**St Mary’s Caen, Anglican Chaplaincy of Caen**

**** **Church Wardens Report for Synod 2020/2021**

As probably most Chaplaincies in France, Caen had a “choppy” year and a half from January 2020 to April 2021. We stopped our services on March 15th 2020 and resumed them formally in the Chapelle on the 13th September. As we are cared for by Fr Mark Osborne from St George’s, Paris, the 2020 lockdown meant that travel to Caen was very limited; Fr Mark did however minister at a House Eucharist for the Assumption. From September on, we were very fortunate in having pastoral assistance from Fr Peter Hales from the Manche. We therefore managed to start up and continue our services, although with a much reduced attendance, until Good Friday 2021.

However, God’s work in the chaplaincy has been sustained throughout by Carol, one of our Readers-in-Training, who sends out Prayer Resources every Sunday accompanied by Intercessions (prepared by myself) and Music (put together by John Harris), to all our congregation. These have the advantage of reaching out to all our “parishioners”, especially those who can no longer journey in to Caen or who are shielding.

We were able to hold our AGM on the 20th September: the major proposals adopted were to change our name to St. Mary’s Caen (from the Anglican Chaplaincy Caen) and to vote to set up the statutory two “associations cultuelle and culturelle”. This is currently being done.

We continued our ecumenical encounters of which we are particularly proud: our Carol service on the 8th Dec 2019 (with Pastor Christiane of the United Reformed Church and RC Père Pavy) (no Carol Service in 2020); the Service of Prayer for Christian Unity in both 2020 and 2021; the services for the Womens’ World Day of Prayer (March 6th 2020, prepared by the women of Zimbabwe and March 5th 2021 prepared by the women of Vanuatu); the farewell Mass of Thanksgiving at the Basilica of Lisieux for retiring Mgr. Jean-Claude Boulanger, Bishop of Bayeux & Lisieux (September 2020), at which we had occasion to thank him for his ecumenical graciousness in allowing us to use the Chapel of the Miséricorde for our services.

Blessings to all,

Marian Clarke, Church Warden.