

La Côte Anglican Church

Weekly Bulletin

Reflection and prayer for week of 9 to 16 February from Carolyn

Looking back to last weekend, we have so much for which to give thanks: for Dave and Pat Tomlinson's visit, for our community day on Saturday, Holy Joes in Divonne, our Sunday afternoon Candlemas celebration on Sunday and an eye-opening Enneagram workshop on Thursday. May I take this opportunity to thank all of you who have helped in any way with these gatherings and who have prayed for them and attended them where you can. We thank God for his rich blessing on our community.

At the same time, many in our church family have been shocked and saddened by the sudden passing away of Surush, a young Iranian man who was baptised and confirmed at La Côte Church. We had the privilege of getting to know him when he arrived from Iran seeking refuge, four years ago, and through him of welcoming in further refugees in similar plights.

We are holding a funeral for him at the Temple de Nyon on Wednesday 12 February at 14:00, followed by a burial in the Nyon cemetery. All in our church community who knew him are welcome to attend to support those close to him and to honour his life. Please keep this service in your prayers too. We commend Surush with sadness and thanksgiving to God's infinite love and peace.

Dealing with extreme highs and lows this week has drawn me to find rest in the rhythms of nature. Last weekend marked the beginning of the Spring Season rooted in the Pagan and Celtic festivals of St Brigid and of Imbolc. The invitation in my Mystic Christ Calendar is to savour the world around us, with open hearts and minds:

"The spring season is a time to celebrate childlike innocence, exploring, wonder; the asking of questions and the pursuit of truth and justice. It is also a time to remember and give thanks for those who are our spiritual midwives, nurturers and mentors. Be present to the moment, looking for God in all things. Practise gratitude and appreciation, realising our dependence on God's goodness."

Here is a poem by Wendell Berry, tuning in to the soothing presence of God's grace in the world.

The peace of wild things

**When despair for the world grows in me
and I wake in the night at the least sound
in fear of what my life and my children's lives may be,
I go and lie down where the wood drake
rests in his beauty on the water, and the great heron feeds.
I come into the peace of wild things
who do not tax their lives with forethought
of grief. I come into the presence of still water.
And I feel above me the day-blind stars
waiting with their light. For a time
I rest in the grace of the world, and am free.**

From The Selected Poems of Wendell Berry

SUNDAY 9 FEBRUARY – 4th Sunday before Lent – Salt and Light

10:00 Divonne, Holy Communion

16:00 Gingins, Holy Communion

SUNDAY 16 FEBRUARY – 3rd Sunday before Lent

16:00 Gingins, All Age Holy Communion - exploring the gift of this special feast in our worship.

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.

COMING UP

TUESDAY 11 FEBRUARY

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](#))

AND

19:45 – 22:00 Divonne Parish rooms, Church Council

THURSDAY 13 FEBRUARY

19:00 onwards, the Prieuré, next to the Temple de Nyon, Thursday Space

FRIDAY 14 FEBRUARY

17:30-19:00 Prieuré, next to the Temple de Nyon, Rock Solid Bible Study

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ELSEWHERE

WEDNESDAY 19 FEBRUARY

**19:30 onwards, Temple de la Paroisse de Ferney-Voltaire, 13 rue de Gex, 01210
Ferney-Voltaire : *Pour quoi, pour qui on jeûne ?***

Speakers :

Michaël GABORIEAU, l'Eglise catholique de Gex, prêtre en mission d'étude

Tahar TEFFAH, Centre Culturel des Musulmans du Pays de Gex

Alexandre SADKOWSKI, Paroisse Orthodoxe Francophone Sainte-Trinité – Sainte-Catherine

Jean-Michel PERRET, l'Eglise protestante de Genève (Aumônerie de l'Université de Genève)

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.

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.
