



Religious Association of the Anglican Church of Pas-de-Calais

The Chaplaincy Newsletter – March 2024



Lenten Blessings to all our readers

Our March Services

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

3rd March- 10.30 - Lay led Service - Led by Marilyn Dossat

17th March -10.30 – Lay led Service – Led by Daphne Power

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

3rd March -11.00 - Lay led Service – Pat Page

17th March - 11.00 – Lay led Service – Pat Page

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

3rd March - 10.30 - Lay led Service

17th March -10.30 – Lay led Service

+++++ Holy Week Services +++++

Maundy Thursday: HC service 7pm; at the Pillières' home, followed by a roast lamb supper. A contribution of 5 euros is requested. Please confirm your place with Linda.

Good Friday: afternoon service *time and venue to be confirmed*

Easter Saturday: evening Eucharist service to celebrate Easter in Calais - *time and venue to be confirmed*

Easter Sunday 10.30 am – Eucharist Service - Hesdin

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=ektZUy9RcGZ6dTdxdjBSMWE5K3V0QT09>

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

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87872685714?pwd=U1FNVURPb2NWLTUxUXpkc09ZR2wydz0>

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**

Some dates for your Diary:



The way of the cross

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

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

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

Chaplaincy News:

A 'Service of Prayer, Thanksgiving and Sending Out' for Bishop David'

An invitation went out to the Chaplaincy to join an online Farewell service on Wednesday 28th February 2024. It is a chance for all those in the Diocese to say farewell to him and his chaplain Revd Canon Deacon Frances Hiller on their retirement. Bishop Robert will preside.



From an article dated 5th September 2023 in 'the Diocese of Europe'

Bishop David Hamid, suffragan bishop of the Diocese in Europe and one of the longest serving bishops in the Church of England, has announced his plans to retire in February 2024.

Bishop David said: "For over 20 years I have been blessed to have one of the most fulfilling and enriching

jobs in the Church. At times the Diocese in Europe is difficult to explain to outsiders and to many in other parts of the Church of England, but I can sum up from my experience that it is a family, a family of committed and loving people, a truly rich and diverse, if scattered community, which seeks to live the Christian life in the Anglican way. The diocese embodies a profound vision of ecumenical outreach and collaboration and is a beautiful multicultural and multiethnic mosaic. These particular aspects of her life are very close to my own heart and have added to my joy in serving the diocese as one of its bishops.

"I am grateful beyond words for the kindness and generosity that is shown to me in my pastoral visits, and I give thanks to God for all the many signs of growth in faith and Christian witness and service that I see from the shores of the Baltic to the Mediterranean, and beyond. Throughout these years, I have been dependent on the encouragement and support of both the late Bishop Geoffrey Rowell and Bishop Robert Innes, as well as from a wonderful group of colleagues in the Senior Staff, and the wisdom, patience and commitment of my Chaplain Deacon Frances Hiller who has served me throughout my episcopal ministry.

"I am 68 right now, and while I can continue until I turn 70, the time seems right for Colleen and me to look towards the next phase of our life. However, there is still much on my agenda before the end of February! But when the day comes, I know that I will take into retirement a heart filled with thanksgiving for these past couple of decades and a heart which will always hold the people of this wonderful diocese in my prayers".

Bishop David was consecrated as a bishop in October 2002, and installed as suffragan bishop of the Diocese in Europe, where he has served for almost 21 years. ...*Continued on page 3*

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Bishop Robert, Bishop of Gibraltar in Europe, said:

"Bishop David's retirement will leave a huge hole in the diocese. We will miss his vast knowledge, mature experience and personal friendship. These days, senior roles in the Church are extremely demanding, arguably all the more so in our diocese with the demands of frequent international travel. The Church therefore owes Bishop David an immense debt of gratitude for more than two decades of devoted episcopal service.

"He has supported and encouraged the diocese and its chaplaincies through numerous international crises: banking, sovereign debt, migration, Brexit and Covid. At the level of individual chaplaincies, he has overseen numerous recruitments of chaplains, baptized and confirmed hundreds of candidates, advised on mission initiatives and building projects, dealt with situations of conflict, and exercised a highly skilled ministry of oversight so as to build up the faith of individuals and communities.

"Bishop David is a skilled ecumenist. He has, for example, served as co-chair of the International Anglican Roman Catholic Commission for Unity and Mission, the chair of the Church of England's Porvoo Panel, which serves the links between Anglicans and Scandinavian and Baltic Lutherans and President of the Society of St. Willibrord, which brings together Anglicans and Old Catholics. A proficient linguist, Bishop David has nurtured personal relationships with ecumenical colleagues for the good of the whole Church. He retires with prayers and love from across our diocese."

Once Bishop David retires, the process to seek to appoint the next suffragan Bishop in Europe will begin. *Bishop Robert, Bishop of Gibraltar in Europe*

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**The Congregation in Hesdin joined together in a 'Songs of Praise' service.
Sunday 4th February 2024 - to commemorate the recent death of Frank White and to
celebrate the lives of both Frank and his wife Pauline (see photo).**



Frank who celebrated his 92nd birthday on the 10th January passed away on the 19.01.2024

Pauline and Frank were long standing members of Hesdin church and were very involved with the chaplaincy and other organisations in the community; including the Royal British Legion. Frank was also 'choir master' of a local French choir.

His daughter wrote,

"All the family were able to attend the funeral for which I was very pleased as my nephews travelled from Liverpool and others from central UK. All of dad's French choir were there to sing and it was very moving. He is buried with mum at Willencourt".

We in Hesdin remember them both with great fondness.

Pauline was always available and happy to support the treasurer and Frank who was our resident music provider, led us with his wonderful strong voice, in the singing of hymns and Psalms, meticulously chosen by him, for each Sunday service.

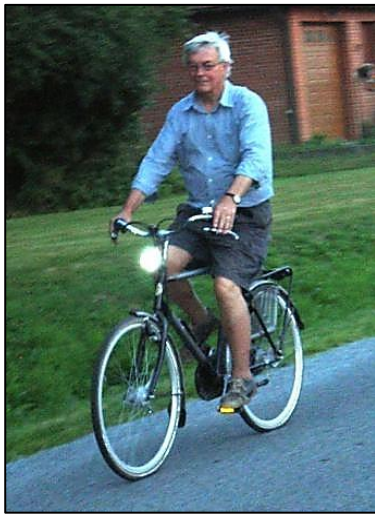
Some of Franks favourite hymns, chosen by Daphne, were sung by the congregation; and church members who knew him well took the readings.

The tribute service to Frank was compiled and led by Daphne Power.

A Group of Eccentric Englishmen ...

Each year in spring, I join a group of eccentric Englishmen (*is there any other kind?*), who set out on a cycling tour of the WWI battlefields of northern France and Belgium. The group, mainly former employees of the same British enterprise, will meet this time for the event's 25th anniversary expedition.

The idea arose all those years ago when senior management decided a team-building exercise would do the up-and-coming executives a power of good. They made available generous funds and left it to the chosen participants to decide what it should involve. Thus, it was that in April 1999 this intrepid group set off to Lille with their bicycles on the Eurostar; and then cycled "over the top"



Honorary Cycling Group Member

On return, they agreed that the whole event had been so rewarding that they would repeat it each spring. Since then, it has evolved to the point where all now come across in a hired bus, loaded with bikes. All levels of fitness and inclinations are catered for. So, with careful – almost military – planning, each day begins with all being transported to a jumping off point. The Lycra-clad cyclists set off for their 30km morning trail. The walkers follow a shorter, gentler route; while the third group prefers to stay on board and view from the comfort of the bus. Then cleverly, all three groups meet up at a predetermined point and time for a leisurely lunch at some rustic brasserie.

Over the years, numbers have gradually shifted from the first group (cyclists) to the second (walkers); and more recently into the group of bus-pass holders.

The camaraderie remains intense, flavoured with mischievous English humour, pranks, fines for misdemeanours, etc: most of us do not see each other from one year to the next, and yet on meeting are able to greet each other with: "As I was saying last year!"



Thiepval Memorial

Cycling through this now peaceful rural area, it is hard to imagine the nightmare of that era; and yet reminders are everywhere. Every year, local farmers plough up tons of unexploded shells; and I have found all sorts of wartime debris: shell cases, rifle parts, bullets.

Today, what our group 'pioneered' on all those years ago has become a very popular form of tourism, well catered for with professional guided tours and local museums. And, yes, this year our intrepid band will be heading back to the Somme, and getting out our bike clips yet again! *Michael Spriggs, Hesdin*

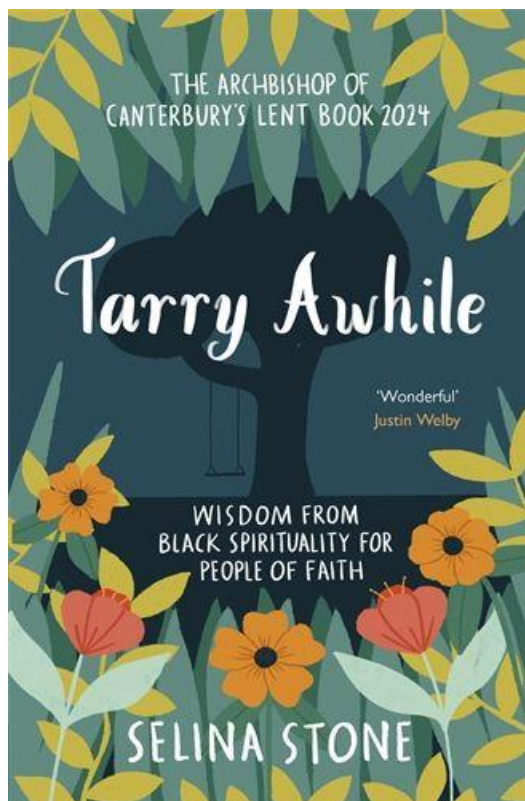
At the same time, we are all deeply respectful of what we see and visit. The 45km-stretch of land between Beaumont-Hamel and Chaulnes, the theatre for the Battle of the Somme, is visited most often. The whole area still bears many signs of that terrible campaign, in which over a million men were killed or wounded. The CWG Commission maintains immaculately dozens of cemeteries and memorials in the area, most notably the incredibly moving structures at Thiepval and Vimy Ridge.



Somme Battlefield today: trenches, shell-holes still clearly visible

Tarry Awhile: Wisdom from Black Spirituality for People of Faith

The Archbishop of Canterbury's Lent Book 2024: Foreword by Justin Welby



By Selina Stone

'Wonderful'
JUSTIN WELBY

'Tarry Awhile... is one of the most profound and beautifully written
Lent books that I have ever read.'
CHURCH TIMES

Tarry here and watch with me . . . (Matt 26.38, KJV)

<https://thebigchurchread.co.uk/>

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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>

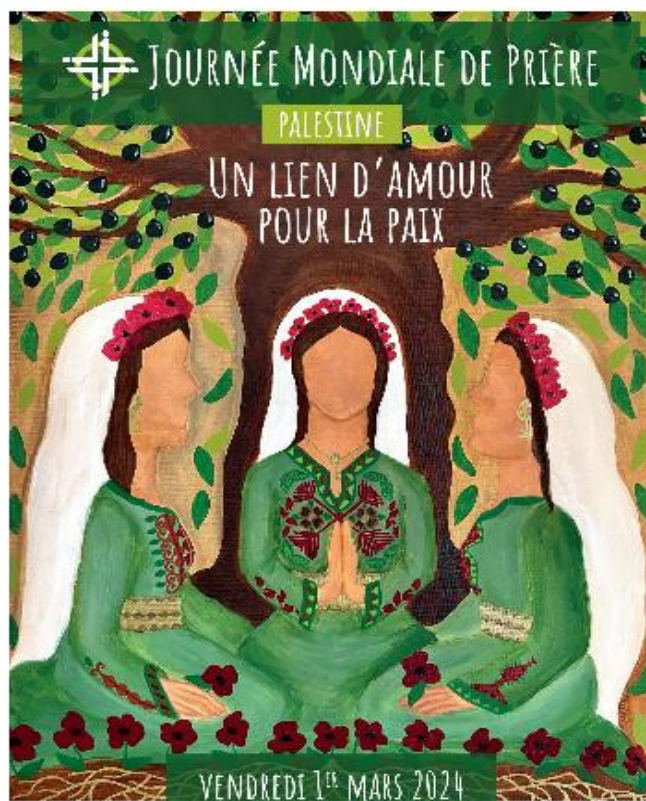
Sign up for Diocese in Europe eNews

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

JOURNÉE MONDIALE DE PRIÈRE

« Je vous exhorte ... supportez-vous les uns les autres dans l'amour » Ephésiens 4-1, 7

Préparée par les femmes de Palestine



CELEBRATION OECUMENIQUE

ouverte à tous

VENDREDI 1er MARS 2024 à 17h30

Temple de Calais

Association Œcuménique du Littoral
IPNS

Pour de plus amples renseignements tél. 03 21 34 55 90



31ST MARCH...

...A VERY HAPPY EASTER TO
ALL OUR READERS

FROM THE PAS DE CALAIS
CHAPLAINCY NEWSLETTER