



The Chaplaincy Newsletter – April 2026

Easter Blessings to all our readers



Pas de Calais Services - April - Please note Calais' change of address

2nd April 7pm - Maundy Thursday Service - hosted by Boulogne at Pauline Cecchin's home with Revd. Teena Twelves in remembrance of the Last Supper and Our Lord's betrayal in the Garden of Gethsemane. The menu: veggie soup, bring and share cold meat/cheese and salads, followed by puddings. Please contact Pauline: paulinececchin6@gmail.com if you would like to attend.

Salle de l'Arsenal, Rue de l'Arsenal, Hesdin. - Churchwarden Marilyn Dossat

5th April 10.30 am - Easter, Holy Eucharist service led by Revd. Teena Twelves

Salle Limoisin, 6 rue Abbé Limoisin, 62231 Blériot-Plage, Calais - Churchwarden Pat Page

12th April - 10.30 - Eucharist service led by Revd. Teena Twelves

Monastere du Carmel, Rue du Denacre, Saint Martin Boulogne. - Churchwarden Pauline Cecchin

19th April - TBA check with churchwarden

'St Omer' church in Estréelles, Rue de L'Eglise, 62170

26th April - All 3 churches - 11am Joint Chaplaincy Service followed by Lunch and AGM

This newsletter, together with contact details for our Church Wardens, is also on our website

<https://anglicanspdc.org>

Find us and details of our services at www.achurchnearyou.com

We are also in the British in France directory: www.britishinfrance.com

Please see a program of services on page 3.

Easter Letter

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,



Calais Boulogne Hesdin
The Anglican Chaplaincy

Christ is risen! **He is risen indeed!**

I can't remember which of the tutors at my theological college told the gathered students the following, or whether the story was presented as truth or urban myth, but it nevertheless bears repeating: *In between the World Wars, the campaign against religion in general and the Orthodox Church in particular was one of the much-vaunted ideologies of the Soviet government. One of the government hierarchy was extolling its success (we can only imagine in a manner aimed to be as offensive and disparaging as possible) to a former member of the clergy at a large rally after what would have been Easter. The exchange apparently went something like this:*

Government official: 'Christ is dead. Religion is dead!'

Cleric: 'Oh, really?'

Government official: 'Absolutely!'

Cleric: (turning to the gathered crowd at the rally and intoning in his loudest 'church' voice): 'Christ is risen!' The assembled gathering in unison (and presumably Russian!): 'He is risen indeed! Alleluia!'

Now, whilst there's no denying that (a) that may be just a story and (b) even if it were true, then it could be a mass example of what Pavlov proved with his dog – I still find it rather lovely. The call-and-response may be a peculiarity of the more liturgically-minded churches, but the sentiment it expresses forms a key anchor and central tenet of the Creed, one to which all Christians adhere. Christ is risen indeed – the resurrection is truth. This is because, without it, as St Paul puts it in 1 Corinthians 15, 'our faith is in vain', futile, worthless, not of any use.

That Jesus of Nazareth was executed in Judaea in the early 30s AD/CE is generally accepted by scholars today as historical (and non-Biblically authenticated) fact. There aren't many people who have a problem with the idea that a prophetic Rabbi who had upset the ruling hierarchy in those dangerous times would have been killed off. Numerous sources, including Roman historians, mentioned it in their recording of the times.

No, the issue lies, for most people (including, it must be said, for some people who call themselves Christians) in accepting the next bit of the story in the Gospels, the chapter in the story without which there is no point, as Paul so clearly states. We have to believe that after 3 days Jesus rose from the dead to new life. Some people might take issue with my using words like 'have to' – but it's not in the sense of a command, more a statement that, without believing this, without holding on to this as an inviolable truth, the rest of the story simply doesn't make logical or spiritual sense. Without the resurrection, we fall instead into one of the 3 alternative positions that C. S. Lewis identified in his book 'Mere Christianity' – Jesus is simply a good teacher, whose goodness was not recognised at the time, and who therefore sadly died. Belief in the resurrection takes us beyond that understanding of Jesus, and is what calls us to acknowledge him as the Christ. Christ rose again 'in accordance with the Scriptures', as the Creed puts it. He rose to fulfil the ancient promises of God that our sin – our turning away from God – would be forgiven. He rose so that the result of our enslavement to sin – death – would be conquered once and for all, enabling creation to be reconciled to its loving God and Creator, a reconciliation God has been seeking ever since our very first turning away...

Being confronted with love of such steadfastness that it endures despite our rebellion, love of such depth that its overflowing is the most total self-emptying, love of such power that death itself is conquered for ever, it seems to me there are few words that are worthy as response. Thankfully, as we move into this season of great joy, a wonderful word re-appears in our liturgy after our Lenten fast: **Alleluia!**

So, I pray your hearts may be moved by the graciousness of God's love this Easter, and your mouths full of Alleluias – as well as chocolate!

Easter blessings, **Teena**

Think before you print

Notes for your diary

Just a gentle reminder to those taking part in our virtual Lent Pilgrimage, to please send your Kilometres **every Sunday** to Martine - martinecollins@yahoo.com Its not too late to sponsor our walkers, the money will go to Maria Skobtsova House,, please contact either the walker or Martine for more info - *many thanks*

PAS DE CALAIS CHAPLAINCY PROPOSED WORSHIP LENT – EASTER

Day/date	Feast	Time	Church/ platform	Eucharist /Office/ Event
Wed 1 st Apr	<i>Weds of Holy Week</i>	1830	<i>Teams - see links below</i>	Evening Prayer
Thu 2 nd Apr	MAUNDY THURSDAY Last supper & betrayal	1830	<i>Pauline Cecchin's home. All Welcome</i>	Maundy Thursday RSVP to Pauline
Fri 3 rd Apr	GOOD FRIDAY	1300	Reform Church, Calais	Ecumenical Good Friday service
Sat 4 th Apr	Holy Saturday/ EASTER EVE	1830	<i>Teams See links below</i>	HC - Service of Light for Easter Eve
Sun 5 th Apr	EASTER DAY	10.30	Hesdin	HC - Festival Eucharist
Sun 12 th Apr	2 nd Sunday of Easter	10.30	Calais	Eucharist
Sun 19 th Apr	3 rd Sunday of Easter	10.45	Boulogne	TBA
Sun 26 th Apr	4 th Sunday of Easter	11. 00	Estréelles PdCC	Chaplaincy HC Lunch and AGM

After Easter I hope to offer a regular weekly service of Evening Prayer on Teams/Zoom. This will most likely be on a Tuesday evening at 1830.

*For further information about any of the services please contact me, or your local churchwarden.
Rev. Teena (church.teena@gmail.com)*

Rev. Teena Twelves invites you to a Microsoft Teams Meeting:

Wednesday of Holy Week evening prayer

01 April 2026

18:30 - 19:30 (ROM)

Meeting link: [Wednesday of Holy Week evening prayer | Microsoft Teams | Meet-up-Join](#)

Holy Saturday Easter Eve service

04 April 2026

18:30 - 19:30 (ROM)

Meeting link: [Holy Saturday Easter Eve service | Microsoft Teams | Meet-up-Join](#)

HOLY WEEK - WEDNESDAY



On this final day before Jesus' arrest, one of his disciples, Judas Iscariot, made a decision to betray him and went to the High Priests who were seeking to kill Jesus. On this day the final piece that causes the rest of the story to unfold drops into place, as Judas makes his deadly pact and receives 30 pieces of silver. We begin to reflect upon the journey that we will take over the three Holy Days as we follow Christ through his betrayal by Judas Iscariot, his arrest, trial and conviction, and the long walk with the cross to the hill on Calvary, where he will die. This year we will follow that journey in the Stations of the cross in a service of readings and prayer on Wednesday of Holy Week at 18h30.

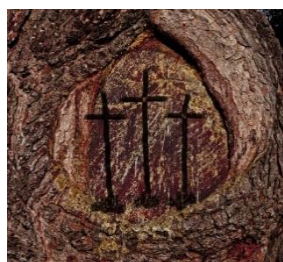
HOLY WEEK - MAUNDY THURSDAY



On Maundy Thursday we remember the events of the last evening that Jesus spent with his disciples: the night when Judas Iscariot, one of them, betrayed him. We recall how Jesus washed his disciples' feet to show them how they were to serve others; we remember that Last Supper that they shared; and we re-enact that long agonising wait in the Garden of Gethsemane, where Jesus accepted his calling, whilst his disciples struggled even to keep awake.

In our service at 18h30 we will hear the stories, and spend time in prayer as we watch and wait.

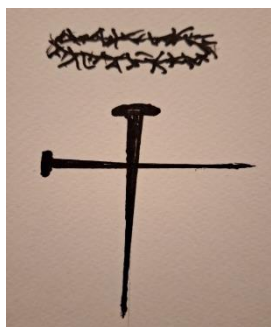
HOLY WEEK - GOOD FRIDAY



On Good Friday, we remember that Jesus was crucified. We recall the way that he was wrongly accused and convicted and sentenced to death. We re-enact his walk with the cross on which he was to die. We fall silent as the time of the last hour of his life, which ended at 3 o'clock, approaches.

We will share this remembrance with our fellow brothers and sisters in Christ in an ecumenical service hosted by the Reform Church in Calais at 13h00.

HOLY WEEK - HOLY (or BLACK) SATURDAY



During Holy Saturday, Christ's body lay resting in the tomb. This was a time of desolation for his followers: they had not been able to properly prepare the body because the burial had been hurriedly arranged ahead of the Sabbath, the Jewish holy day; the one in whom they had placed so much hope was no longer. We too, may sit and wonder about the events of the previous couple of days. We are encouraged to reflect upon all that has taken place, perhaps to begin to turn our minds to the joy that lies ahead. At 18h30 as the new day draws closer, we meet together online to tell the salvation story from the very beginning, and light a new light to represent the coming joy of Easter day.

EASTER DAY



On Easter morning, Christ's disciples went to the tomb and found it empty. The stone had been rolled away. The graveclothes were in a tidy pile. But Jesus' body was nowhere to be seen. On that day and the following 40 days he appeared to his disciples, risen and alive. It was the biggest miracle ever, and it was the turning point in history. Death was no longer the end. God's eternal love for us had won the ultimate victory. We celebrate with Christians all over the world this historical truth. **Alleluia! Christ is risen. He is risen indeed – Alleluia!**

Join us from 10h30 for our Festival Eucharist at Hesdin. *Revd. Teena Twelves*



Association Ecuménique du Littoral
Retrouvons-nous
au cours de la Semaine Sainte

Méditation de la Passion,
Vendredi Saint 3 avril 2026,
de 12h15 à 13h00, au Temple,
rue du Temple à Calais

(suivie d'un bol de soupe offert, repas tiré du sac)



Maison diocésaine d'Amiens



Fête de la Résurrection
Dimanche de Pâques 5 avril
2026 à 7h00, sur la plage de
Wissant, côté Blanc-Nez

**(pas de feu, une grosse lanterne sera
apportée ; livrets de chants fournis ; boissons
chaudes et petits pains offerts)**

IPNS
Association Ecuménique du Littoral

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

Commémoration Mémorial de l'Otan - 12th September

I've been asked to represent the Anglican church at the memorial service for NATO soldiers killed in conflict around the world. This ecumenical service on the morning of 12th September is followed by a civic service, at the memorial site near Frethun. I don't know much more at present, but I've been asked whether I will be accompanied, and if any church members would be interested in attending, please do let me know so that I can 'confirm their identity' as requested with the president of the Federation du Memorial de l'Otan - presumably a security matter for obvious reasons. *Revd. Teena - church.teena@gmail.com*

Good friends are hard to find, harder to leave and impossible to forget...

Tom and I left France on January 23rd this year, after living there happily for nearly nineteen years.



We felt sad to leave our friends behind, but were also excited to start a new life in the UK, close to our youngest daughter in Wiltshire.

Before leaving, we wanted to honour and say goodbye to dear friends we knew and cared about, even though some were no longer with us. So, one rare sunny, Sunday afternoon, we drove to Willencourt to visit the grave of Frank and Pauline White. They are buried together in a small graveyard that overlooks the village, where they enjoyed living and wanted to be buried. They were dedicated members of Hesdin Church. Frank was active in the community as a choir leader, and Pauline sang in the choir. Frank also played music for the church and sometimes performed outdoors during garden services.



We then travelled to the village of Vieil-Hesdin, where Arthur and Gloria Botfield lived and are buried. The village cemetery is on a hill that overlooks the area. Arthur and Gloria moved to France later in their lives and joined the Hesdin congregation. After Arthur passed away, I got to know Gloria better. At first, she seemed very shy and modest. Then one evening, whilst we sat chatting at her home, she showed me photos of her past life in the UK and other places. Gloria was trained to drive large vehicles like trucks and 35-seater coaches, which she drove across Europe. This taught me a lesson: never judge someone until you understand their background and abilities. *Daphne Power*

Safeguarding: The Chaplaincy are busy working towards compliance with the Safeguarding obligations in preparation for the audit if we are selected by the Safeguarding Committee. This is very important as it is much the same as the school Ofsted inspections and we would not wish to be classed as a Chaplaincy which requires improvement. So, if you would spend a little time undertaking a simple training course in Safeguarding please do so, this will reflect positively on the Chaplaincy's commitment to Safeguarding.

How do I do this? you may ask. Well, it very simple, just go to the Diocese in Europe website and click on Safeguarding and then on Training, register with them to complete the course. Start with the Basic Awareness and it will give an insight into our responsibility and a duty of care towards each other.

If you need support, please email me daphne_power@hotmail.com and I will guide you through it.

Remember: Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility and covers many aspects of our lives.

Daphne Power - CSO

Safeguarding: Who to contact to raise a safeguarding concern - taken from Safeguarding Policy at the end of this Newsletter.

If you believe that an individual may be at risk of immediate serious harm from others, or someone you know through your chaplaincy poses a risk of serious harm to themselves or others, you must take action.

Where there is an immediate risk of harm, you should contact the local protection services in the country where the concern has arisen.

In addition, all concerns should be reported within 24 hours to the Diocesan Safeguarding Team. You can do this directly by telephone or email. You should notify your Chaplaincy Safeguarding Officer, or, if the CSO is not available, another appropriate church officer who should ensure the concern is brought to the attention of the DST.

The DST provide a consultation line Monday to Friday, 10:00 to 18:00 Central European Time.

For urgent enquiries during operational hours, please call: +44 (0)207 898 1159 or email.

For non-urgent enquiries contact: +44 (0)7464 544 715 or email.

Out of hours

For urgent enquiries outside operational hours, call our partners thirtyone:eight on +44 (0) 303 003 1111. You will be provided with initial advice and your referral will be passed to the DST.

For non-urgent concerns outside operational hours, please email and a team member will respond as soon as possible.

Reporting a concern To report a concern by email, please complete the referral form which you can **download here**.

Please email the completed form to europa.safeguarding@churchofengland.org. Our team will respond the next working day. Please tell us if you need help in completing the form, or need to have a form in a language other than English.

New: Useful English-speaking helpline numbers in France

This link will take you to Janine Marsh's brilliant Magazine 'The Good Life France' everything you need to know about living in France.
<https://share.google/57aPdZ37UEsGiHrjD>

Monthly Chaplaincy Briefing

<https://mailchi.mp/f3bb5e0d3d4c/chaplaincy-briefing-12881882?e=0d70c5470d>

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. *mcd/ed*

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

Safeguarding Policy:

<https://www.europe.anglican.org/resources/safeguarding-policy-guidance>

Find us at: www.achurchnearyou.com

Sign up for Diocese in Europe eNews
<https://europe.anglican.org/main/latest-news/monthposts>

