

La Côte Anglican Church

Weekly Bulletin

Reflection and prayer for week of 11 to 18 February from Carolyn

This week, I came across a contemporary saint, Josephine Bakhita – a Sudanese Catholic sister who is commemorated on 8 February. In around 1877 as a young Sudanese girl, she was kidnapped by Arab slave traders. She spent the next 12 years being bought, sold and given away over a dozen times. She spent so much time in captivity that she forgot her original name. Eventually she was taken to Italy and some years later, after working as a nanny for an Italian family, she was granted freedom. Do look up her story:

http://en.radiovaticana.va/news/2015/02/08/st_josephine_bakhita_the_life_of_a_modern-day_african_st/1122239

Today she is regarded as the patron saint of victims and survivors of modern slavery and human trafficking. This week, we pray for all who are affected by the scourge of human trafficking in this prayer adapted from the World Vision website:

Dear Lord, just as You helped Moses and Aaron as they spoke boldly to Pharaoh on behalf of the Hebrew slaves in Egypt, help us speak up for modern-day slaves around the world. Most of us will never experience the kind of extreme poverty that millions of people live with every day. Help us to be understanding and compassionate toward their needs. Give us the will to make things better.

Your Word shows that You bring new joy and hope where previously there was only shame and fear. We ask this for our brothers and sisters, who desperately need to discover that they can make a new start.

You demand justice for those who have been wronged. Give strength to those who investigate and prosecute traffickers. Encourage them when they are weary. Give courage to survivors when they are asked to testify against their former captors.

We pray in the name of our Redeemer, Jesus Christ, our Lord, Amen

SUNDAY 11 FEBRUARY – 1st Sunday before Lent

10:00 Divonne, Service of the Word

16:00 Gingins, Holy Communion

WEDNESDAY 14 FEBRUARY – Ash Wednesday

20:00 Gingins, Holy Communion

This is a special service which helps us to embark on this important season in the life of our church and in our own journey of faith. Everyone is welcome.

SUNDAY 18 FEBRUARY – Lent 1

16:00 Gingins, Holy Communion

Next Week

TUESDAY 13 FEBRUARY

The morning [Bible Study](#) group in Founex is looking at St Paul's letter to the Ephesians. Please contact Dorothy and Trevor if you are interested in joining this group. ([email](#))

WEDNESDAY 14 FEBRUARY

09:30–11:00 Church Hall, Gingins, [Coffee, Cake and Catch up](#)

Continuing our Lenten series

THURSDAY 15 FEBRUARY

19:30 at the Fisherman's Pub, 20:00 at La Débarcadère, Nyon - [La Côte Blokes' Dinner](#)

COMING UP DURING LENT

OUR CHURCH COMMUNITY DAY ON SATURDAY 3 MARCH

“Let everything that has breath, praise the Lord:

Refreshing our worship”

In the beautiful grounds and facilities of the Chateau de Bossey, Switzerland

We hope you will join us for a relaxing and creative day spent either in quiet or in more interactive workshops – your choice – and then in bringing it all together in a closing act of worship.

Look at the [flyer](#) for all the details.

We will be holding a mix of workshops, led by experienced members of our church – and there will be a children's workshop, probably involving a nature walk and activities together, so hopefully parents with younger children can attend their own workshops.

The day runs from 9:30 to 15:30.

Tickets are NOW on sale – please sign up.

Would you like to help?

- a. We have one person who is on board to lead a workshop with children. If you can also help out please contact Carolyn. The older children and youth can join in our general workshops: music, art, psalm writing and nature.
- b. If you would be able to offer your services, or know someone who could, for the crèche (with a current safeguarding check) we would love to hear from you too.

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OUR LENTEN SEMINARS ARE BACK - IN DIVONNE PARISH ROOMS

We are delighted to invite you to four stimulating seminars during Lent which will stretch our thinking and understanding and deepen our faith perspective. Our focus this year is:

Geopolitics and Conflict in the Middle East:

Some Christian Reflections

These will be taking place from 19:30 to 21:30 on Wednesdays during Lent:

Clare Amos – 28 February

Nigel Rollins – 7 March

Philippe Guillaume – 14 March

Julianne Funk – 21 March

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KEY DATES

Sunday 22 April: AGM in Divonne at 11.30

Sunday 27 May: Gift Day in Crassier at 10.00

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ALSO COMING UP ...

WEDNESDAY 21 FEBRUARY

19:00 Holy Trinity Church, Geneva, an [Ecumenical Evening](#) with a talk by Dr Jean-François Mayer, *Christianity in Switzerland: the past, the present and a future?*

[Information and requests](#)

concerning our 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 – do get in touch with Cassie Whetham ([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.