



Puy-de-Serre,

Église Sainte-Marthe



La Chapelle Palluau

Église Saint Pierre

THE CONGREGATIONS OF ALL SAINTS VENDEÉ

ANNUAL REPORT FOR SYNOD 2019

Another year has passed, and despite a lot of effort and advertising, we were still without a Priest-in-Charge. We were very fortunate to have Rev. Hazel Door acting as long term Locum, aided by Rev. Martin Crompton, and are grateful to them both.

Our prayers were answered in April 2019 when Rev Hazel Door was appointed as Chaplain for All Saints Church on a part-time basis.

During 2018, the congregation in the East has been without the use of their usual church building due to major renovation work. Worship has continued in the Church Salle with a bit of 'juggling' when the Salle has been needed for other special occasions by the Catholic community.

Again, during the past year, a number of our regular congregation members have left us for pastures new, or in some cases pastures old. Some have gone back to the UK, some to other parts of France. This has been for health, family or other reasons, including continuing concerns over Brexit. Sadly also, some of our members have died. All this, of course, means our numbers are decreasing again, leading to a reduction in the number of services in the west, now one service a month on the first Sunday. This, however, continues to thrive, offering ministry to residents and visitors alike.

We continue to encourage and support members to complete the necessary Safeguarding courses.

During the year we had Ecumenical services for the Week of prayer for Christian Unity the Women's World day of Prayer, and also the bi-lingual Good Friday service.

We were delighted to present a candidate for confirmation by Bishop Robert in March, which took place in the Aquitaine Chaplaincy, meaning an overnight stay en route to arrive on time!

Importantly for people in such a widespread area, our social events and Home groups are a valued part of our activities and allow us more opportunities to get to know each other better and provide opportunities for spiritual growth and fellowship. Through our various events including the Lent lunches, we continue to support the local Restos du Cœur, and Médecins Sans frontières.

Tonie Chandler