



DIOCESE IN EUROPE

THE CHURCH  
OF ENGLAND



ALL SAINTS ANGLICAN CHURCH  
4, RUE DE BELLOI  
13006, MARSEILLE, FRANCE

May 2017

## AIX-EN-PROVENCE REPORT TO THE ARCHDEANERY SYNOD

We, in Aix-en-Provence, are the sister congregation within the greater chaplaincy of All Saints Marseille with Aix-en-Provence. Whereas the group at All Saints in the Phoenician City centre of Marseille meets for worship every Sunday morning in their own 112 year old church building, we in Aix use the rented chapel in the Oratoire of the grand Roman Catholic Cathédrale Saint-Sauveur first built in the 6<sup>th</sup> century over top of a 1<sup>st</sup> century Roman forum.



*Holy Communion on Easter Sunday in the Aix Chapel*



*Our summer picnic at Gabrielle and Rene's home.*

Our congregation is quite small but very powerful spiritually and practically. Anywhere from 12 to 20 of us meet for worship on the third Sunday of each month, but within our midst we have two retired clergy who are honorary assistant clergy in the chaplaincy, two of our chaplaincy's Readers, we provide an Aix Rep PCC member, our chaplaincy's Safeguarding Officer, and one of the chaplaincy Wardens. We do not shirk our duties to support our church and to develop the Anglican presence in this historic youthful university town.

On the three Sundays of the month when we are not holding worship in our chapel, many of us drive down to Marseille to join in the congregational worship there.

In June, we hosted an Aix congregational picnic at the home of Gabrielle Vines and her spouse Rene and on Christmas Eve we held a special late afternoon Aix service of Holy Communion. This saw our chaplain, Fr David Greenwood and his wife taking the train up to Aix, celebrating with us, and then training it back to Marseille for their early morning Christmas service. On that Christmas occasion we gifted the Roman Catholic clergy with two bags of Eucharistic hosts to assure them that, although we are not "in communion and sharing Eucharistic hospitality" we are indeed sisters and brothers in Christ, celebrating Christ's birth together, and we can support each other's Eucharistic ministries in other ways.



*(Left) Fr David Greenwood and Reader Jane Quarmby pray before the start of the Christmas Eve worship service.*

*(Right) Reader Christine Portman and her husband, the Rev Canon David Pickering, light our Advent Wreath candles at the start of our Christmas Eve worship.*