

La Côte Anglican Church

Weekly Bulletin

Reflection for week of 27 October to 3 November from Chris Potter

I wonder if we shouldn't shake up the church calendar. Give it a bit of spruce up, a bit of an update. Starting with the 1st of November, which I propose to call « All Sinners Day ».

This is urgent because we the faithful are increasingly becoming marginalised, irrelevant even. And we are our own worst enemies: We imagine that the « Saints » were some kind of religious super-heros, unmatched in their perfection, and therefore easy to overlook as unconnected and irrelevant to our daily lives, and inexplicable and dismiss-able to others.

And yet Pope Francis has said of saints that they “are men and women ... who struggle with prayer, letting the Holy Spirit pray and struggle in them ... They struggle to the very end, with all their strength, and they triumph, but not by their own efforts: the Lord triumphs in them and with them ... they (remain) firm in faith, with a generous and steadfast heart.”

So maybe these saints are not as saintly as we tend to imagine?

Nadia Bolz-Weber goes further. She points out: “Never once did Jesus scan the room for the best example of holy living and send that person out to tell others about him. He always sent stumblers and sinners.”

So maybe the saints were also sinners, made saintly by their struggles and by the help of the Holy Spirit.

Maybe that means that although we are sinners, we can also be saints - thanks to God's ability - even propensity - to do His work through sinners.

And maybe that is a message the whole world needs to hear. The Saints of old are not saintly because of their otherworldly super-powers, but because they struggled and God struggled with them, triumphing in the end. We are saints, not because we are in any way better than anyone else, but because we struggle and have the faith that somehow, somewhere, we will triumph because God struggles in, with and through us.

Happy All Sinners Day!

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Reminder: Clocks go back an hour this weekend!

SUNDAY 27 OCTOBER – Trinity 19

10:00 Divonne, Holy Communion

After the service we would love for as many of you as possible to stay behind to share an apéro and a conversation about our life as the Divonne congregation and as part of La Côte Church.

16:00 Gingins, All-Age Worship / All Saints

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SUNDAY 3 NOVEMBER – All Souls'

08:45-09:15 Chapelle de Signy, Said Eucharist

Everyone is welcome both for our worship and then afterwards in the local village café.

16:00 Gingins, Holy Communion – with prayers for the departed

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Please note that in Gingins we have been asked not to park in the courtyard in front of the church house and meeting room. This is a private parking area for residents.

NEXT WEEK

TUESDAY 29 OCTOBER

09:15 – 11:00 Bible Study chez Trevor Davies in Founex, continuing with the study on Daniel

FRIDAY 1 NOVEMBER

09:30-11:30 Church Hall, Gingins, CCC Fridays

and

17:30–19:00 at the Prieuré next to the Temple in Nyon, Friday Space

A trilingual Bible Study – English, French and Farsi

SUNDAY 3 NOVEMBER

19:00-22:00 Duillier, Musical Drop-In: Jazz Jam with Tom Schut & the Prangins Jazz Associates

For more information, please contact Ted Talbot - [email](#)

SAVE THE DATE

BOSSEY DAY 1 FEBRUARY 2020!

Please put the date in your diaries now for our annual La Côte Church away-day at the Château de Bossey. We will have a guest speaker from the UK: Dave Tomlinson, a writer and retired CofE priest – a fervent proponent of progressive Christian theology and practice. His books include *The Post-Evangelical*, *How To Be a Bad Christian (and a better human being)*, and *Black Sheep and Prodigals (an antidote to black and white religion)*. Dave also regularly contributes to BBC Radio 2's 'Pause for Thought' on the Breakfast Show. Described as a 'liberal evangelist' Dave's passion is to make faith humane, and accessible to the non-religious – and to see Liverpool Football Club rule the world!

[Information and requests](#)

SAFEGUARDING TEAM

Liz Martinez has joined Cate Bichara and Christine Warren on the Safeguarding Team. They are delighted to welcome her and are very much looking forward to working together.

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HELP NEEDED WITH TRANSPORT OF BOSSEY STUDENTS TO GINGINS PLEASE!

A new intake of students - from all over the world and many different denominations - has recently arrived at the Bossey Ecumenical Institute. They are very interested in visiting local churches during their time here and always appreciate meeting people in the area and being invited to their homes. And it is so rewarding and enriching for us too! Margaret Owen has kindly been arranging transport to/from Gingins for many years and has now passed on the coordination of lifts to me. So I'd be very grateful for any offers to pick up a small group (according to the no. of passengers you can take) at 15:30 on a Sunday from Bossey and to take them back after the service. Please do let me know if you would be willing to participate in this and I will then find out your available dates. I will also organise a pot-luck lunch at our place in Nov. to get to know them better! Thank you so much, Peta ([email](#))

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Work with asylum seekers

MENTORSHIP opportunity. Would you like to mentor an asylum seeker or refugee? The only requirement is that you speak English or French, and if possible both languages. Mentoring can be deeply satisfying, a win-win relationship for both mentor and mentee. Just give it a try! For more information (no commitment), contact Andrea Goovaerts ([email](#)).

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ACCOMMODATION. There is a need to help these people find a welcome and integrate in our local society – even though they are far from home. Please do prayerfully consider if you can help or know someone who can.

Please speak to Diantha Terry with any thoughts you have. ([email](#))

Do you have jobs that need doing?

If you would like help with odd jobs - for example, gardening, moving furniture, paint work – likewise do get in touch with Diantha Terry ([email](#)) who will be able to match you up with one of our refugee friends in the community.

LA COTE ANGLICAN CHURCH IS ON TWITTER!

Please let Peta Tracey know ([email](#)) if you would like info about a church event to be 'tweeted' or tweet to @lacoteanglican

Follow us on <https://mobile.twitter.com/lacoteanglican>

PARKING OUTSIDE THE TEMPLE IN GINGINS

We have been asked very clearly to park ONLY in the four places to the right of the church as you approach it. This will thus be reserved for those setting up in church and needing to drop off equipment. Please ensure that you park either behind the Auberge de la Poste, in the village itself – or down by the Post Office and playing fields at the entrance to Gingins.

We apologise for any inconvenience this will cause you, but we are keen to work with the commune and to continue enjoying good relations with the local people of Gingins.
