



# CHRIST CHURCH, BRITTANY

*To know Jesus Christ and make him known*



CHRIST CHURCH BRITTANY  
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

## **November 2007 - Prayer focus:**

We pray for...

- Archbishop Rowan, Bishop Geoffrey and Bishop David and all who minister in Christ's name
- The new home groups starting this month, that they may successfully share in the Gospel
- Those who mourn.

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

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

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

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

Clergy with permission to officiate: The Revd Michael Grainger,  
1, impasse Edith Piaf, Kerbrégent,  
56930 Plumeliau; Tel: 02 97 51 91 28  
e-mail: [michaelgrainger@wanadoo.fr](mailto:michaelgrainger@wanadoo.fr)

The Revd Dr John Marvell,  
3, impasse des Genêts, La Vicomté,  
35800 Dinard; Tel: 02 99 16 56 74

e-mail: [john.marvell2@btopenworld.com](mailto:john.marvell2@btopenworld.com)

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

Barbara Dunford (Tel : 02 97 27 19 37)  
e-mail : [mdunford@wanadoo.fr](mailto:mdunford@wanadoo.fr).

Nantes: Peter Beninger (Tel: 02 51 12 56 51)  
e-mail: [peter.beninger@univ-nantes.fr](mailto:peter.beninger@univ-nantes.fr)

Huelgoat: Wendy Bishop (Tel: 02 98 67 66 58)  
e-mail: [wendy.bishop@wanadoo.fr](mailto:wendy.bishop@wanadoo.fr)

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

## **La Source**

Due to the reduction in the number of visitors to La Source during the winter months it has been decided to limit the opening times as follows: Monday afternoon 2.00pm – 4.00pm, Wednesday morning and Friday morning 10.00am – 12.00 noon. These revised times will take effect from Monday 19<sup>th</sup> November 2007.

***'The views expressed by contributors are not necessarily those held by the Minister or Council of Christ Church Brittany'***

Christ Church Newsletter Contributions: For the December 2007 issue, please email your contributions to Vicki Lewer at [andrew.lewer@libertysurf.fr](mailto:andrew.lewer@libertysurf.fr); the deadline is Monday 19<sup>th</sup> November 2007. Many thanks.

## **News from ICS**

### **The power of words and deeds**

On the occasion of her recent baptism, Lisa (not her real name) told the chaplaincy, "I have the habit of always reading the biography of an author before reading his book. That is how I learned that CS Lewis had also been converted (to Christianity) when he was an adult. From what I read, his life seemed to have followed the same path as mine. But I didn't see to what extent that was true until I read the following passage of his book *Surprised by Joy*: 'You must picture me alone in that room in Magdalen (an Oxford college where he taught), night after night, feeling, whenever my mind lifted even for a

second from my work, the steady, unrelenting approach of him whom I so earnestly desired not to meet. That which I greatly feared had at last come upon me. In the Trinity Term of 1929 I gave in, and admitted that God was God, and knelt and prayed: perhaps, that night, the most dejected and reluctant convert in all England.” She continued, “And, like CS. Lewis, that night I prayed...” The rest, we might say, is history.

God had not only used a book to help her discover Christ, but also a Christian friend’s life and words, her own reading of the Bible, and a serious fire. ICS often sees people attend one service whilst away from home, have one conversation with a chaplain, or be befriended by a Christian in their workplace. Single events, apparently insignificant, but which together form part of the Holy Spirit’s bigger work of drawing someone to Christ. A powerful reminder of a different agenda in an ‘I want it now’ age.

Please pray for the recruitment of new chaplains for Prague and Barcelona, under way at the moment, and for Lisa, that she may grow daily in her new-found faith.

Pick up a copy of ICS News and Prayer Diary from church to find out more about our work of helping churches like yours grow, and outreach to tourists.

**David Healey, Communications Manager, ICS: +44 1926 – 430 347**  
**[www.ics-uk.org](http://www.ics-uk.org)**

## **SERVICE DETAILS – Ploërmel**

### **NOVEMBER**

- 4<sup>th</sup> 11.00 Holy Communion with Baptism of Zoë Kemp  
11<sup>th</sup> 09.30 Holy Communion – Order Two  
11.00 Remembrance Service  
18<sup>th</sup> 11.00 Holy Communion - Order One  
25<sup>th</sup> 11.00 Holy Communion - Order One

### **DECEMBER**

- 2<sup>nd</sup> 11.00 Holy Communion – Order One

## **SERVICE DETAILS – Other areas**

### **ROSTRENEN (formerly Bonen) – 1<sup>st</sup> service in new venue:**

Chapelle de Manoir de Campstal, Rostrenen

25<sup>th</sup> November 10.30 – Holy Communion – Order One

### **HUELGOAT**

Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> November 16.30 - Holy Communion - Order One

**For further information about any of the services please get in touch with The Revd Hazel Door, Churchwarden or Reader.**

## **Other dates for your diary**

### **Fellowship Meetings – November 2007**

#### **St Vran**

Fellowship meeting dates for November are 8<sup>th</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> starting with a shared lunch. All welcome. For further information contact Joyce and Alex Fraser on 02 96 56 13 22.

**Bonfire Party - 4<sup>th</sup> November commencing at 5.30p.m**

There will be a Bonfire Party at the home of Barbara and Terry Woodford on 4<sup>th</sup> November. Please bring your own chairs and table if possible. Directions are available from Chris Wilson. There will be balloons on the gates to help you spot the house.

There will be a Pipe Band, hot dogs and burgers, mulled wine, games and competitions. There will also be a Best Guy Competition. This is a social event and all are welcome but if you have not put your name down yet to attend, please let Chris or Barbara know before 1<sup>st</sup> November for catering purposes.

**Reminder that on 11<sup>th</sup> November** there will be **NO** Prayer and Praise Service, there will be a 9.30am Order 2 Communion Service followed by the Remembrance Day Service.

**19/21<sup>st</sup> January 2008** – We will be receiving a visit from Bishop Geoffrey, our Diocesan Bishop. Further details to follow once his itinerary has been finalised.

## **Alpha Course**

We will be holding an Alpha Course, date yet to be decided. It is a 10 week course and is for all people whether Christian or not. If you are interested in joining the group or can help in any way or are interested in knowing more, please see Hazel Door, Val Smith or the Wardens.

## **Patronal Festival**

I recently had a meeting with Bishop Geoffrey, to discuss, among other things, his proposed visit to Christ Church Brittany. He asked me when we commemorated our Patronal Festival. When I said I didn't know, he suggested that we use the Sunday dedicated to "Christ the King" which this year is the 25<sup>th</sup> November.

But, perhaps we do have a patronal festival? Do any of you know? There is a great dearth of written information regarding the early days of CCB and if any one has a potted history that they would be willing to write out for us, it would make a fitting start **to our** archives.

Do contact either Chris or Barbara or me with your views and stories.

**Hazel**

## **News of a new home group**

Prayer answered: In response to my request that people get together and get organising, I received the following information from David and Rebecca Pugh, who will be known to those of you who attend the Bonen service. They live in Bannalec and have a small chapel attached to their home.

David writes:

"We will be meeting in the Chapel on Tuesdays at 6.00pm with an ending time of 7.30pm. As the days get shorter we may advance to a 5.00 - 5.30pm start. We started with prayer, two songs, a short Bible Study, another song, then shared prayer requests and praises, another song, then discussed our goals, ending with a further song and prayer.

Starting next week we will study Philippians over four weeks and then decide what to do next. Our intention is that this be a southern Finistère group. We also hope to attract others in the area who may be open to the need for prayer or to attend an informal Bible Study. The meetings will be held in English but there was a clear preference to include non-native speakers if they wish to come and also that we would keep the focus on Prayer and Bible (Faith) Study. While the focus will be on our own area anyone from

For further information, please contact David and Rebecca, or me. I'd love to hear of other new groups, please let me know.

**Hazel**

## **Other News**

What a great result, not the rugby of course, but the outcome of the Autumn Fete. The weather was kind and after the initial hiccup when we discovered the Frères were expecting us on the Sunday and not the Saturday, everything went according to plan. A great many people attended the event and the final amount raised is expected to be in the region of 1,800 Euros, which is fantastic. A big thank you to Barbara Dunford who took on the role of co-ordinator and thanks also to all those who helped in so many different ways, donating items, giving their time and, of course, spending money. It was also lovely to see Mary and Keith and Mary and Bob who travelled all the way down from the Huelgoat area to assist on the day. Finally a special thanks to the Frères for once again being so generous in allowing us to use their excellent facilities at Maison Mère.

## **Thursday prayers**

Barbara Dunford and Barbara Woodford will be meeting every Thursday for prayer. If you have a prayer request please contact them. All requests will be confidential.

## **Restos du Coeur**

This year we are again supporting Restos du Coeur by collecting dried goods and tinned food. This appeal will run until the beginning of December so please help with this appeal and bring your gifts.

## **And finally...**

Saint Paul in his first letter to Timothy wrote “stop drinking only water; in view of your frequent ailments take a little wine to help your digestion.” 1 Timothy 5:23.

Wine was in every day use at the time of Jesus because it provided a safe alternative to water and, as Saint Paul suggests, it could aid the digestion. Because it was easily recognised by his followers, Jesus uses wine to illustrate some of the parables.

As wine was readily available and cheap in Biblical times, it was also used as a drug to raise the spirits at time of celebration and to mitigate the poverty and drudgery of day to day life. A use that we might recognise today.

Alcohol is not only a drug in the sense that it alters perception of the world but it is also a poison which can damage liver and kidney. In excess, abuse of alcohol can lead to a shortening of God’s gift of Life.

But perhaps the greatest danger that people can suffer from an excessive consumption of alcohol is spiritual rather than physical. (I divide the person into body, mind and spirit for identification purposes only. Some theologians have suggested that the body, the mind and the spirit are all within the envelope of the soul.)

The spiritual danger for drinking too much alcohol is that it distracts and diverts from the journey back to God. Baptism signals the beginning of growth in people’s relationship (friendship) with the One God. Drunkenness and damage to our bodies and mind not only stunts the growth of that relationship with God but it can also damage our relationships with our brothers and sisters who are also children of God.

“...and wine to gladden the hearts of the people” (Psalm 104:15). Wine is a gift of the Creator God but it must never be allowed to become an alternative to God.

**MICHAEL GRAINGER**