

# La Côte Anglican Church

## Weekly Bulletin

Reflection and prayer for week of 12 to 19 January from Carolyn and Louise Burrows

**Last week, at our Signy Chapel Eucharist, Louise offered us a reflection below, based on the story of the Epiphany. As we hear about all manner of unrest and tragedies unfolding, the story reminds us to look up: to keep looking to God at all times and in all places... Louise writes:**

“The story of epiphany starts with the wise men seeing a star. I wonder how many other people looked up and noticed that star? If any of them did, none of them appear to have followed it. Perhaps people were too distracted by their problems, or too ground down by their daily drudge to look up and see it. So often, we keep our gaze on the ground, just keeping afloat, coping with the things that life throws at us. But the Magi were not content to live like that. They understood that to truly live, we need to keep looking up. If we keep our eyes to the ground, we easily become preoccupied by our troubles.

Someone once told me not to look at the snakes, referring to the story of Moses in which poisonous snakes were biting the Israelites. Moses made a bronze snake for the people to look up at if they had been bitten, to receive healing. Rather than looking down at the snakes in our lives, we are to look up at the one who can heal us and sustain us.

Perhaps others did not follow because the star was not eye-catching, did not shine any brighter than other stars. God too does not dazzle or overwhelm us, but gently invites. And like the Christmas star, God is there throughout the journey of our lives: gently leading. All through the magi's long journey, they kept looking up so they wouldn't lose their way, and the star guided them to their destination.

Let us, similarly, keep looking up to God so that we don't lose our way. The magi were so inspired by what they saw, that they started a journey with no promise of success, but at the end of it, they were overwhelmed with joy. May we have that same reward as we make our journey with Christ.”

**Dear Lord,**

**We “look up” to you at the start of 2020, and pray for all those on our hearts at the moment who are struggling with ill-health, bereavement, natural disasters, tragic happenings. Thank you loving God that you became flesh and shared our frail humanity, identifying with our struggles. Draw close to those who are especially suffering and reveal your love and goodness to them through the love and care of others around them.**

**In the name of Christ, Emmanuel, God is with us,  
Amen.**

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**SUNDAY 12 JANUARY – Epiphany 2**

**10:00 Divonne, Holy Communion**

**16:00 Gingins, Evening Prayer**

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**SUNDAY 19 JANUARY – Epiphany 3 and the Week of prayer for Christian Unity**

**10:15 Catholic Church, Nyon, a Joint Celebration of all the local churches in the area**

**16:00 Gingins, Holy Communion**

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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.**

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### **NEXT WEEK**

**TUESDAY 14 JANUARY**

**09:15–10:30 chez J&P Tracey, Coinsins, [Prayer Group](#)**

Please contact Peta if you would like to join us or have prayer requests (in confidence).  
([email](#))

**THURSDAY 16 JANUARY**

**19.30 onwards at the Prieuré in Nyon, La Côte Blokes' Dinner**

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### **COMING UP**

#### **BOSSEY DAY 1 FEBRUARY 2020!**

Plans are progressing for our annual La Côte Church away-day at the Château de Bossey. Since retiring, Dave Tomlinson, our speaker, has become chaplain of St. Ethelburga's Centre for Reconciliation & Peace in London and broadcasts on Radio 2 for 'Pause for Thought'. Along with his wife, Pat, he co-founded 'Holy Joes', a church in a pub. His focus is frequently on 'keeping faith in changing times'. Don't miss this unique opportunity at La Côte!

Do have a listen to his latest Advent Sermon -

<https://twitter.com/anormanwalker/status/1203689031684558850>

**Flyer attached**

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### **Information and requests**

#### **PERMISSION TO USE PHOTOGRAPHS**

The church is in the process of renewing the website and in order to make the church look interesting to newcomers we would like to put on photographs taken at events.

If you do not wish any photographs with you on to be used please send a message to Liz Bramley [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.

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**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>

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**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.

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