

Anglican Chaplaincy of All Saints' Marseille with Aix-en-Provence and the Luberon

Annual Report 2019 (summary for Archdeaconry Synod.)

The past year we have continued to be covered by locum Chaplains: Rev Alan Amos Jan.-Feb. 2018, Rev Paul Payton March to April 2018, Rev Alex Packett April-July 2018 and then from October 2018 to date by Interim Chaplains Revs Stephen and Sue Goodwin. We are now seeking to appoint a new permanent Chaplain from September 2019. The locums have been supported by the Assistant Priests Rev Canon David Pickering, Revs Malcolm Dodd, Patrick Cassidy and John Smith together with our two Readers Christine Portman and Jane Quarmby. These people have enabled the Chaplaincy to fulfil their normal pattern of worship with all three congregations (weekly in Marseille and monthly in Aix-en-Provence and Oppede in the Luberon). This has included special services for the 100th commemoration of the end of World War 1 and Carol Services at Christmas. For the first time in 2019 there has been an Easter Day Service at all three congregations. All were well attended.

Our work with the Mission to Seafarers continues with Gaston Roumieu, Tim and Amanda Haste and Helen Brooking all working shifts at the Seamen's Club. However, with numbers of seafarers decreasing year on year at the Club we are beginning to think of new ways of fulfilling our mission to seafarers. Gaston continues to have a major role with the *Association Marseillaise d'Accueil des Marins* (AMAM) or Marseille Sailors Benevolent Association. In addition to his work with the Seaman's Club and the AMAM Gaston also maintains our Chaplaincy Website and other links with the wider community in Marseille, all vital means of communication in a scattered chaplaincy. We also maintain a Face Book page thanks to Amanda Haste and our ACNY website.

After holding the fort over a difficult period for the Chaplaincy both Church Wardens (Amanda Haste and Janet Dodd) have stepped down and the Treasurer of many years (Michael Hilton) has retired. Jane Quarmby is our new Church Warden and Garry Quarmby our new Treasurer. Christine Portman continues to work hard as our Safeguarding Officer as well as being a Reader.

The Marseille congregation continues to be a wonderful mix of nationalities and ages and includes many visitors to the city, some for work and others on holiday. The newest congregation in Oppede is largely ex-pat but numbers are consistent and boosted by summer visitors. The Aix congregation attracts some students from the university.

Roxana Teleman, our ordinand, will be ordained deacon in the Pro Cathedral in Brussels on 30th June this year and several of us hope to be there to support her. She will then join the church in Nice for her curacy. She will be greatly missed as she has fulfilled so many roles in the Chaplaincy over the years.

Financially the Chaplaincy has survived another year and is very grateful to receive an annual grant from the MMS to the tune of £8000. Collections and pledged giving have increased slightly over the past financial year which is a positive sign. We thank God for His provision in every way.