



The Chaplaincy Newsletter - February 2024

Lenten Blessings to all our readers



Our February Services

Salle de l'Arsenal, Rue de l'Arsenal, Hesdin.

4th Feb - 10.30 - Songs of Praise in memory of Frank White - Lay led Service by Daphne Power

18th Feb -10.30 – Lay led Service – Lay Led by Barry Hampson

Oratory of Notre Dame de la Misericorde, rue Gaillard, Calais

4th Feb -11.00 - Lay led Service – Pat Page

14th Feb –19.00 - Ash Wednesday service Lay led by Pat Page.

This service will be followed by hot soup.

18th Feb - 11.00 – Lay led Service – Pat Page

Monastere du Carmel, Rue du Denacre, Saint Martin Boulogne.

4th Feb - 10.30 - Lay led Service

18th Feb 10.30 – Lay led Service

Please check with the church wardens and the chaplaincy website for amendments to services

<https://anglicanspdc.org>

ZOOM services every 2nd and 4th Sunday at 10.30am- link below

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81308857876?pwd=ektZUy9RcGZ6dTdxdjBSMWE5K3VOQT09>

Weds Compline at 9 pm (Linda says, come along earlier if you wish to chat) link below

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87872685714?pwd=U1FNVURPb2NWL2UxUXpkc09ZR2wydz0>

Safeguarding:

We all owe a 'Duty of Care' to those in our communities

Therefore, any Safeguarding concerns should be reported directly to the safeguarding Officer and any report will be acted on and advice sought, in the interest of the vulnerable in our community. Please be assured that all reporting is kept confidential. *Daphne Power Safeguarding Officer*

Quiz night

A Most Enjoyable Quiz Night, with Refreshments, Hosted by Peter Wyart.

Graham Hughes was the quiz master; ably assisted by his wife Jean, with the usual mix of questions ranging from easy to impossible to answer.

Michael Spriggs was the well deserving winner.

We were delighted to raise 200 euros for this year's Chosen Chaplaincy Charities.

If you would like to join us at the next Quiz, please contact lalage.glaister@gmail.com

Erratum: January issue 2024

'A Christmas Market' 2nd December 2023

A total of €602 was raised for the three Chaplaincy charities below

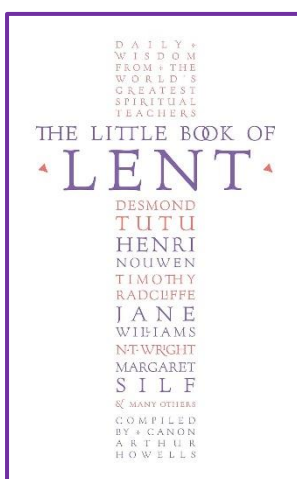
An error occurred in naming Resto du Coeur instead of L'Arche, as one of the 3 chaplaincy charities

Which are **L'Arche (Boulogne) – Fiac (Hesdin) - Lifeboats (Calais)**

Please accept our sincere apologies to all concerned.

Note: *We do support the local 'Resto du Coeur' with gifts of food, but not monetary donations.*

The Little Book of Lent: Daily Reflections from Great Spiritual Writers - Kindle edition £1.99



An inspirational source of encouragement for Lent.

'The Little Book of Lent' is a powerful anthology of readings from spiritual writers for each day of Lent, with accompanying scripture and prayers to help guide daily reflections.

With extracts from a range of inspirational writers and theologians, including Desmond Tutu, Sheila Cassidy and Rowan Williams, 'The Little Book of Lent' guides you to deepen your prayer life in anticipation of Easter.

This book can be read on your own or with others, used either for self-reflection or to spark discussion and share insights on God's truths. This edition would be perfect on which to base a Lent course or to use as a talking point for home groups. Whether or not you choose to read the extracts multiple times or once straight through, Howells work will lead you

to new heights in your Christian journey and personal walk with God. It is the ideal gift for friends, family or anyone else preparing themselves for the sacrifices of Lent. *mcd*

https://www.amazon.co.uk/Little-Book-Lent-Reflections-Spiritual-ebook/dp/B00JZBTQUA/ref=tmm_kin_swatch_0?encoding=UTF8&qid=1706613707&sr=1-1

“Dull, Boring and Bland” – Town Twinning

I confess until recently I knew nothing about town twinning - *Jumelage de Villes*. That is, until I was invited to join the committee for the planned twinning of Montreuil-sur-Mer with Rye in East Sussex.

I had vaguely thought twinning was just an opportunity for the mayor and a few other local worthies to head to the continent for an annual jolly. Little did I realise how hugely important the process has become; not just in fostering friendship and peace between communities, but also to encourage trade and tourism, and more recently, to establish business links.

Twinning really took off after WWII, when Coventry twinned with Stalingrad and Dresden, as an act of peace and reconciliation. Nowadays, towns twin mostly on the basis of similar demographics, geography, history and size, and these alliances contribute significantly to their commercial life.



But there are some very quirky arrangements: in June 2012, Dull (a Scottish village) twinned with Boring (Oregon, USA). They then joined forces with Bland in NSW, Australia!

Dull, Boring and Bland – Town “Tripling”!

There are many other unusual alliances. Staines in Middlesex is twinned exotically with Grand Port in Mauritius. Apparently, the Mayor of Staines returned from a holiday on this island paradise and then insisted that twinning would benefit both places to “*exchange knowledge, information and ideas around democracy, economic development and waste management*”!

Other twinning’s make more obvious sense: Dover with Calais, Folkestone with Boulogne and Étapes. Closer to home, we have

Hesdin and Havering (Greater London); and St-Pol-sur-Ternoise with Hebden (Yorkshire).

And then the great misunderstanding! If you look up Montreuil-sur-Mer and twinning, Wikipedia informs us it is twinned with Slough! *See pic right*

But Wikipedia has it very wrong: Slough is twinned not with our beautiful local town, but with another Montreuil - a rather bleak suburb of eastern Paris! Now, a campaign is under way (launched by Lord Astor, whose grandfather’s statue stands in Montreuil’s main square) to twin Rye with our Montreuil. There are so many features in common: both originally on the coast, now some way inland; historic buildings; tourism; fine restaurants; military associations etc.



Both towns are keen to advance the project – which is very encouraging in the current climate as, post-Brexit, some British towns are ending their long-standing relationships with European partners by “un-twinning”. Continentals are now required to have passports to visit the UK. And much of the assistance provided by local government for twinning - help with administration, access to local services - has dried up as a result of austerity cuts.

But we are pressing ahead. The aim is to strengthen links (cultural, educational, sporting, commercial) between the two towns and above all to enhance tourism and the wider economy. And wherever possible all these initiatives are to be self-funding.

So, yes, we did have excellent lunches with Pierre Ducrocq (Mayor of Montreuil) and with Andi Rivett (Mayor of Rye) – but now the real work begins! *Michael Spriggs, Hesdin (soon to move to Montreuil!)*

Some Dates for your diaries



13th February 2024 - Pancake Day, or Shrove Tuesday, is the traditional feast day before the start of Lent on Ash Wednesday. Lent was traditionally a time of fasting and on Shrove Tuesday, Anglo-Saxon Christians went to confession and were “shriven” (absolved from their sins). A bell would be rung to call people to confession. This came to be called the “Pancake Bell” and is still rung today.

Shrove Tuesday always falls 47 days before Easter Sunday, so the date varies from year to year and falls between February 3 and March 9th.

Shrove Tuesday was the last opportunity to use up eggs and fats before embarking on the Lenten fast and pancakes are the perfect way of using up these ingredients.

A pancake is a thin, flat cake, made of batter and fried in a frying pan. A traditional English pancake is very thin and is served immediately. Golden syrup or lemon juice and caster sugar are the usual toppings for pancakes.

14th February 2024

This year St. Valentines Day shares its date with Ash Wednesday



What is the Lent period in the Anglican church?

Lent and Holy Week. Lent is a time when Christians throughout the world engage in penitence and self-sacrifice in preparation for Easter. It is 40 days long and covers 6 Sundays— beginning on Ash Wednesday and culminating on Easter in the joyous celebration of the bodily Resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead!

First day of Lent - Ash Wednesday 14th February 2024

First Sunday of Lent – 18th February 2024

Second Sunday of Lent – 25th February 2024

Third Sunday of Lent – 3rd March 2024

Fourth Sunday of Lent – 10th March 2024 – Also Mothering Sunday

Fifth Sunday of Lent – 17th March 2024 – Passiontide begins

Palm Sunday 24th March 2024

Holy Week

Maundy Thursday 28th March 2024

Good Friday 29th March 2024

Easter Eve 30th March 2024

Easter Day 31st March 2024

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Ascension Day - Thursday 9th May 2024 - (Gold or White)

Easter continues until Pentecost /ordinary time - Sunday 19th May 2024

CHRIST HAS NO BODY NOW BUT YOURS.

NO HANDS, NO FEET ON EARTH BUT YOURS.

YOURS ARE THE EYES THROUGH WHICH HE LOOKS COMPASSION ON THIS WORLD.

YOURS ARE THE FEET WITH WHICH HE WALKS TO DO GOOD.

YOURS ARE THE HANDS THROUGH WHICH HE BLESSES ALL THE WORLD.

YOURS ARE THE HANDS,

YOURS ARE THE FEET,

YOURS ARE THE EYES,

YOU ARE HIS BODY.

CHRIST HAS NO BODY NOW ON EARTH BUT YOURS

ATTRIBUTED TO TERESA OF ÁVILA (1515-82)

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Some useful links:

The Prayer Circle prays for you 'in confidence' please email to: ourprayersr4u@mail.com and write 'Prayer Request' in the Subject line.

Please note: The prayer circle is always here to pray for you, your family or friends, but please remember to ask their permission before sending in a prayer request. *mcd/ed*

Newsletter contributions: Please send any items of chaplaincy news, services, meetings, what's on in your area; and forthcoming events to mcatchdossat@gmail.com

Note: Please remember that if you plan on sending photographs, do ask peoples permission first; and be aware that pictures or images may be copyright. *Thanks, mcd/ed*

This newsletter, together with contact details for our Church Wardens, is also on our Website: <https://anglicanspdc.org>

Safeguarding Policy: <https://europe.anglican.org/safeguarding/policy-and-guidance>

Sign up for Diocese in Europe eNews

<https://europe.anglican.org/main/latest-news/monthposts>