

## St Paul's Monaco

I was appointed Interim Chaplain in May 2021 which happily coincided with an easing of Covid restrictions. This allowed us to start singing again which immediately added a note of joy to our worship and we have benefitted from having access to some excellent musicians throughout the year. In July former chaplain, Walter Raymond, died at home in Canada and we held a memorial service in thanksgiving for his life and his ministry here at St Paul's. At this we launched an appeal to commission a new Nave Altar in his memory. We have also been able to install live-streaming equipment which allows housebound parishioners (and anyone else) to be connected to our worship through You Tube. In addition to this the congregation has continued to grow in number as increased confidence encouraged people to return to in-person worship, as well as some new folk joining us and we have around 9 or 10 different nationalities represented on a regular basis.

Monaco is almost unique being a Roman Catholic State and we have re-established good relations with our colleagues, receiving some at St Paul's as well as being invited to participate in events at the cathedral. In particular we were delighted to welcome the Archbishop of Monaco, as well as Prince Albert, to our Carol Service in December.

My year is coming to a close and I hope and pray that the community here will continue to grow in confidence and in number as a new permanent chaplain is appointed.

David Roper  
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