

# Newsletter

Christ Church Brittany



To know Jesus Christ and to make him known.

June 2018

# Pastor Robin's Letter



"Our prayers may be awkward. Our attempts may be feeble. But since the power of prayer is in the one who hears it and not in the one who says it, our prayers do make a difference." - Max Lucado

"Is prayer your steering wheel or your spare tire?" - Corrie ten Boom

Prayer is our focus during the summer at CCB. There are various opportunities for prayer, which we already enjoy on a Sunday and throughout the week. All worship is some form of prayer, thanksgiving, intercession, adoration, confession etc. It can be formal or informal, use carefully prepared language or spontaneous as the spirit leads, silent or really noisy! Prayer can be public or private, scheduled for set times or impromptu. "To be a Christian without prayer is no more possible than to be alive without breathing." said Martin Luther.

For example, we have a prayer diary published in the newsletter each month. There is a confidential prayer chain that you can use to request special needs in prayer, knowing that your information will be respected. But I believe most of the valuable prayer at CCB is whenever its members take up a petition directly themselves before God. We need to become a praying people. "God shapes the world by prayer. The more praying there is in the world the better the world will be, the mightier the forces against evil." - Mother Teresa

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**Mother Teresa**

So during the summer we shall focus on the most basic of all prayers. We call it the Lord's Prayer. It is common to all Christians and even those who show up at worship rarely for weddings or funerals for example find it comforting and useful.

It is remarkable that Jesus waited until his disciples asked him about prayer before he gave them a teaching about prayer and this pattern to follow. See Luke 11 and Matthew 6 for the context.

We are going to use ‘The Prayer Course’, offered freely by the largest Anglican Church in England, Holy Trinity Brompton. It was developed as a starting point for newcomers to the Christian faith. Six types of prayer are drawn out to the Lord’s Prayer and each is used to move the disciple deeper into the heart of prayer. On our CCB website you will find links to resources on prayer and I hope others will share their own resources for growing in prayer. *“This is the confidence we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything according to his will, he hears us. And if we know that he hears us—whatever we ask—we know that we have what we asked of him”*. 1 John 5.

Let us make this a summer of growing in prayer both individually and corporately.

**Pastor Robin June 2018**

*“Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus”*. – Philippians 4:6-7

*See page 17: Preaching on the topic of prayer*

## **Christ Church Brittany’s 2018 Lent Appeal**

Over recent years, members & visitors have given very generously to the Christ Church Brittany Lent Appeal by collecting one or more coins on each of the 40 days of lent. And quite often, these coins have miraculously turned into notes or cheques before they’ve even reached us!

This year, our Appeal was in aid of Bishop Robert’s Lent Appeal to support two projects in the Calais area: A safe house and outreach ministry in Calais to unaccompanied child migrants. To finance small projects that might be necessary by the new priest (currently being recruited to Chaplain the Pas de Calais congregations) in his work as Refugee Project Officer.

Your response has been fantastic & I am delighted to tell you that you have donated €820! Thank you all very much – I know that the money will be put to good use.

In our last Café church at Ploërmel, Pastor Robin showed us videos of the work and the people involved in it at Calais. It made it very real for me. If you haven’t seen the videos or would like to see them again - Brother Johannes' Story, The Chaplain's Story & The Volunteers' Story, you can do so at: <https://europe.anglican.org/bishops-appeals/lent-appeal-videos>

Once again thank you very much  
God Bless.

*Alison Desoer*



# Church Services June



## Ploërmel

3<sup>rd</sup> First after Trinity - Holy Communion 11.00am

10<sup>th</sup> Second after Trinity - Prayer and Praise 11.00am

17<sup>th</sup> Third after Trinity - Holy Communion 11.00am

24<sup>th</sup> Forth after Trinity - Family Service with Holy Communion 11.00am

## Redon

A meeting will take place in Redon at 3pm of Sunday the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> June to discuss our holding a regular worship service there. If you would like to find out more or you would be willing to help in any way then come along to the bar, Le Redonnais, on the corner of the Place de Bretagne and Rue Notre Dame or contact the Rev Robin Adams on 07 80 56 26 32 or e-mail: [pastor.robin@churchinbrittany.com](mailto:pastor.robin@churchinbrittany.com).

## Rostrenen

3<sup>rd</sup> First after Trinity - Informal Worship 10.30am

10<sup>th</sup> Second after Trinity - Holy Communion 10.30am

17<sup>th</sup> Third after Trinity - Informal worship 10.30am

24<sup>th</sup> Forth after Trinity - Holy Communion 10.30am

Rostrenen services:  
Holy Communion in the church in the square.  
Informal Worship services in the Salle Paroissiale , 4 rue Joseph Penneç. Rostrenen

## Huelgoat

3<sup>rd</sup> First after Trinity - Fellowship in Finistère 2.30pm

10<sup>th</sup> Second after Trinity - Holy Communion 2.30pm

17<sup>th</sup> Third after Trinity - Fellowship in Finistère 2.30pm

24<sup>th</sup> Forth after Trinity - Holy Communion 2.30pm

Huelgoat services:  
Holy Communion in the church in the square.  
Fellowship in Finistère services in the Salle Paroissiale diagonally opposite the church.

*Contributions for the next Newsletter accepted up to  
Saturday 16th June*

# Weekly prayer diary for June

Prepared by Donna

## MONDAY:

*Pray.... that our faith be evident in our daily lives*

*.... for our Bishops, Archdeacon and diocese*

*.... for the ministry of La Source*

## TUESDAY:

*Pray.... for those in our parish who are married*

*.... for Robin, Jeremy, Joy, Malcolm, John and their families*

*.... for our biblical stewardship of our resources*

## WEDNESDAY:

*Pray.... for those in our parish who are single*

*.... for Christians around the world persecuted for their faith*

*.... for the Prayer Course beginning this month*

## THURSDAY:

*Pray... healing for those in our parish dealing with poor health*

*.... for refugees around the world*

*.... for our Christian witness in our communities*

## FRIDAY:

*Pray... for our families overseas*

*.... wisdom for those in government and authority over us*

*.... for members of our Chaplaincy Council and Wardens*

## SATURDAY:

*Pray.... for safety for those travelling at this time of year*

*.... for all who have roles in organising worship services*

## SUNDAY:

*Pray.... for services in Ploërmel, Rostrenen, Huelgoat, & Redon*

*.... that the gospel preached will change lives*

*“And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord’s people.” Ephesians 6:18*



# The Licensing



*The Bishop's sermon centred on Chapter 10 of StJohn's gospel and relayed the story of the good shepherd who has other sheep he must bring into the flock. "I have other sheep which are not of this fold: I must bring them also, and will hear My voice; and they will become one flock with one shepherd" This was the Bishop reminding the gathering that we are entering a time of change and recognising that fact it might impinge our hitherto comfort zone*

The fourth Sunday of Easter, April 22<sup>nd</sup> saw the licensing of our new Pastor The Reverend Robin Adams in the main branch of our church in Ploërmel. The anticipation was that we should be blessed with a congregation of swelled numbers but our organisers, although prepared, were somewhat taken aback by the wonderful attendance which swelled into the adjoining rooms. The number exceeded the one hundred mark by a respectable margin and the atmosphere generated by the great swell of numbers, singing and rejoicing, was of a magnitude which resonated through the body and lifted the soul in a way far too infrequently experienced.

The service was presided over by The Right Reverend Dr Robert Innes. The Bishop of Gibraltar in Europe, and Assisted by The Venerable Meurig Williams, The Archdeacon of France and Monaco, both of whom were resplendent in their officiating robes. After the sermon the service continued with The Liturgy of Institution, in which representatives of the Chaplaincy presented the Pastor to the Right Reverend Father in God, proclaiming that we had been glad to share with him in the choice of Robin to be our Pastor. The Bishop then proceeded by reading the preface to the Declaration of Assent. Robin responded by affirming and declaring his belief in the faith and declaring the Oath of Allegiance and Oath of Canonical Obedience. The Bishop then read the licence whilst Robin knelt

This was followed by members of our three congregations, coming forward to address the new Pastor with offerings of water for baptism, oil of healing and bread and wine.

Representatives of our young people then came forward to Offer a symbol of ministry with young people.

Our new Pastor then led the congregation in the Prayers of Intercession and the service moved on



Despite the solemnity of proceedings, the atmosphere was dignified but overflowing with the generosity of spirit and enthusiasm for our new Pastor and his wife, Donna.

The musical accompaniment and arrangements were expertly directed by Suzanna Cross, ably assisted by two guitarists Brian Parker and Arthur Brown. The quality was such that it solicited great acclaim after the service. Two pieces which touched many were "In Christ Alone" co-written by Stewart Townend. with that wonderful heartfelt refrain "Jesus command my destiny" The other piece which stirred the soul was that requested by Pastor Robin, the "London Derry Air". This air originated in County Londonderry, Ireland which is so popular among all Irish Nationals and particularly our own Donna and Robin. It is perhaps more generally known as "Danny Boy". Being sustained by the music and the spirit, the body too has its earthly needs and we proceeded to move to the dining hall where the fulsome buffet was soon made available. Bearing in mind the large numbers present, the distribution was organised so well that even the last persons, and I was included in that number, were treated to a variety of food, only available by the careful but generous portion control of the servers.





There can be no doubt that the event was a great success and everyone with whom I conversed expressed their astonishment at the successful way in which the team at Ploërmel organised and delivered such organisation, to a literally full house. It is not through the lack of due diligence that I refrain from singling out individuals for mention but the way in which the organisation took place and the care for everyone attending was a testament to the magnificent way in which the whole proceedings were organised.

### Editor

In response to a request, Alys Rowlands wrote to me about the inspiration she felt during and after the service of inauguration. I feel sure you will be moved too with her writing.

### To the editor

To be 100% honest, I thought the service was absolutely astonishing, inspiring! I could barely stop thinking wow, so many people are missing out on such a special occasion, one so amazing indeed I am having trouble explaining it with my 15 year old teenage mind! The whole hour (and a half let's be honest) has motivated me to come more often. In fact, I might come again on my own In the future-as well as once a month for family services with my mom and sister. I even kept the small leaflet next to my bed!

### Alys

Alys is pictured here with Pastor Robin and the symbol of ministry with young people, which was presented during the service



# Spotlight on Safeguarding

## 5 Year Journey of Improvement

*In his final report to the Diocesan Safeguarding Advisory Committee, the retiring Chairman, Charles Clark, included a review of progress made since his appointment in the summer of 2013. He highlighted a range of positive developments in safeguarding across Europe.*

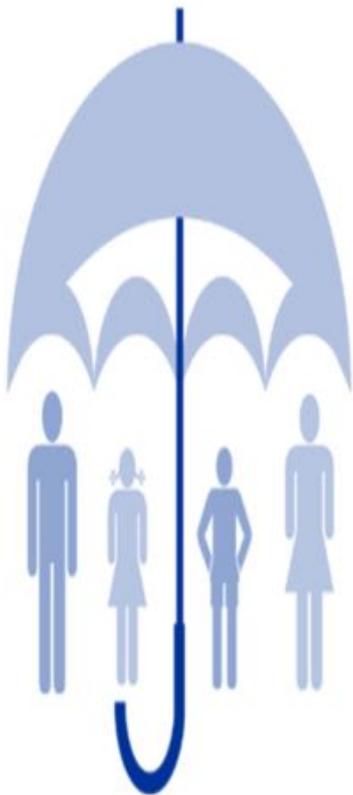
In 2014 an Internal Safeguarding Review covered the membership and role of the Advisory Committee, the training requirements, staffing and resource requirements, structures and systems needed, case management recording. This review resulted in 40 recommendations that set the tone for the strategic journey ahead. The review set the challenge for the Diocese who soon responded by increasing the staffing numbers and recognising the need for a senior safeguarding person who not only had operational experience but could also support the strategic development needed. Considerable effort was put into completely rewriting the Diocesan Policies and Guidance to add clarity where policies may be implemented against the background of varying national laws and practice. A Training Strategy was adopted as the basis for the development of four levels of training and has been

***This review resulted in 40 recommendations that set the tone for the strategic journey .***

the guiding light of all the training that has followed. It includes two Computer Based Training Packages – one for child protection and the other for vulnerable adults. To date, 1,181 people have completed the child protection package and 1453 have completed the vulnerable adults’ package. The completion of all this training is recorded and stored on a central database. Level 3 (train senior staff) and Level 4 (train the trainers) has taken place over the past years as needed. July 2016 saw the first “Train the Trainers” course to tackle Level 2 Training on a face-to-face classroom basis. 23 volunteers met in Cologne for a three-day programme which resulted in some 20 volunteer trainers who have since trained some 739 people at Level 2. A further Train the Trainers Programme took place in January in Spain. The Diocese has supported the safeguarding work exceptionally with the growth of resources and staff. In 2013 there was just one part-time Diocesan Safeguarding Advisor and the cost of employing him and his expenses amounted to around £7,000 annually.



Bishops Council in October 2017 agreed a budget of £275,000 for 2018. This growth and commitment to safeguarding reflects the work of the Advisory Committee and the support from the Diocesan Bishop and senior staff. The Operational Caseload has also grown considerably and as more and more training is rolled out across the Diocese, the realistic expectation will be for greater increases. Against this background it is encouraging that for the first time, in June 2017, the National Safeguarding Team agreed and accepted that the Diocese in Europe is a 'special case'. Much more work needs to be done to take this 'acceptance' into 'active support' but it will be a clear challenge for the future to get additional resources and support from the Church of England to enable the progress made so far within the Diocese to move to the next level.



## Welcome to Di as she Takes Over the Chair

Di Smith who now chairs the Diocesan Safeguarding Advisory Committee is an experienced leader in education and children's services. She has served as statutory Director of Children's Services in four local authorities and has a successful track record in service transformation and improvement. She currently works as an improvement consultant and chairs a number of boards including a Children's Services Improvement Board and a Local Safeguarding Children Board. Di is trustee of the Children's Society and chairs the governing board of a University Technical College. She is a trained executive coach and is experienced in coaching and mentoring senior leaders from a broad range of organisations.



# One explanation to the concept of GOD



In a mother's womb were two babies. One asked the other: "Do you believe in life after delivery?" The other replied, "Why, of course. There has to be something after delivery. Maybe we are here to prepare ourselves for what we will be later."

"Nonsense" said the first. "There is no life after delivery. What kind of life would that be?"

The second said, "I don't know, but there will be more light than here. Maybe we will walk with our legs and eat from our mouths. Maybe we will have other senses that we can't understand now."

The first replied, "That is absurd. Walking is impossible. And eating with our mouths? Ridiculous! The umbilical cord supplies nutrition and everything we need. But the umbilical cord is so short. Life after delivery is to be logically excluded."

The second insisted, "Well I think there is something and maybe it's different than it is here. Maybe we won't need this physical cord anymore."

The first replied, "Nonsense. And moreover if there is life, then why has no one ever come back from there? Delivery is the end of life, and in the after-delivery there is nothing but darkness and silence and oblivion. It takes us nowhere."

"Well, I don't know," said the second, "but certainly we will meet Mother and she will take care of us."

The first replied "Mother? You actually believe in Mother? That's laughable. If Mother exists then where is She now?"

The second said, "She is all around us. We are surrounded by her. We are of Her. It is in Her that we live. Without Her this world would not and could not exist."

Said the first: "Well I don't see Her, so it is only logical that She doesn't exist."

To which the second replied, "Sometimes, when you're in silence and you focus and listen, you can perceive Her presence, and you can hear Her loving voice, calling down from above."

Maybe this was one of the best explanations to the concept of GOD.

Jeremy saw this on Facebook, and used it in his Easter Day sermon about Jesus' defeat of death.

**POINTS MADE AT THE CHRIST CHURCH BRITTANY CHAPLAINCY  
COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT HUELGOAT ON WEDNESDAY 25th  
APRIL 2018**



- The Annual Chaplaincy meeting held at Ploërmel on 18th March was well supported with representatives from all three congregations. Janet Lageveen (Huelgoat) was appointed as Churchwarden to replace Norma Parker.
- The Licensing of the Revd Robin Adams by Bishop Robert was an excellent occasion attended by 104 people. The arrangements for the service and the refreshments offered afterwards were both highly praised.
- All three Archdeaconry Synod representatives together with the Revd Robin Adams attended the Archdeaconry Synod held at St Jacut de la Mer from April 18th - 21st. It was an excellent occasion including Bible Study, some excellent talks and an updating of information vital for the chaplaincies.
- To enable the Diocese to have a long-term future it is necessary for significant increases in the Parish Share (the 'Quota') to be made over the next few years. Two significant factors are costs associated with 'Safeguarding' and the need to appoint two further Archdeacons for the Diocese who do not also have Chaplaincy responsibilities, the dual appointments in the past having caused much psychological stress. The Archdeacon of France does not incur any stipendiary costs as he is paid as Bishop's Chaplain.
- Each Chaplaincy is responsible for its own funding. The Stewardship Officer and the Treasurer, who will soon be visiting each congregation, have drawn up a list of methods of giving. Tax-beneficial giving by standing order is by far the best method of supporting the Chaplaincy.

- Everyone should always be aware of anything untoward particularly in relation to children and vulnerable adults and any anxieties should be passed on immediately to the Safeguarding Officer, currently Chris Wilson. The online Level 1 training has recently been revised and those who have previously done it would benefit from revisiting the site. The Revd Joy Dale is hoping to become a Level 2 trainer.
- The new legislation concerning Data Protection comes into operation in Europe on 25th May. The consequences are considerable - each person will be required annually to give their consent concerning personal data, each church is required to make an audit of all personal information it holds and to create a Chaplaincy data privacy notice. You will be hearing more.



- A discussion took place on children's ministry. Each congregation will be expected to provide suitable age-dependent material.
- The Council gave their unanimous blessing to the transfer of John Cullingford's Reader's licence from the Diocese of Salisbury to the Diocese in Europe. He will be linked primarily to the Rostrenen congregation.
- Bishop Robert will be approached about the possibility of a Confirmation service in the Chaplaincy in the Spring of 2019
- The Congregational Oversight Groups set up before the interregnum will be renamed as the X Liaison Team. They will deal with local matters and assist in providing a better two-way flow of information between members of the team and the congregation.
- Informal worship services are now in place in each worship centre so that there will be an opportunity for worship at each centre each Sunday. These services are being trialled and feedback will be sought as to whether they should continue after the end of May.
- A replacement for the Prayer Diary published each month in the Newsletter is being sought to take over from Kate Nicholas who has compiled the diary for some time. She was thanked for all her efforts in the past.

Coming soon -

## New data Protection Legislation

The world of information and data storage is changing in a big way. It will affect how Churches, Archdeaconries and the diocese store and use personal information. Richard Abraham, Business Improvement Consultant, has been



working through new legislation and previews the changes we can expect. What does this mean in practice? Data Protection is about avoiding harm to individuals by misusing or mismanaging their personal data. Generally, the principles of the Act require that data is:

- \* held lawfully, fairly and transparently
- \* collected for a specific purpose, that we only collect personal data we need for the purpose we are using it
- \* kept accurate and up-to-date, kept only for as long as required to fulfil a specific purpose or as required by law, held securely and confidentially
- \* held in such a manner that we can demonstrate that we have complied with the above

So, what is Personal Data? Personal data or information is any information about a living individual which is capable of identifying that individual. Certain data is also classified as Sensitive Personal Data which must be treated with extra care, such as information relating to a person's ethnic origin, political beliefs, religious beliefs, physical and mental health or condition.

Can people still ask to see the data you hold on them? In a word, yes and instead of a 40 day time-frame the information to the person making the request must be provided within one month. The £10 charge is abolished.

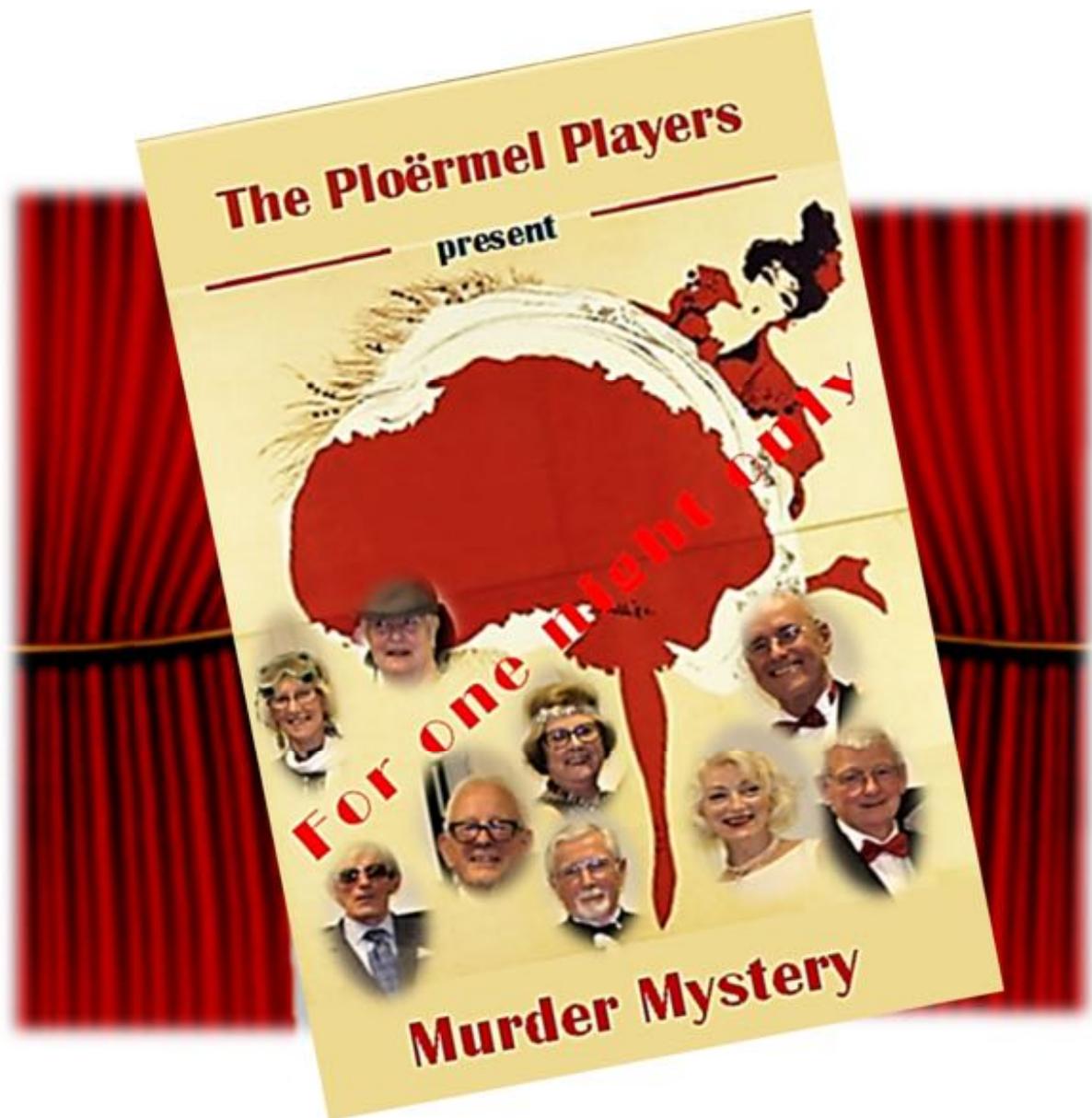
So how does this affect the Diocese in Europe and what steps are being taken? With the Diocese working closely with colleagues in Church House and dioceses across the UK to look at the best means to implement the new Act. There is a meeting scheduled for 8 February 2018 (as The European Anglican was going to print) where we will look to finalise our data protection statements, data sharing protocols, guidance on the difference between personal and non-personal information and the practical steps that may need to be taken to ensure we comply with the Act at both a Diocesan and chaplaincy level. We aim to share more information with Chaplaincies after this meeting and well before the new legislation come into effect in May 2018.

**What does this mean in practice?**

Data Protection is about avoiding harm to individuals by misusing or mismanaging their personal data. Generally, the principles of the Act require that data is:

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- held in such a manner that we can demonstrate that we have complied with the above

An infographic on a dark green background. On the left, there is a list of six data protection principles. To the right, there are several icons: a white cloud with a yellow padlock, a smartphone with a yellow padlock, a desktop monitor with a yellow padlock, a hand holding a smartphone with a green shield and a yellow padlock, a yellow envelope with a yellow padlock, and a white document with a yellow padlock.



Having been asked to write a review of the latest Murder Mystery at Ploërmel, I realised that I didn't really have a clue about what was going on - and I was in it! The setting was Monte Carlo in 1951 and it seems that a disparate group of people had been invited - by Prince Reynard (Michael), the most eligible bachelor in Europe, - to a party at his Palace ..... or was it his yacht? No, that was for fireworks later! Roxy Foxx, an actress, had been found washed up on the Prince's private beach, and murder was suspected. Was it the glamorous Marilyn Monroe look-alike Cassandra, (Elaine), an aspiring actress with a softly breathy voice? Did she bear a grudge against Roxy Foxx? Was she jealous of her and wanted her gone so that she could play her role in the series of "Sybil" films directed by Alfred Higginbottom (Jeremy), - the most powerful man in Hollywood? Hum. Maybe. But what about Princess Peacock (Suzanne), with her amazing variety of French/German/Bavarian accents? A distant cousin of the Prince, she certainly had a soft spot for him! But how did she know Roxy Foxx, indeed, did she know her at all? And why was she there? Confused? It gets worse!! Colonel Jock Strap (Charlie), a distinguished Scottish soldier who won a VC on D-Day, seemed to be a relative of Roxy, so that put him in the firing line, along with Amy Jackson (Sue) who I believe called him "Uncle" Jock!



Is everyone related you may ask? Who knows! But this Amy Jackson, of Welsh origin, was known by all - according to the newspapers. First person to fly solo over the Sahara, dressed up as a man in order to fly missions for the RAF in the last war, always searching out excitement and thrills. She was over the moon to

have a murder on the doorstep - so to speak! But facts were a little thin on the ground - or should I say - in the air! When questioned by the women's world champion golfer Bobbie Driver (Jean), it was ambiguous as to whether Amy had arrived at Monte Carlo in a single seater plane, or a two seater, and on further questioning admitted to strapping passengers to the wings when necessary - a likely story!! Just one more suspect - Lord Lumby (Geoff). He was the dance band leader at the Palace for the party. Surely he had no motive for murder? Maybe he didn't like Roxy's voice, but you don't hit someone over the head with a musical instrument and fling them on the beach, just because they sing flat!

Sue

## Preaching on the topic of Prayer

During June, July and August we shall follow an ALPHA course based on the Lord's Prayer. You may find this work on the Lord's Prayer, useful from C. S. Lewis.

Our main basis for this course is on the website of HTB in London and contains all of the videos we hope to use on the informal Sundays.

Pastor Robin will preach on the topic of prayer (see list below) at Ploërmel on the 1st and 3rd Sunday's and repeat the sermon the next Sunday (2nd and 4th) at Rostrenen and Huelgoat. The video and discussion theme will be used in each Church on the Sundays following the sermon. So 'Adoration' will be the theme at the informal service in Ploërmel on June 10th and at the western congregations on June 17th.

Please look at this website and use the teaching videos at your own discretion at home.

<https://www.prayercourse.org>

The basics covered by The Prayer Course are:

1. Purpose in Prayer: Adoration June 3 and 10
2. Power in Prayer: Petition June 17 and 24
3. Prevailing in Prayer: Intercession July 1 and 8
4. Perseverance in Prayer: Dealing with Disappointments July 15 and 22
5. Perspective in Prayer: Learning to Listen August 5 and 12
6. Partnership in Prayer: Spiritual Warfare August 19 and 26

*Pastor Robin*

# Archdeaconry of France 2018

Once again we gathered at the Abbey at Saint Jacut de la Mer for this year's Synod. The one downside was that some of us had to stay at the sister house in Crehen as the work on the annex had not finished.

It was nice meeting people again and catching up on how things had gone over the previous year.

We gathered on Wednesday afternoon for registration and the Synod began with the Eucharist, followed by dinner. We then had a session with the Archdeacon on hopes and horizons and Liz Hudson discussed communications during the Synod.

Thursday morning started with a Bible Study under the heading of "Citizens of Nowhere, Citizens of Everywhere, Citizens of God" presented by Michael Sadgrove who is Dean Emeritus of Durham and a noted theological author. The second part of the study was the opening session on Friday, given under the heading of 'Power', That all forms of power come from above - God, Caesar and government. The presentation very learned and detailed with many references to other writings.

Professor Grace Davie, Emeritus Professor of Sociology of Religion at the University of Exeter. Professor Davie's presentation helped us to understand the context of mission and ministry 'From Within' and 'From Without'. She emphasised how the decline in religious commitment is very much a European experience, as in other areas of the world, especially where migrant communities are, religion is flourishing. She also challenged some common assumptions we encounter, for example, "Don't ask if religion causes conflict... ask under what circumstances religion becomes embroiled in conflict".

Matthew Lodge, Minister at the British Embassy in Paris endeavoured to separate fact from media fiction, although, understandably he could only confirm that there will be changes after 23rd March 2019 and that we still do not know fully what they will be.

The Bishop spoke on the future strategy, including current financial challenges for the Diocese. His second address explored how we minister to the growing numbers of migrants in the Diocese. He also talked about our partnership with the Diocese of Canterbury and USPG in the Pas-de-Calais Chaplaincy, as we recruit a new Chaplain to serve this challenging situation.

Mike Fegan, the interim Diocesan Secretary spoke very well about the implications of the Financial Plan, which will impact on all of us. He took a number of questions and answered them clearly and concisely and made a good impression in dealing with a controversial subject.

If anyone would like more detail on the various presentations, they are available on the Archdeaconry website.

*Rob*

## Ecumenical Day

The annual gathering of the Ecumenical groups of Brittany will take place at the Abbey of Timadeuc (Foyer St Julien) on Saturday June 2nd at 9.30 for a 10 o'clock start and end at 4 pm. All are welcome either for the whole day or to join us for a picnic lunch and the Office of None in the Brothers' chapel. The subject is Martin Luther King : talks and discussion are in French.

Further details for both from Laura on 02 97 51 74 26.

# Ecology 6

Written by Royston Shrigley our Environmental Officer

This article will include a start on some ideas for making your gardens bird friendly. If you live in a town or the centre of a village this is especially important but even if you live in the countryside and are surrounded by apparently bird friendly scenery it is always nice to be able to view and hear birds in your own garden.

Birds need plants for a number of reasons. Food is an important reason but also shelter from bad weather, roosting places at night and nesting sites in the spring. We should bear these reasons in mind when selecting trees and shrubs for our gardens.

We do not have to devote all of our garden but we can at least set aside one part of our garden for bird friendly planting. If we have a place for a new shrub or tree why not try to select a berry bearing plant such as hawthorn, holly, rowan, wild cherry or cotoneaster.

Deciduous trees and shrubs shed their leaves in the autumn and many of us like to keep the garden tidy by sweeping them up, but dead leaves provide nesting material for birds in the spring so if you do sweep them up, it is possible to leave them in a heap so that they are still available to the birds. Evergreen trees and shrubs provide excellent winter shelter. If you have very little room remember that a hedge, even a small one will provide some shelter for birds

Where possible, try to choose trees and shrubs which are native to Brittany since they will support the native insects which our birds will eat. Most of these are also native to the U.K.

Also, where possible leave dead trees as they make a home for many insects and their larvae which some birds feed on.

Bear in mind that lawns are also important for birds. They provide seeds and insects which birds feed on and it is a common sight to see birds such as blackbirds searching for earthworms. Paving, decking and artificial grass should be kept to a minimum.

Climbing plants such as clematis, ivy, honeysuckle etc. will provide food, shelter and nesting sites.

Remember also that birds need water. A pond with at least one shallow sloping side is ideal of course but even a small container of water, a bird bath perhaps, will be used and appreciated.

Remember also that some artificial fertilisers are poisonous to birds. Try to use natural products especially, of course, your homemade compost from household waste, weeds, grass cuttings etc



# Contacts

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