

# La Côte Anglican Church

## Weekly Bulletin

### Reflection and prayer for week of 16 to 23 February from Carolyn

“Everything that one turns in the direction of God is prayer”, said Ignatius Loyola, founder of the Society of Jesus. <https://www.spiritualityandpractice.com/>

This week we are turning the challenge of the coronavirus in the direction of God.

Spiritual writer and director, Jane Vennard, writes:

“Compassion and solidarity are not easy. They are awakened in us slowly. As we pray for others, our prayers are gradually transformed, our hearts are softened, and our eyes are opened. Once opened we can never close our eyes again. We begin to see the world through God's eyes of love.” (*Praying for Friends and Enemies*, January 3, 1995)

So I invite us to pray with opened eyes towards all those caught up in the coronavirus outbreak.

*God of Mercy, be with the thousands of people who have contracted the coronavirus in China and elsewhere. Comfort those whose loved ones have died. Bring peace to those living with uncertainty after perhaps being exposed to the virus. Give patience to those who are quarantined and unable to move freely in their communities.*

*We thank you loving God for all who are working hard to contain the virus – including the WHO and the many scientists who gathered here in Geneva this week. We pray for global solidarity, for open and equitable sharing of data among experts so that this outbreak can be defeated.*

*We pray for all medical staff on the frontline caring for patients, even at the risk of their own lives. Thank you for their courage and commitment; give them strength and wisdom in their endeavours.*

*May we all be filled with compassion for those who are suffering in any way as a result of this outbreak, and help us to be faithful in prayer for them.*

*Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.*

(Ideas adapted from <https://www.spiritualityandpractice.com/>)

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By the way... Happy Valentine's Day to all of you loving people. I came across this quote in Charlie Mackesy's book: *The Boy, the Mole, the Fox and the Horse*, 2019:

**“What do you think success is?” asked the boy**

**“To love” said the mole.**

**Jesus said to his friends “I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another.”**

And in case that sounds ridiculously daunting, Jesus promised his friends and us:

**“I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper, to be with you for ever.”**

*(John 13.34, John 14.16)*

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**SUNDAY 16 FEBRUARY – 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday before Lent**

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

**SUNDAY 23 FEBRUARY – 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday before Lent**

**10:00 Divonne, Service of the Word**

**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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**COMING UP**

**TUESDAY 18 FEBRUARY**

**09:15 – 11:00 Bible Study chez Pam Walsh in Founex, continuing with our study of the Gospel of Matthew**

**THURSDAY 20 FEBRUARY**

**19:30 onwards at the Prieuré in Nyon, La Côte Blokes' Dinner – with a focus on the subject of men and mental health.**

**FRIDAY 28 FEBRUARY**

**09:30-11:30 salle paroissiale, Gingins, *A gift from God: Age***

Visit from Bonnie Fatio, the founder of Age Esteem, an organization that helps to promote the gifts of age and aging in society. All welcome. Please let Jane Broere know if you would like to attend: [email](mailto:jane@ageesteem.com).

<http://www.ageesteem.com/about-bonnie/>

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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)

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## THANK YOU

To everyone in our La Côte Church family who supported the farewell service for Surush last Wednesday, with your presence and/or with your prayers. The service was full of sadness and grief, but also the love and comfort of many of his friends – including numerous members from our community which was much appreciated by his partner Mirjam.

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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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