

Our new Chaplain Revd Paul Willis was installed and Licensed on Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2026 at L'Eglise St. Eugène in Brens. The Service was taken by the Rt. Revd Dr. Robert Innes, Bishop of Gibraltar in Europe and the Revd Canon Dr. Peter Hooper, Archdeacon of France & Switzerland.

## EDITION February 2026

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If you would like the Church Mouse in large print – font 20 – please let me know. If you would like the Church Mouse printed and sent by post - again, please let me know.

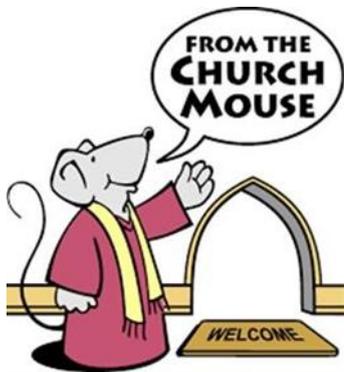
At the present time the Church Mouse is an independent voice speaking for any member of the Church subject to the editor's discretion, and views expressed are not necessarily those of the Chaplaincy, Archdeaconry or Diocese.

*All photos have been checked against Tin Eye.*



+Bishop Robert and Archdeacon Peter with Revd Paul Willis





(Thank you, Peter Burd, for all the photos)



The Chaplaincy Musicians above and the singers were on the other side of the Church – sorry no photo! Howard Bould conducted – the hymns and music were very uplifting.



Part of the Service included Revd Paul receiving the signs of Christian Ministry

- As the **key** was given the Church doors were opened wide:  
Revd Paul replied – I invite you to work with me to banish all hatred, suspicion, prejudice and hardness of heart, so that all people may find love here.

- As **water** for Baptism was given:  
Revd Paul replied – I invite you all to join with me in making disciples of all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.

- As a **lighted candle** was given:  
Revd Paul replied I invite you all to join me, and with the whole Church, in the renewal of our common prayer, and in the strengthening of the life of the Spirit among us

As **the Bible** was given:  
Revd Paul replied – I invite you all to join with me in proclaiming the Gospel of hope and new life.

- As a **Chalice and Paten** were given:  
Revd Paul replied – I invite you to join regularly with me in this sacrament to receive strength for daily living, so that we can go out in the power of the Holy Spirit to live and work to God's praise and glory.



The Ministry Team – *top left and clock-wise*: Revd Paul Willis, Peter Gibbs, Archdeacon Peter Hooper, Abbé Gaël Raucoules (Paroisse St-Michel), Malcolm Rigley, Revd Jacqueline Rodwell, Bishop Robert & Revd June Hutchinson

David Heyworth (Cahors), Anita Phillips (Carcassonne), Ross Jenkins (Brens), Sam Silverthorn (Toulouse) Bob Humphrey (Vayrac) and Alison Kinloch (Caylus).



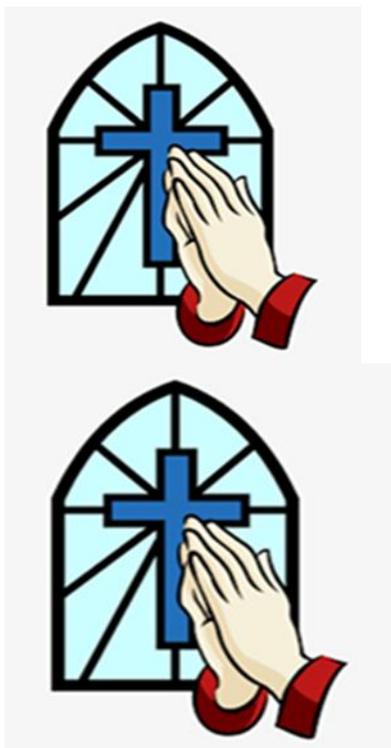
# SERVICES AROUND THE CHAPLAINCY

## March 2026



### The Reason we are here

Dear Father  
 Enfold our new Chaplain Paul Willis in your love, that he may serve among us with compassion, faithfulness, humility and a zeal for justice. Guide him as he opens the scriptures; inspire him as he leads worship; and grant him wisdom as he leads the life of this chapel community.



### BRENS

Sunday 1 <sup>st</sup> March	11h.00	Holy Communion by extension – Peter Gibbs
Sunday 8 <sup>th</sup> March	11h.00	Morning Prayer on Zoom
Sunday 15 <sup>th</sup> March	11h.00	Holy Communion by extension – Peter Gibbs
Sunday 22 <sup>nd</sup> March	11h.00	Morning Prayer on Zoom

### CAHORS

Sunday 1 <sup>st</sup> March	10h.00	Holy Communion – Revd June Hutchinson – <b>Revd Paul Willis</b>
Friday 6 <sup>th</sup> March	18h.00	World Day of Prayer Service
Sunday 8 <sup>th</sup> March	10h.00	Morning Prayer Georgina Hodgson
Sunday 15 <sup>th</sup> March	10h.00	Morning Prayer

### CARCASSONNE

Sunday 8 <sup>th</sup> March	10h.30	Holy Communion – <b>Revd Paul Willis</b>
Sunday 22 <sup>nd</sup> March	10h.30	Holy Communion – Revd Tony Jewiss
Sunday 29 <sup>th</sup> March	10h.30	Palm Sunday Communion – Revd Tony Jewiss

### CAYLUS

Monday 9 <sup>th</sup> March	10h.30	Morning Prayer – Celia Scott with <b>Revd Paul Willis</b>
Monday 23 <sup>rd</sup> March	10h30	Holy Communion – Revd June Hutchinson

### TOULOUSE

Sunday 1 <sup>st</sup> March	10h.30	Service of the Word – Sam Silverthorn
Sunday 15 <sup>th</sup> March	10h.30	Holy Communion – Revd Jacqueline Rodwell with <b>Revd Paul Willis</b>

### VAYRAC

Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> March	10h.30	Holy Communion – <b>Revd Paul Willis</b>
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**Follow us on Facebook!** Our page is 'Anglican Chaplaincy of Midi Pyrenees and Aude' (under development). Carcassonne page is at 'Anglican Church in Carcassonne'. Please have a look and follow the pages and like the posts! It all helps to spread the word that we are here and are open to those who are looking to join us.



THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND

## 2026 Bishop's Lent Appeal: Vale Silves Community Centre, Portugal

### About Portugal

Portugal is a beautiful country and a popular tourist and retirement destination. Despite the many tourists, about 2.2 million people (about 20% of the population), are at risk of poverty or social exclusion. From 2011 through to 2015 Portugal endured a financial crisis and the pandemic has contributed to the difficulties in overcoming this. Great economic and social inequalities exist.



### About the Vale Silves Community Centre

The Centre was founded in 1990 by Dra Maria Armanda Silva, originally as a Parents' Association seeking to improve the local primary school. That small initiative grew into a wider community project addressing the needs of families in the district. Over the years, through EU grants, donated building materials, and significant personal sacrifice - including Dra Armanda taking out a mortgage on her own home - the Centre has become a fully operational, independent, non-political, not-for-profit organisation serving the parish of Boliqueime, in the Algarve.

### Our long-standing partnership

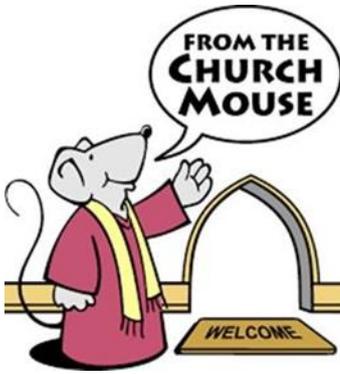
St Vincent's Chaplaincy Algarve has cooperated closely with the Centre for many years. Our partnership includes supporting the elderly outreach programme, providing annual Christmas gift bags for all elderly users and their carers, assisting with fundraising and maintaining a regular pastoral presence. This long and trusted relationship means we have had the privilege of witnessing first-hand, the commitment, integrity and compassion with which Dra Armanda and her team serve the most vulnerable in the community.

*+ Robert Gibraltar in Europe*

### +Robert Gibraltar in Europe

#### How you can donate to the Bishop in Europe's Lent Appeal 2026:

- **Via your Chaplaincy Treasurer** to Nick Wraight in the Diocesan Office
- **By cheque made out to: Diocese in Europe**  
Diocese in Europe Board of Finance  
14, Tufton St  
London SW1P 3QZ  
(Please add the words "Lent Appeal 2026" to any note you send with the cheque)
- **By bank transfer:**  
Account number: 40317039  
Sort code: 20-06-13  
IBAN: GB16 BUKB 2006 1340 3170 39 Swift / BIC: BUKBGB22
- **On the Diocese in Europe Just Giving page:**  
<https://www.justgiving.com/diocese-ineurope>



## ELECTORAL ROLL REVISION 2026



The importance of the Chaplaincy Electoral Roll - Only members of the Roll may vote at the Annual Meetings. The total number on the Roll is also an important factor in determining the number of lay representatives to be elected from the Chaplaincy to the Archdeaconry Synod.

Given this, each year a formal process is undertaken by the Chaplaincy Council, as preparation for the ACM, this year on 27th May, to ensure the Roll's accuracy. 2026 is Electoral Roll revision year, meaning only additions and deletions are made to an existing list.

Revising the roll means adding names if necessary, removing anyone who has died, been ordained, has asked to be removed in writing, or who no longer attends worship or was not eligible when they were added.

Anyone wishing to be removed from the Roll should let me know. An email to [Phillips.david@orange.fr](mailto:Phillips.david@orange.fr) will be sufficient.

Joining the Roll - If you are baptised, are over 16 years and have habitually worshipped in one of our churches over the last six months, you can join the Roll. You simply need to complete a form, which will be available in April, and send it to me by email or post. Further details and the newly revised form will be sent out in April.

[David Phillips, Electoral Roll Officer](#)



## “I Will Give You Rest: Come”

**Matthew 11:28-30**  
**March 6, 2026**

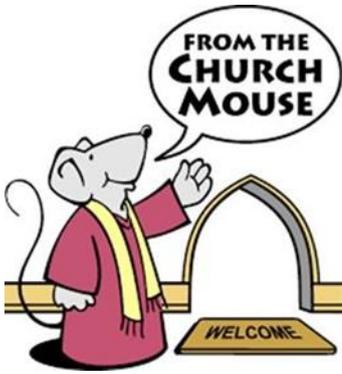


The 2026 World Day of Prayer materials from Nigeria bring us a powerful invitation drawn from Matthew 11:28-30. At a time when people worldwide are carrying heavy burdens, our Nigerian sisters offer profound insights into finding rest in God.

Through their exploration of different kinds of burdens - shame, systemic oppression, religious persecution, poverty and despair - the writers help us understand both the weight of human suffering and the depths of divine rest. Their work shows us that true rest isn't just about physical relief, but about transformation through God's grace and community support.

Nigeria has a population of over 211 million, the largest in Africa and the 7<sup>th</sup> largest in the world.

**The congregation at Terre Rouge in Cahors will be celebrating this event – the World Day of Prayer on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> March at 6pm.**



## PORTRAIT OF BISHOP ROBERT:

### ECUMENISM AND CONCERN FOR OTHERS

On February 22<sup>nd</sup> Bishop Robert (Innes), who supervises the Anglican dioceses in Europe, conducted Holy Communion and the Licensing and Installation of Revd Paul Willis as Chaplain of Midi Pyrenees and Aude at Brens. This is part of a 3 day visit to south-west France following a successful visit to south-east France in December of last year.

For Bishop Robert the most important aspects of Christianity are an ecumenical attitude, showing sympathy to fellow human beings and applying

Christian principles to the problems we encounter in today's world. His own life exemplifies the practice of these ideas.

Born in Wolverhampton in 1959 he lived briefly in the Netherlands before moving to Woking in Surrey. He went to The Royal Grammar School in Guildford and then studied engineering at King's College Cambridge, graduating in 1982. Jobs in the electrical power industry and then with the management consultancy, Accenture, preceded his starting to train for the priesthood in 1989. A really significant change of career. Graduating with a BA in Theology in 1991, Robert obtained a Doctorate in Theology in 1995 – both from Durham University. Ordained as a deacon in 1995 and priest in 1996, Robert taught Systematic Theology at Durham University and served as a curate in parishes near to that city. 1999 saw him become Vicar of Saint Mary Magdalen's Church in Belmont, a north-east suburb of Durham.

Brussels first came into his life in 2005, when he was appointed Chancellor and Senior Chaplain of the Pro Cathedral of The Holy Trinity there. (A Pro Cathedral is a church, where on occasions a bishop preaches but it is not the seat of that bishop.) 2014 saw Robert become the Bishop in Europe.

A natural for committees, he was President of the Central Committee for the Anglican Church in Belgium for some years. In November last year he welcomed King Philippe, to a service of evensong at Holy Trinity celebrating the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the establishment of that committee. Belgium recognised Anglicanism in 1870.

He has also been President of the Belgian Consultation of Christian Churches. Refugees who come to Belgium, are sometimes sponsored by the various church communities. Today he represents the Anglican Church at the Institutions of the European Union. A logical arrangement, given that he is based in Brussels.

Bishop Robert attended the funeral of Pope Francis last year and his message was as follows:

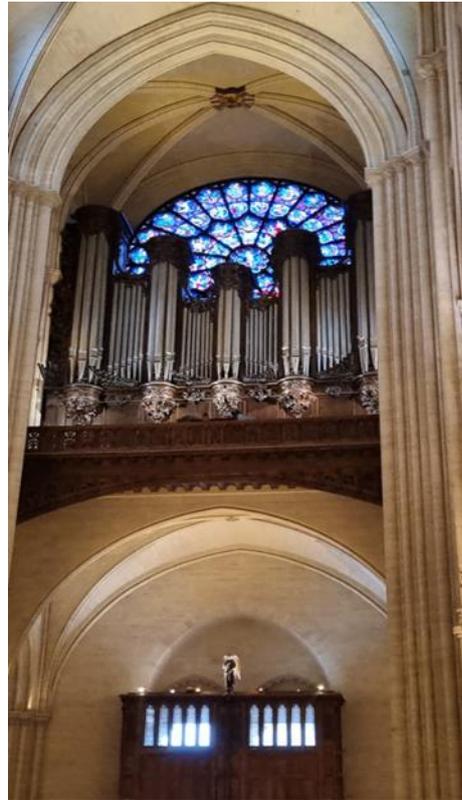
“Meanwhile the work of the Church continues. The divine mission does not depend on one or two extraordinary individuals. The mission is God's and it continues by the power of his spirit.”

We all individually have a part to play in promoting God's teaching. **Thank you, Gavin (Caylus),**



## A Visit to Notre Dame

Amazingly restored – so beautiful



(Photos from David Heyworth)

Many people will remember Notre Dame in Paris when it was dark and gloomy. Then there was the devastating fire on 15 April 2019, at 18:18 when a structural fire broke out in the roof space of Notre-Dame de Paris, the medieval Catholic cathedral. After **more than five years** of frenetic reconstruction work, Notre Dame Cathedral showed its new self to the world in December 2024 with rebuilt soaring ceilings and creamy good-as-new stonework erasing somber memories of its devastating fire.