



ST HUGH'S VENCE <http://www.anglican-nice.com/>

I have just completed my third Holy Week and Easter. I very quickly felt settled at St Hugh's and Holy Trinity but my sense of belonging is even stronger now.

I was cautious about introducing liturgical changes when I arrived but it is fascinating to observe how what was an innovation for the two churches – Murray's mass setting, for example – is now 'what we do', in fact so much so that the Easter congregations which included many visitors sang everything with gusto.

Since last autumn, I have been sending a weekly newsletter to all members of St Hugh's Vence and a slightly different one to Holy Trinity Nice. The newsletter combines some information about forthcoming events with a preview of the topic of the sermon for the Sunday following. I am glad to say that this appears to be successful and well-appreciated.

I am glad to see that the improved financial position at St Hugh has been sustained, in ways that the treasurer has detailed. This is impressive in the wake of the financial uncertainty caused by the Brexit vote and the recent triggering of the process.

It has been good to see so many social aspects of life at St Hugh's flourish: coffee after the services, Pink Club (drinks on Saturdays in the church garden) in the summer, the St Hugh's Day lunch, and mince pies and mulled wine after the Carol Service.

It was delightful to welcome Bishop Pierre Whalon last All Saints' tide. Our Episcopal Church history and connections are strong. I had been to the Convention of the Convocation of Episcopal Churches in Munich just before Bishop Pierre's visit and I was impressed by the warmth of welcome that they gave us.

I was also delighted that again some members of St Hugh's came to the annual retreat at Laghet. Aply led by Father James Mustard, those who attended found it an interesting and spiritually refreshing time.

Fr Peter Jackson