

The Chaplaincy of All Saints Vendée

Report for the Archdeaconry Synod 2017



Puy-de-Serre
Sainte-Marthe



La Chapelle Palluau
Saint Pierre



La Chapelle Achard
Notre-Dame-de-L'Assomption

It has been a quite eventful year since Synod of 2016. During our Harvest Festival service at the end of September, we bid Rev. Caroline Sackley, our Priest-in-charge, a sad farewell, after she had been with us for the past three years. She has been instrumental in the growth of our church, as well as working to unite us with the French members of our community. We will miss her and her husband Bob and son James very much. We are very grateful to them for all the work they have done on the Vicarage. It is a very different house to the one which the Parish bought three years previously.

After the service, we had our Harvest 'supper/lunch', during which we presented Caroline with a Clematis for her garden.



We have been very fortunate to have had Rev. Tim Bravington with us as Locum during November and December, and since January, Rev. Hazel Door, and Rev Martin Compton have continued as Locums for our three churches. We are very grateful to them all.

2017 has been busy for our Church Council, putting together the Parish Profile ready for our Vacancy to be advertised. The Archdeacon, The Venerable Meurig Williams, visited us in March, to meet members of Council, and on Sunday, other members of the congregation during the service. He gave us valuable advice and support with the profile.

We have also been very busy encouraging and supporting members to complete Stage 1 of the Safeguarding course. There have been a few ‘hiccups’ on the way while we overcame problems with the site, but these were eventually overcome.

Sadly on 18th December 2016, Robin Kenyon died suddenly, after a major stroke. Robin had been a Reader for nearly 50 years and was very much valued by us all. He, with his wife Barbara, had attended Synod for many years. He will be greatly missed.

Our congregations remain fairly stable, with second-home owners and holiday visitors increasing our numbers during the year. People usually attend the services nearest to where they live or are staying, but try to get together for major festivals, or social events.

On Sunday 24th July 2016 members of our congregation attended the Commemoration Ceremony for the 75th Anniversary of the Loss of the Crew of a 35 Squadron Halifax on 24 July 1941



Again this year we had Ecumenical services for the Women’s World day of Prayer, and also the bi-lingual Good Friday service. Importantly for people in such a widespread area, our social events and Home groups are an important part of our activities and allow us more opportunities to get to know each other better, and provide opportunities for spiritual growth and fellowship. Through our various events including the Lent lunches, we continue to support the local Restos du Coeur, and Medécins Sans Frontières.