international community is a varied and busy one.

My Arabic lessons have opened up a new area of contact to students from British universities, and we have our fair share of visiting celebrities! The recent visit of their Royal Highnesses, Charles and Camilla, involved me giving a short address on the true peace and reconciliation found in Christ. Lord Carey, former Archbishop of Canterbury, came to the new Alexandria Library and spoke on 'The future of inter-faith dialogue' and the Bishop of Rochester recently spoke in Cairo Cathedral on 'Integrity in inter-faith dialogue' all of which have created opportunities for conversation.

Given the context of the chaplaincy this kind of debate enables us all to deepen our understanding of the issues involved and to identify areas where we as the international community can be salt and light and hopefully make a positive contribution where we live and work...in a country where we have been made most welcome.

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[www.churchesabroad.org](http://www.churchesabroad.org)

The full text of this article will be available in December's *ICS News and Prayer Diary*. Please pray for

- Alexandria's mid-week Bible study which ministers to many who are not used to studying the Scriptures together.
- The ICS-linked and other churches in Islamic countries such as Northern Cyprus, Morocco, Tunisia and Egypt.

### **And finally...**

We were reminded during intercessions on Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> October that one of the statements made in the Bible is that the end of the world will come about when all the Jews in the world have returned to the Holy Land to lead the nations back to the Creator God.

I do not believe that God can be held to such earthly formulae. For example, can the number of those to be saved be limited to 144,000? (Revelation 7:4). If so, then we may have already been excluded from the kingdom! Jesus warns us not to speculate about the second coming, "Yet that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels in heaven, not even the Son; no one but the Father alone." (Matthew 24:36)

However, if you feel that you would like to be the first to know..... the Jews believe that when Messiah comes, he will enter through the Golden Gate set in the city wall on the East side of Jerusalem. On the internet one can look through a camera trained on the scene at the Golden Gate. The site can be found at <http://www.messiahcam.org>.

As a barrier against the coming of the Messiah, the Golden Gate was bricked up by the Ottoman Sultan, Sulaiman the Magnificent, in the sixteenth century. As a further precaution against this event, a large number of Muslim warriors have been buried strategically inside the gate, presumably to rise up on the last day and prevent the entry of the Lord by force of arms.

We ought to listen to the words of Jesus concerning the second coming "Be on your guard, keep watch. You do not know when the moment is coming." (Mark 13:33) and "Hold yourselves ready, therefore, because the Son of Man will come at the time you least expect him." (Matthew 24:44).

Christians have nothing to fear from the advent of the Messiah because we live in the words "Watch and pray".

**Michael Grainger**