

La Côte Anglican Church

Weekly Bulletin

Reflection and prayer for week of 8 to 15 March from Peta

There are many disappointed people this week who have had to cancel meetings, exhibitions and travel, due to the coronavirus. Let us keep in our prayers those who are suffering, those caring for victims, those working to contain the spread and develop a vaccine and those suffering economically. As a mixed RC-Anglican couple, we were sorry that a Roman Catholic Mass, due to be held in the Protestant Cathedral of St. Pierre in Geneva for the first time since 1536, and welcoming all to receive communion (a truly ecumenical and historical occasion!), was postponed.

And then we're having to hold ourselves back from kissing and hugging each other when we meet or during The Peace in our services. For some, this is a relief! There is something gentle and respectful in people putting their hands together, as in prayer, and turning to each other with a smile - and perhaps this is more inclusive to newcomers in our midst.

In spite of this enforced 'fast' from gatherings and moving about freely that might afford us more time, are you finding (like me) you have bitten off more than you can chew for Lent? If so, don't beat yourself up about it: admitting our weakness also brings us closer to God and allows God's forgiveness and strength to enable us to start again - and perhaps resolve to 'do one thing well'.

And if you are still looking for that 'one thing to do well', please do consider joining one of our Lent 'Finding our way' groups. Or come along to the World Day of Prayer this Friday 6 Mar. at 18.30 in Signy Chapel, to join with our local Swiss parishes in an ecumenical service (in French), prepared by the women of Zimbabwe - followed by an apéritif. If you feel like a quiet day, there is an Ignatian Way retreat at the Château de Bossey this Sat. 7 Mar.

A Lenten prayer from Archbishop Justin Welby:

**Loving God,
Let the light you have brought to the world
shine in the darkness of our hearts
and bring new life, new hope and new possibilities.
Help me to walk more closely with Jesus,
to know that I am deeply loved,
and to share his love with others. Amen.**

SUNDAY 8 MARCH – Lent 2 (“Finding our Way” focus in both services)

10:00 Divonne, Holy Communion

16:00 Gingins, Evening Prayer

SUNDAY 15 MARCH – Lent 3

16:00 Gingins, Holy Communion

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.

SAVE THE DATE – LA COTE ANGLICAN CHURCH AGM

SUNDAY 29 MARCH – Coffee from 13:30
14:00 PROMPT START IN GINGINS PARISH ROOMS

Time to check whether you're on the electoral roll of La Côte!

As every year, we'll be updating our electoral roll, which is the list of those who can vote at the La Côte AGM (on 29 March) and stand for election as a member of the church council, an archdeaconry representative or a churchwarden. The application form is attached to this bulletin and paper versions will be available at Gingins and Divonne.

The deadline for forms is Friday 13 March!

However, unlike last year, we're not creating a brand-new roll, just updating the existing one, so if you filled in a form around this time in 2019 please don't fill in another one.

Privacy and publication of the Electoral Roll

Until recently, the Church Representation Rules and specific guidance from the diocese required us to publish both the names and the addresses of everyone on the roll. That has now changed. While we do need you to provide your full address on the form, we are no longer required to publish addresses, just names, so that is what we will be doing from now on.

DECORATING THE CHURCH FOR EASTER DAY

During Lent our church decorations tend to be kept to a minimum to represent the Lenten season of penitence and abstinence. However, we would love to have our two worshipping centres decorated for Easter Day, in Divonne and in Gingins. There are two ways of contributing for this celebration.

1. To make a donation to the church for flowers in memory of a loved one.
2. To help decorate Divonne or Gingins for our Easter services.

In Divonne: this would need to be on Easter Saturday.

In Gingins: the Swiss church would love to form a small team with members of Gingins congregation to decorate the church together.

Please get in touch with Carolyn if you would enjoy being involved in any way.

COMING UP THIS WEEK

Please note there is NO Finding Our Way session this coming Friday at CCC, we start on 13 March with session 1.

FRIDAY 6 MARCH – two opportunities to join in the World Day of Prayer 2020:

12:00 Ecumenical Centre Chapel, Geneva, with Bake Sale before & afterwards.

18:30 Signy Chapel (in French), followed by 'apéritif dînatoire'.

This year the WDP has been prepared by the women of Zimbabwe. See last week's Bulletin for flyer

SATURDAY 7 MARCH – 09:30-17:00 Ignatian Way Day on the theme of '*Living in Happiness*'. These days offer a chance to 'catch one's spiritual breath', to be *open to silence*, with time for personal reflection on scripture passages and group sharing (optional) on related questions.

At the Ecumenical Institute - Chateau de Bossey, Chemin Chenevière 2, 1279 Bogis-Bossey. Cost: CHF 45 (includes lunch).

Registration: Contact Patricia Laurie on vervel10@gmail.com or Tel. +33 (0)685391566

COMING UP

MONDAY 9 MARCH

20:00-21:30 chez Louise & Jeremy Burrows, La Rippe

Finding our Way Session 1

TUESDAY 10 MARCH

09:15-10:00 Prayer Group

Please contact Peta if you would like to join us or have prayer requests (in confidence) [email](mailto:peta@stjohns.ch).

10:15 -11:30 Lent course - *Finding our Way* Session 1

Both chez John & Peta Tracey, Coinsins

WEDNESDAY 11 MARCH

10:45-12:00 chez Jenny West in Divonne

Finding our Way Session 2

THURSDAY 12 MARCH

19:00-21:30 Prieuré, Temple de Nyon

Finding our Way Session 3

FRIDAY 13 MARCH

09:30-11:15 Gingins Parish Rooms chez CCC

Finding our Way Session 1

LOOKING AHEAD

LENTEN SEMINARS 2020: DISTORTING TRUTH AND EXPLOITING FEAR (flyer attached)

WEDNESDAY 25 MARCH – *Distorting truth and exploiting fear for political power*

Speaker: Chris Talbot, Specialist, Education in Emergencies

WEDNESDAY 1 APRIL – *Distorting truth and exploiting fear for profit* Speaker: Dr. Nigel Rollins, Department of Maternal, Newborn, Child and Adolescent Health, WHO, and former Chair, WHO Research Ethics Committee, Geneva

From 19:30, Salle Alain Blancy, parish rooms, 77 rue du Temple, Divonne-les-Bains

SAVE THE DATE

15-17 MAY – St Andrew's Zurich, Archdeaconry Choir Festival 2020

Music by Stanford, Howells, Vierne and others. Festival Director: Ralph Allwood MBE

The Festival Choir, comprising singers from Chaplaincies across the Archdeaconry of Switzerland, meets to rehearse over the weekend to sing Evensong on Saturday 16 May at 17:30 and Eucharist on Sunday 17 May at 10:30.

Registration by 15 March latest. For more information, please contact Shaun Yong,

choirmaster: musiczurich@anglican.ch

INFORMATION AND REQUESTS

Donations towards the funeral service and burial of Surush

A number of you have been asking how to contribute to the ceremony of thanksgiving and farewell for our church member Surush. The Association "Le lieu-dit" offered to cover the costs and then receive donations made payable to the association. If there are any funds left – they will put towards his gravestone. Thank you for your thoughtfulness and generosity. Here are the details:

Compte Bancaire Le lieu-dit
IBAN: CH 46 0900 0000 1477 7852 7
CCP: 14-777852-7
BIC: POFICHBEXX

If you have any queries – please don't hesitate to contact Carolyn Cooke about this.

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](#).

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](#)).*

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.
