# THE CHURCH OF ST URSULA BERNE



St Ursula's Church Jubiläumsplatz 2, 3005 Berne, Switzerland Chaplain Honorary Assistant Chaplain

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077 449 37 70 (emergencies only)

**Lay Reader**David Low
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Mary McKinley

Church Office: 031 352 85 67

Marriages, Baptisms and Funerals by arrangement with the Chaplain

### Normal pattern of Sunday services:

8.30 Said Eucharist (2nd and 4th Sundays)

10.00 Sung Eucharist with Junior Church and Crèche

Our services follow the Church of England's Common Worship Order One (2000)

On the 2nd and 4th Sundays, the 10.00 service is usually more informal.

See Calendar of Services inside for details of the next few weeks.

Services in Thun: see inside.

Services in Neuchâtel: at the Reformed Church at La Coudre (near the

Chaumont funicular) See inside for service times.

Information: Mrs Jennifer Veenendaal, 032 841 64 32

### ST URSULA'S BERNE

The church is one of the nine Swiss chaplaincies that have a resident chaplain (minister) and together form the Archdeaconry of Switzerland. This is part of the Anglican Diocese of Europe which stretches from the Canary Islands to Ankara, from Moscow to Morocco.

The church was built in 1906 on a site that had been given to the community by the British-Berne Land Co. An American lady, Mrs Castleman from St Louis, provided the bulk of the money for the building as a thank offering for the near miraculous recovery of her adopted daughter, who was treated at the clinic of the famous Professor Kocher.

The hall and the house were added in 1959. An English Missionary Society, the USPG, helped to support the church from its earliest days. Since 1977, however, the chaplaincy has been fully self-supporting, relying solely on its members and well-wishers for its financial support.

St Ursula's has a long tradition of ministry to all English-speaking people in the Canton of Berne and beyond. It also provides a home for Christians from many different denominations and cultural backgrounds. Regular worshippers are encouraged to add their names to the Electoral Roll and so play a full part in the life of the church. Details from the Churchwardens or any member of the Church Council.

See Calendar inside for details of this month's services
St Ursula's Church website: http://www.anglican.ch/berne
E-mail: berne@anglican.ch



# St Ursula's Church Magazine

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# **Table of Contents**

Chaplain's Message	2
The Bishop's Easter Message	3
St Ursula's Queen's Jubilee Fête	6
Doing this	7
FAQ	9
A Word for the Month – Sanctuary	10
St Ursula's Day Away	12
Neuchâtel and Thun Church	13
Chaplain's Notes	14
Junior Church News	16
Junior Church Birthdays	17
Youth Confirmation Class	17
Calendar of Services	18
Prayer Diary	20
For Your Diary	22
Ecumenical Housegroup in Liebefeld	23
Contemplative Prayer in Liebefeld	23
Charity and Missions News	24
The Pastoral Team	29
Quotable Quote	29
Archdeaconry Choir Festival 2012	30
Church Ladies with Typewriters	31
Flat to Rent	32
A Mongolian Guest?	32
Here to Help You	40

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# Chaplain's Message

People think the Bible is full of "thou shalt not" and "don't". Jesus' most frequent command was also a negative — "Do not be afraid". Not many people know that.

Being afraid can seriously cramp your style. Fear of making mistakes or looking foolish often means that people don't try. They play safe. They keep their heads down. It might seem sensible but the result can be dullness and mediocrity.



Fear can arise from the thought that we might be punished for getting it wrong. The reason Jesus tells us not to be afraid is because he knows God as his Father and our Father. A father knows his children are not perfect. Sometimes they need to make mistakes in order to learn from them. That is why he embraced his Prodigal Son but disapproved of the man who buried his talent in the ground.

Even when our mistakes and foolish actions do end in disaster, Jesus tells us God is there for us and we do not need to be afraid: "I do not condemn you... Go and sin no more" is Jesus' response.

Then there is the fear that we are wasting our time or that our efforts won't achieve anything. But think of the parable of the sower. He was not afraid to sow the seed in unpromising places and to keep on sowing. Think too of how Jesus saw potential in people like Zacchaeus the tax gatherer and how he had confidence in Peter, the one who denied him.

To many people, the fact of death means they are afraid all their endeavours will come to nothing. So they ask "Why bother?" To which the answer is the Resurrection. The risen Lord is our guarantee that we are not condemned to futility and so there is nothing we need be afraid of.

Not surprisingly, therefore, the words "Do not be afraid" are frequently on Jesus' lips in this Easter season.

Peter

# The Bishop's Easter Message

Many years ago, when I was first studying theology in Cambridge, I met a young Jesuit priest from Australia called Gerald O'Collins. Over the many years since we have kept in touch, and I rejoiced that he was able to be present in St Paul's Cathedral in 1994 when I was consecrated as a bishop in the Church of God. Gerry O'Collins has over the years produced many fine books, and I believe him to be one of the clearest writers and apologists for the Christian faith. He has written much on the Easter Gospel, and his most recent book, Jesus our Redeemer, explores the very heart of our faith – what does the passion and death of Jesus mean for us today?

The last chapter of his book is entitled 'Bodily Resurrection and the Transformation of the World', and Fr Gerry begins with a quotation from the American, Mitch Albom's book, *Five People You have to meet in Heaven*. It is the story of Eddie, a wounded war veteran who lives what he believes to be an inspired and lonely life fixing seaside rides at a seaside amusement park. On his 83<sup>rd</sup> birthday Eddie is killed while trying to save a little girl from a falling ride. He awakes in the afterlife, where he learns that heaven is not a location but a place where your life is explained to you by five people who were in, who affected, or were affected by your life. Fr Gerry's quotation from this book is 'Life has to end...love doesn't.'

Life has to end – that is true for each and every one of us. Our life is, as the German philosopher, Martin Heidegger, said a 'being towards death.' That is the horizon, the line, towards which our lives inexorably move. And that simple fact challenges the meaning of our human existence. Our lives are built up out of relationship. We are not just 'I' but 'I and Thou' 'You and me'. We do not make our lives we receive them, most obviously from our mothers and our fathers; and we receive our lives by how our families shaped us, loved us and nurtured us – and that means there will be for all of us the consequences of inadequate love. As the Anglican poet-priest Thomas Traherne wrote in the seventeenth-century, 'No one in this world has been loved too much, but many have been loved in the wrong way, and all in too short a measure.' So our flawed lives move towards an ending, our dying, which seems to mock at any meaning. And yet we know that at the heart of what we are as human beings is our capacity to love and to relate. Our Christian faith tells us that this is because we are made in the image of the God who is a communion of a love, a love which hopes all things and endures all things. Somehow we cannot escape this capacity for love which defines who and what we are. It is part of the DNA, the fundamental DNA, of what it is to be human.

'Life has to end... love does not.' That quotation from Mitch Albom, Gerry O'Collins sees as providing a window into the Crucifixion, Passion and Death of Jesus, and the Easter Gospel of his resurrection. The Lord whom we as Christians are called to follow, to be his disciples, is the Lord who walked the Way of the Cross. The God who created us in love, comes in that same love to our fallen, flawed and sinful world. He comes to remake that world, to remake our lives, from the inside, drawing us into the transformation of our lives. The living out of that Divine love in our world proves demanding and costly. There is no magic wand to be waved, but simply an entering into our human condition, coming down to the lowest part of our need. St John at the beginning of his Gospel tells us that the Word (the living communication of God) became flesh and dwelt among us. And in that identification we see who and what God is. We see, as St John puts it the 'glory' of God. What that glory is, is seen in the Crucifixion, the lifting up of Jesus, a king whose crown of thorns rammed down upon his head, speaks of the costliness of the love which embraces us with hands outstretched and pinned by nails to the rough wood. Jesus dies. He is an outcast, the victim (as so many are in our world) of crude and sadistic violence - in his dying that appalling pain and suffering of the world is taken into the very heart of God. Jesus, the one who is Emmanuel, 'God with us', goes into the non-existence, the nothingness of death. 'If I go down to hell', said the psalmist, 'Thou art there also.' In Jesus' dying God is indeed found to be, so to speak, at the inside of our dying, in the nothingness, and the needful letting go, and in the breaking of relationship. On Holy Saturday, between Good Friday and Easter, what has been called the most neglected day in the Christian calendar, we know that God himself has freely chosen to enter into the nothingness of death which mocks at meaning. Even in hell, in apartness from God, God is present, the Divine love reaches from the heights of heaven to the depths of hell.

We only understand the meaning of Easter if we follow Jesus in his Passion, suffering and death. Easter is being surprised by joy, the totally unexpected, unlooked for, happens. The tomb, the grave, the place of death is empty. God cannot be imprisoned. He blows history open in an act of new creation. Gerry O'Collins contrasts the ending of Mel Gibson's film, *The Passion of Christ* and that of another, Pietro Pasolini, in his film, *The Gospel according to St Matthew.* Gerry O'Collins writes: Gibson does not picture a glorious resurrection but merely a reanimated corpse.' Others are not involved, By contrast 'Pasolini's presentation of the resurrection bursts with a revolutionary newness for the whole world...we see the eleven disciples and other followers of Jesus, full of fresh energy and running up a mountain towards the risen Christ. He sends them on a mission with the comforting promise: "Go, make disciples

of all nations....I will be with you all days, even to the end of time." The resurrection is nothing, Easter is nothing, unless it touches, changes and impels us, sends us out with the good news of the life of the new creation, Easter people for whom the good news is that sin and death are overcome, the powers and forces of darkness and destruction are disarmed and destroyed. 'Christ is risen, we are risen.' The life if the Church, the mission of the Church is Easter life, an eternal life which can never be destroyed. It is a life that the disciples discovered at the empty tomb, which transformed Mary Magdalen when she was called by name, and which was found at Emmaus when the Lord was known in the breaking of bread. He shares his life with us that we may share it with others. That is both the blessing and the challenge of Easter – I pray that in this diocese this may be known and lived. A very happy Easter to you all.

+Geoffrey



Easter at St Ursula's, 2011



This year's summer fête will be a celebration of Queen Elizabeth's 60 years on the throne with a special display about her life and reign as well as all our usual traditional summer fête fun.

This will be an event for ALL with lots of adults' and children's activities and games, a plant stall, bric à brac, tombola, our fabulous "Pimms on the Lawn" and of course, a barbecue outside - whilst not forgetting our usual sales of second hand books and British food including an extra special selection of fine British Cheeses for sale.

However, to make this day a success we'll need lots of help, first and foremost a huge request for all those "stray" plants that are growing in the wrong place in your garden. Or maybe you could sow some extra seeds in pots and give them to be sold.

We also need volunteers to help in the restaurant and to bake our usual scrummy selection of cakes.

Anyone wanting to sell their own bric à brac or crafts is welcome to book a space.

New and in perfect condition (please check the sell-by date on any food items first though!) tombola items are also needed – just leave them in the red box in the Upper Hall.

Flyers will be available in May – please remember to collect some and advertise this event widely – THANKS!

For further information or more flyers please contact the Church Office (031 352 8567) or email berne@anglican.ch

- Jana Kutesko



# Doing this



Even before the days of Dan Brown, the words "Last Supper" would call to mind that vast, faded mural in a convent in Milan, painted between 1495 and 1498 by Leonardo da Vinci. At a long table in a spacious hall, Jesus has just made an announcement that has disturbed and alarmed his companions – we know from the Gospels what it is: "One of you will betray me."

The disciples are divided into four groups of three, showing a range of emotions – indignation, incredulity, uncertainty ("Is it me?"), concern, alarm. The nuns of Santa Maria delle Grazie will have had time, as they sat at their own table, to speculate on the thoughts that were passing through the heads of each of the thirteen people in the picture. What ideas are passing through Judas' mind, as he clutches his money bag? What is Peter saying so urgently to John? What is Jesus thinking, as he places his left hand open on the table? What does Jesus expect the reaction of his listeners to be?

The painting makes no attempt at historical accuracy. The group would not have sat on benches on one side of a trestle table with Renaissance mountains in the background. The bread seems to have come from a local baker, the table linen from an Italian merchant, there are no drinking vessels, and, if it really was a Passover meal, no sign of bitter herbs or lamb bones. But that was not Leonardo's point. What he was portraying was Jesus' revelation, and the reactions of the disciples – not the supper, but the shock.

The prediction of Judas' betrayal was not the only shocking thing about the meal. From John's Gospel, we learn that Jesus, "knowing that...he had come

from God and was going to God", took off his robe and started washing the disciples' feet (John 13). Peter, we read, was horrified. What Jesus was doing was out of place. It was the job of the disciples to minister to the teacher, not the other way round.

Jesus' reply was, "Unless I wash you, you have no share with me." Peter takes this at its face value: Jesus can cleanse him so deeply that he will be able to share with Jesus in whatever joys lie ahead. He goes for the full treatment – "not only my feet, but also my hands and my head" – but Jesus declares that the foot-washing is sufficient (though only for some – it does not cleanse Judas (John 13:10)!)

When we see the word "unless" in John's Gospel, it is emphasizing the sharp distinction between life in the world and life in the Kingdom. But Jesus also makes clear that if he has washed the disciples' feet, so they should wash one another's feet. The sort of people who share Jesus' joys are servants, ministers, not people who lord it over others, who grab and exploit, but who give what they can in the service of all.

In telling us about the supper, John's Gospel says nothing about Jesus' other shocking statement: that the bread they are eating is his body, and the wine is his blood – a body soon to be nailed to a cross, blood soon to flow from his side. This particular Gospel does not need to, because elsewhere we have read another "unless" statement: "Unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you have no life in you." (6:53) – indeed in a sense the whole Gospel is a commentary on the Last Supper.

The events at the meal are recorded outside the Gospels in Paul's first letter to the Corinthians (11:23-26), and we know that Christ's followers obeyed the instruction to "do this" when they met. But "doing this as often as you drink it" is obviously not simply drinking or eating, any more than washing feet is simply washing feet. Eating and drinking are "proclaiming" or showing forth Christ's death, a death of sacrifice and self-giving, just as the foot-washing is an act of humility and service.

This Lent and Eastertide, we need to remind ourselves that when we recall that first Maundy Thursday, we are sharing in Jesus' act of self-sacrifice. Let us too carry on his life of service, even if after 2000 years, we still need to turn the world on its head and to value those who minister above those who simply give orders. For Jesus, the true master, showed the world his identity by becoming the servant of all. So should we.

- Hector Davie

# FAQ: Why do Christians talk about sin all the time?

Christianity does have something important to say about sin. Where we go wrong is the way the message is presented.

The one good thing about sin is that God forgives it. We don't even need to add "if we repent". He forgives it anyway. Repentance is the process by which we realise we have been forgiven. Instead of starting with "Jesus died for our sins", it would be better to say "Jesus shows how much



God loves us". We can then go on to talk about God's love being limitless and that nothing in heaven or earth can separate us from it (Romans 8:39).

Some people compound the problem by confusing Easter with Good Friday. They are not the same. Holy Saturday, that empty day between Good Friday and Easter Day, is there to mark the boundary between the end of the old order and the beginning of a new creation. It is significant that Easter illustrations from some evangelical publishers show Calvary rather than the empty tomb - but Easter is not about Jesus "paying the price for our sin" (and especially not "in our place"). Easter proclaims the truth that nothing can defeat God's love.

It is also good to recall that Genesis does not start with a story of sin but with one of creation. God saw that his creation was "very good", and this included human beings "made in his image". This phrase emphasises the unique value of each person in God's eyes. Many of Jesus' parables tell of the infinite care God has for each of us. The more we talk of God's love, the more we convince people to value themselves.

This is not intended to encourage complacency. Quite the opposite. If God so loves and values me, then he must love and value everyone else just as much. That is the best motivation for treating each other in a Christian way that we can give – and it is a positive one.

-PMP

# A Word for the Month - Sanctuary

One of the places to visit at Sidmouth in south-west England is the Donkey Sanctuary. Here, and on several other farms throughout Britain, old or sick donkeys can be sent to save them from the knacker's yard (a term defined in British law as "any premises used in connection with the business of slaughtering, skinning or cutting up animals whose flesh is not intended for human consumption"). Elsewhere in Britain you can find bird sanctuaries, seal sanctuaries, even toad sanctuaries.

Most of us know that the idea of a sanctuary as a place where endangered animals or plants can be kept more safely comes from the traditional practice of seeking safety from attack, arrest or execution inside a church. In England before 1623, any criminal who could get to the local church could seek asylum there for forty days, and remain under the church's protection while fleeing into exile. Some important churches even had an area around them where people under threat could shelter from danger — in the 1470s and 80s, Elizabeth, Edward IV's much-detested queen, spent several years in comfortable sanctuary in the precincts of Westminster Abbey. And English schoolchildren learn of the murder of Thomas à Becket in Canterbury Cathedral in 1170, to satisfy the wishes of King Henry II, in defiance of the laws of sanctuary.

A sanctuary literally means a holy place. The Jewish temple had its Holy of Holies, its Most Holy Place, where the Ark with the scroll recording the covenant between God and Moses was kept, covered by the Mercy Seat and flanked by two winged cherubim. Only the High Priest could enter, and even then only once a year. The Holy Place, or sanctuary, before it, contained altars for sacrifices and for offering incense, the table with the showbread ("kept in the presence of God"), and the seven-branched candelabra. Again, only priests were allowed to get so close to holy things — normal people had no direct access.

Jesus changed all this. Matthew 27:51 tells how at his death, the veil separating the Most Holy Place was torn apart, and the letter to the Hebrews repeats this theme (4:14-16, 10:19-20). Jesus himself was holy, and his followers were holy people – we are all saints.

The idea of a holy place did not disappear completely, though. The tombs of martyrs, for example, became places of pilgrimage and meditation. Some of our early churches were built over the graves of holy people, like St Alban's Cathedral in England. Others were deliberately sited to cover up pagan shrines and holy places. The custom grew up of keeping relics of dead saints in churches – a practice which led to numerous abuses. In this way, the idea grew

up of church buildings being holy places. And within the church, the altar and its surroundings, the place where Christ's death was commemorated, came to be known as the sanctuary.

In some denominations, where worship is not centred round Christ's command to "Do this", the whole worship area is known as the sanctuary. At St Ursula's, we call it the church, and within the church we distinguish between the nave (the word means "ship", and recalls the fishing boat caught in a storm on the Sea of Galilee, or Noah's Ark – or perhaps just its architectural shape!), and the sanctuary, the raised-up part at the front. Other churches have an area between the nave and the sanctuary, where a choir often sit – in past times this was marked off by an ornate wooden screen, and is still known as the chancel, from a Latin word meaning an area separated by bars, even if it is quite accessible.

From the first sanctuary in the Bible (at Bethel, Genesis 28), of which Jacob exclaimed: "How awesome is this place" to a place where all may be kept free from harm is a long path of shifting meaning. But along the way we can take heart too, that the God who is both awesome and holy has broken down the barriers, and is the God who loves, shelters and protects us. For a holy place is also a place of safety.

### - Hector Davie



# St Ursula's Day Away Sunday, September 9, 2012

Fun, Faith, and Fellowship for the whole church family



This year, St Ursula's is planning a Day Away, instead of a Weekend Away, in the hopes that more people will be able to participate.

Location: Neuchâtel

Arrival: from 09.30

DRAFT Lunch: 12.00-14.00

Worship: 17.00

Departure: from 18.00

Please reserve the date in your calendar.

Bring your own picnic lunch in Chaumont (weather permitting).

If you would like to help plan the Day Away, please contact Father Peter.

# CREATIVE CHURCH

Ideas, activities, something for everyone.

How to register? See flyers and posters coming out soon.

# **NEUCHÂTEL CHURCH**

Minister in Charge: The Rev. Dianne Cox

We meet in the Swiss Reformed Church at La Coudre, Chemin du Crêt-du-Chêne, nearly opposite the funicular train station to Chaumont

### Services are held twice monthly:

10 am on the FIRST Sunday of the month: Communion service

Junior Church

5 pm on the THIRD Sunday of the month : All-age Communion service

Contact: Mrs Jennifer Veenendaal (Church warden)

Telephone 032 841 6432

Read the monthly magazine on the website, or, to receive a paper copy, phone Rosemarie Zimmermann, 032 853 2986

www.neuchatel-church.ch

# **Thun Church**

There is a fortnightly service (normally a eucharist) at the Reformed Church Hall in Bubenbergstrasse in **Thun**. This is held at 19.30 on the first and third Thursdays of the month, usually combined with a Bible study. (It's best to check with the office first!)

Church Office: 031 352 85 67



# Chaplain's Notes

Our **AGM** takes place after this issue of the magazine has gone to press. I should like to take this opportunity to thank those who have stood down from Council, Mary McKinley and Querida Long. They will be contributing to the life of St Ursula's in other ways, of course, and we hope they settle into new roles soon.

I should also like to welcome those who will be taking their places and we look forward to what they bring to our work together.

There are still some gaps in our rotas and the coordinators are looking for willing volunteers. Please don't wait for them to ask – they are waiting to hear from you!

**Church furnishings** are a long-standing piece of business that the new Council will have to address. We have been looking at various options for replacing the eagle lectern with something more robust but at the same time more portable. The solutions we have looked at so far have not been entirely satisfactory, so we continue to look.

Most people agreed that the blue chairs are very comfortable (so no long sermons, then) but they do have some drawbacks. They are not easy to stack, which will be a problem for the Christmas Bazaar, and getting in and out of the rows is less easy. Having three different sorts of chairs does not look good either. I know that the chairs have been a topic of discussion since long before I came. It is time to do something about it.

I hope we shall have something to report at the AGM. Please watch out for an update.

**Holy Week and Easter** are almost upon us. On *Tuesday 3 April* Bishop Geoffrey will celebrate the Chrism Mass at St Andrew's Zurich, at 12 noon. At this service the oils for baptism, healing and confirmation will be blessed for distribution to the churches and the clergy renew their ordination vows. All are welcome to attend.

The newly blessed oils will be received at St Ursula's during the service on *Maundy Thursday*. That service includes a simple meal together and you are

asked to bring along something to share. There will also be the traditional footwashing. If you wish to take part, please have suitable footwear!

There are two services on *Good Friday*. The family service in the morning is the time when we make the Easter Garden and it will finish with some hot cross buns. In the afternoon we have the Liturgy of the Last Hour, the solemn commemoration of the crucifixion. This is always a deeply moving service and it will be a fitting climax to our Lenten study course on the problem of evil.

Then, after the silence of Holy Saturday when Jesus lay in the tomb, we move to the joy of *Easter Day*. Again this year we have two celebrations, a Sung Eucharist with Easter ceremonies and the traditional Easter music, followed by an Easter Family Communion and an egg hunt.

As before, we shall be decorating the cross during both services, so please bring a flower with you to put on the cross, transforming it into a symbol of joy and victory.

Of course, our Easter joy is all the greater if you have walked the way of the cross by coming to the services on the days before. Details of times are on page 18.

Our next service with **Prayers for Healing** is on 6 May, which is still in the Easter season. In the usual way, you can come forward for prayer and anointing, either for yourself or for someone known to you.

**The Archdeaconry Retreat** is from 11 to 13 May. Further details are on the website (http://www.stursula.ch/whats\_on.html) and there are flyers in the Hall. Please register as soon as possible as places are limited.

The Weekend Away is expanding into two events this year, one in the spring and the other in the autumn. On **Ascension Day** (17 May), we are planning a pilgrimage, walking part of the Jakobsweg, the ancient pilgrim trail to Compostela. Don't worry – we are not aiming to walk that far in one day! The plan is to start in Schwarzenburg and walk to St Antoni, about 9 km. The terrain should be suitable for all ages. There is no need to register in advance. Just bring a picnic and turn up. More details will be available later.

For information about the September Awayday, see page 12.

# **Junior Church News**

JC usually meets every Sunday in the Upper Hall after they have worshipped with their families and congregation in church. After opening prayer with all the chidren they go to their groups for teaching.

The different groups are:

Sparklers (3-7) which are in the Lower Hall

Trailblazers (7-11) and

Pilots (11-14) which are in two different parts in the Upper Hall

### **Teaching**

During the season of Lent we are reminded to live a faithful life and remember that God is with us on our journey.

### Activity club (ages 7-11)

The Bake Sale after the service on 29 January was great fun, and 10 children joined the latest of the club's activities, a trip to the KaWeDe ice-skating rink after the service on 11 March. It was the last day of the season at the rink and turned out to



be a family event, with children twirling around and about on the ice while parents enjoyed themselves chatting, having a drink or even a picnic lunch on the sidelines.

### **Junior Church sleep-over**

Due to the busy agendas of all involved in the preparation and running of the annual sleep-over, the event will this year take place later than usual. It has now been scheduled for 24-25 August, and details on how to sign up for the event will be shared later.

### **New teachers**

Junior Church always welcomes new teachers, so if you are interested in joining the team or know someone who might be, please talk to one of the Sunday School teachers. Mary, our Youth Group leader, is stepping down in June, so we are looking for a successor.



# **Youth Confirmation Class**

The Sunday morning class for confirmation preparation for young people only met once in February, but three times in March. This was to fit in with the various school holidays.

The main topics were "Why go to church?" and "Prayer". These continue to be the themes for April and May.

Then we are all looking forward to the weekend away at the start of June, when the focus will be "the Bible" with various discussions and activities.

Please continue to pray for all those involved in this group: the young people, their families and the leaders

- Tricia Carrick

# Calendar of Services

### **Services in Holy Week and Easter**

### 1 April Palm Sunday

10.00 Procession and Sung Eucharist (NB we start in the hall)

Mark 11:1-11

Philippians 2:5-11

Passion Gospel (Mark) – dramatised reading

### 3 April

12.00 Chrism Mass, St Andrew's Zurich (led by Bishop Geoffrey) (Blessing of Oils and Renewal of Vows)

### 5 April Maundy Thursday

18.30 Commemoration of the Last Supper (Starts in the Hall – please bring food to share)

Exodus 12:1-4

Exodus 12:11-14

John 13:1-17, 31-35

### 6 April Good Friday

10.00 Family Service (making the Easter Garden)

Matthew 5:1-6

Matthew 11:25-30

Mark 8:31-38

Job 3:9-end

14.00 Liturgy of the Last Hour

Isaiah 52:13 - 53:12

John 18:1 – 19:42

### 8 April Easter Day

(Please bring a flower or some greenery to decorate the cross)

9.00 Sung Eucharist with Easter Ceremonies

Isaiah 25:6-9

John 20:1-18

10.30 Easter Family Communion and Egg Hunt

Acts 10:34-43

Mark 16:1-8



### 15 April Easter 2

10.00 Sung Eucharist Acts 4:32-35 1 John 1:1-2:2 John 20:19-31

### 22 April Easter 3

8.30 Holy Communion 10.00 Informal Eucharist Acts 3:12-19 1 John 3:1-7 Luke 24:36-48

### 29 April Easter 4

10.00 Sung Eucharist Acts 4:5-12 1 John 3:16-24 John 10:11-18

### 6 May Easter 5

10.00 Sung Eucharist Acts 8:26-40 1 John 4:7-21 John 15:1-8

### 13 May Easter 6

8:30 Holy Communion 10.00 Informal Eucharist Acts 10:44-48 1 John 5:1-6 John 15:9-17

### 17 May Ascension Day

Pilgrimage with open-air service Acts 1:6-11 Luke 24:44-53

### 20 May Easter 7

8.30 Holy Communion
10.00 Informal Eucharist
Acts 1:15-17, 21-26
1 John 5:9-13
John 17:6-19

### 27 May Pentecost

10.00 Sung Eucharist
Acts 2:1-21
Romans 8:22-27
John 15:26-27, 16:4b-15



# Prayer Diary April 2012

1	Palm Sunday	The people of Jerusalem
2	Monday	Our keeping of Holy Week
3	Tuesday	The Chrism Mass in Zurich
4	Wednesday	People attending our Holy Week and Easter services
5	Maundy Thursday	Our spiritual food
6	Good Friday	"Father forgive"
7	Saturday	Be still
8	Easter Day	Joy at the resurrection
9	Monday	The recently departed
10	Tuesday	The appointment of a Youth Coordinator
11	Wednesday	The work of Partner Sein
12	Thursday	Embassies and their staffs in Berne
13	Friday	People getting married
14	Saturday	The lapsed
15	Sunday	People uncertain about their faith
16	Monday	The Pastoral Team
17	Tuesday	The City Council
18	Wednesday	All who read in our church
19	Thursday	Thun Church Group
20	Friday	People looking for work
21	Saturday	Those serving in peacekeeping missions
22	Sunday	Neuchâtel Church
23	Monday (St George)	Churches in England
24	Tuesday	Relief work in Sudan
25	Wednesday (St Mark	r) The Bishop's Staff Meeting
26	Thursday	Tear Fund
27	Friday	The Royal School of Church Music
28	Saturday	The Choir Festival
29	Sunday	"Good Shepherd Sunday"
30	Monday	People in residential homes

# May 2012

1	Tuesday	The Council meeting			
2	Wednesday	Our Old Catholic partner churches			
3	Thursday	People recently arrived in the area			
4	Friday	English-speaking clubs and societies			
5	Saturday	Medical research			
6	Sunday	All in need of healing			
7	Monday	The Clergy Chapter meeting			
8	Tuesday (Julian of No	orwich) Christian spirituality			
9	Wednesday	Friends and relations far away			
10	Thursday	The Charities and Mission Team			
11	Friday	The Archdeaconry Retreat			
12	Saturday	People taking part in the Berne Grand Prix			
13	Sunday	Making Christ's love known			
14	Monday (St Matthias) Our readiness to step in and help where needed				
15	Tuesday (Rogation Day) Farmers, here and abroad				
16	Wednesday	Clean water for all			
17	<b>Ascension Day</b>	Our church pilgrimage			
18	Friday	The housebound			
19	Saturday	Israel and its neighbours			
20	Sunday	Seeing Christ in others			
21	Monday	Groups who use our Hall			
22	Tuesday	The work of Rega			
23	Wednesday	All who help produce the Magazine			
24	Thursday	Care for the environment			
25	Friday(Bede)	Our Christian heritage			
26	Saturday (Augustine	The Archbishop of Canterbury			
27	Pentecost	Thanks for the gifts of the Holy Spirit			
28	Monday	Today's troublespots			
29	Tuesday	The Diocesan Communications Team			
30	Wednesday (Josephi	ne Butler) The Church's work in society			
31	Thursday (The Visita	tion) Expectant mothers			

# For Your Diary April & May 2012

# **Regular Weekly Events**

Mondays	09.30 - 10.00	Morning Prayer
Wednesdays	09.15 - 11.15	Parents and Tots
Fridays	09.30	Patchwork - not 5 April
Saturdays	09.30 - 11.30	Choir Practice - not 28 April

Other Events		
Tuesday 3 April	19.30	Church Council
Thursday 5 April	18.30	Youth Group
Sunday 8 April	11.30	Youth Group (after the Service)
Monday 16 April	19.00	Pastoral Prayer Evening
Sunday 22 April	10.00	Confirmation Class
	11.30	TAC Event
Friday 27 April - Sunday 29 April		Archdeaconry Choir Festival in Basel
Tuesday 1 May	19.30	Church Council
Sunday 6 May	10.00	Confirmation Class
Friday 11 - Sunday 13 May		Archdeaconry Retreat
Sunday 13 May	10.00	Confirmation Class
	COPY DATE	
	11.30	TAC Event
Thursday 17 May		Ascension Day Pilgrimage
Sunday 20 May	10.00	Youth Group
Thursday 24 May	09.00 - 11.00	Magazine Collating
Sunday 27 May	10.00	Youth Group

### **Future Dates**

Saturday 16 June St Ursula's Queen's Jubilee Fête

Sunday 24 June Confirmation Service

Saturday 1 September Book and Food Sale

Friday 16 & Saturday 17 November Christmas Bazaar

# **Ecumenical House Group in Liebefeld**

The Ecumenical House Group meets on the following dates:

4 April

18 April

2 May (not in Liebefeld, venue to be determined)

16 May

30<sup>-</sup> May

We are studying the Beatitudes. Please contact Brian Morgan (031 971 13 36, 079 415 26 19 or bmorgan@bcmconsult.ch) for more information.

# **Contemplative Prayer**

The contemplative prayer evenings are:

12 April

26 April

No meetings in May.

Please contact Brian Morgan (031 971 13 36, 079 415 26 19 or <a href="mailto:bmorgan@bcmconsult.ch">bmorgan@bcmconsult.ch</a>) for more information.



# St Ursula's Charity and Missions News

### Anglican Health Network: Adding value to Anglican health mission

This is a new charity project which St Ursula's has just begun to support.

'He sent them out to proclaim the Kingdom of God and heal the sick'. (Luke 9: 2) Jesus brought healing to those who were powerless in the face of disease. He tackled stigma and fear amongst those unable to comprehend the afflictions of their neighbours. His followers pooled their resources to care for orphans and widows. The Church went on to create the first hostels for medical care, and pioneered health systems for the good of all.

Jesus' call to tend the sick and promote health is at the heart of the gospel. Christian disciples continue to this day to follow that call both within the oversight of the Church's mission and out in the secular structures of health care systems. Bringing health is no less a need and no less a calling than when Jesus' loving touch brought new life to those who had no hope.

### A new era for faith based health systems

Health systems are under pressure all over the world. Advances in the capabilities of medicine alongside growing or aging populations are leading to spiralling costs. Policy makers are therefore looking afresh at the health related activities of faith communities. Can they make a renewed contribution to the health of the people?

For their part, churches and other faith groups are questioning the dominance of science in the delicate balance of healing. In the clinical setting, where the self-healing properties of the body are stimulated by chemical or surgical interventions, there is inadequate attention to the emotional, pastoral and spiritual needs of patients. The example of Christ and the experience of the Church



AHN inaugural meeting at WHO

through the ages demonstrate the integral nature of body, mind and spirit. Faith and health need to be reunited.

In the developing world, the contribution of faith based health care remains substantial. It is widely accepted that almost half the health services of Sub-Saharan Africa are

provided by faith based organisations. Whereas it was assumed that the 'mission hospital' would eventually be surpassed by government facilities, the reality is that churches are investing in greater capacity in the face of rising demand. This is overwhelmingly true of rural communities, where the absence of public or private health care leaves churches with the most challenging task.

A 2008 report published by the World Health Organization stated that, 'Faith based organisations have an impressive though under-recognised track record.... They have the potential to become an important partner in primary health care and health service delivery'. Despite a residual resistance of a secularised profession, the contribution that faith based health services can bring to the array of health systems around the world is now widely acknowledged.

### The advent of the Anglican Health Network

Anglicans in particular are actively involved in promoting health and healing throughout the world. In so doing they reach out to millions of people both within and outside the church who value the care and service they perform. Indeed, Anglican health mission is growing in both extent and nature. However, it is under resourced and under recognised within the church, in the medical profession and amongst policy makers. In an era of significant dynamism in global health and renewed interest in holistic approaches to health, there is now an opportunity for Anglicans to harness their resources to promote a major renewal of this key part of their mission.

Revd Paul Holley, former Chaplain to La Cote, proposed the formation of a network at the Lambeth Conference in 2008 following some research that the Anglican UN Representation Geneva had carried out in relation to HIV/AIDS. The Anglican Health Network (AHN) held its inaugural meeting in Geneva in June 2009. This brought together 14 representatives from around the Anglican Communion to consider the extent and nature of the church's health care ministry. Sessions were held at the World Health Organization and the World Council of Churches.

Following this meeting, the representatives agreed a mission statement for AHN and established a Swiss association to host a coordinating board that would resource the activities of the network. La Cote members, Geoff Senogles and Allison Kelley are members of the board along with two representatives from the Diocese of Texas. Paul Holley gave notice from his chaplaincy ministry and became the full time network coordinator from July 2010.

The network is pursuing 3 key outcomes:

- Making Anglican health mission visible, coherent and collaborative
- Making Anglican health mission sustainable
- Making health care more available

Its main programmes include the development of health microinsurance in Africa, a comprehensive strategy to improve maternal and new born health and a conference to consider afresh the health and healing activities of churches in the UK. In addition there are initiatives underway to supply medical equipment, improve leadership and clinical expertise, and most of all to improve the interaction and shared learning between Anglican health professionals around the world.

Anyone with an interest is welcome to join the mailing list and receive regular newsletters. For further information, check out: <a href="https://www.anglicanhealth.org">www.anglicanhealth.org</a>

- Cecily Klingler on behalf of the Charity and Missions Team

# Faith in Health and Healing: Reintegrating the church with health services

The Anglican Health Network (AHN) today announced plans for a major conference in Birmingham UK in April 2013. "Christians promote a comprehensive experience of health and healing", states Revd Paul Holley, coordinator of the AHN. "However, this comprehensive ministry is now largely detached from the medical establishment. Faith has tended to settle into the private sphere and no longer pervades the places in which the sick are cared for."

The conference will draw from evidence suggesting that in many instances, faith and health are being reunited, "Clergy and lay people now not only pray for the sick and offer pastoral care; they promote healthy lifestyles, offer support groups for those with addictions or mental health problems and provide secure environments in which distressed people can find fresh hope. In some cases, parishes work with NHS primary care organisations to offer innovative services to educate and support people in attaining a better level of health". The conference programme will bring focus to the wide variety of health and healing initiatives offered by parishes, healing agencies and Christian health professionals throughout the country.

AHN has drawn together a range of partner organisations and experienced individuals that are at the forefront of a renewal in the health care and healing ministries of the church. In particular, through their more holistic approach to health and healing, partner organisations have demonstrated improved recovery rates when the healing environment addresses the emotional, spiritual, psychological and physical conditions of the person together. Their 'whole-person' approach to health care adds further value by also nurturing a more resilient and hopeful sense of well-being amongst their clients.

The conference will also consider the quality of religious and spiritual care in health services, "Hospital chaplains come alongside distressed patients and staff with prayer, reassurance and pastoral support", remarks Revd Holley, but he notes that, "Christian health professionals are now themselves seeking new avenues to reconnect the scientific with the spiritual. GP practices offer spiritual support from their surgeries. Parish nurses work with churches to strengthen the interaction between pastoral care and health services".

The conference programme will be shaped by the following three themes:

- Health, dying and human flourishing
- The healing ministries of the church amongst individuals and communities
- The church in the governance and delivery of health services

A panel of experts is due to meet at the Anglican Communion Office on 3 February to consider these in detail and to offer further guidance to help set the conference agenda. The panel is made up of the following members:

- Dr. Luke Bretherton, Reader in Theology and Politics at Kings College
- Hannah Clifton, Chair, ME Trust
- Professor Chris Cook, Director of the Project for Spirituality, Theology and Health at Durham University
- Professor Grace Davie, Emeritus Professor of Sociology at Exeter University
- Dr. Jamie Harrison, GP, Deputy Director of Postgraduate School of Primary Care for the Northern Deanery
- Revd Dame Sarah Mullally, Rector of Sutton team ministry, former Chief Nurse
- Dr. Andrew Todd, Director of Chaplaincy Studies, St. Michael's, LLandaff
- Dr. Paul Worthley, Senior Physician, Burrswood Hospital

The panel will be joined by two representatives of the Church of Norway: Dr. Kjell Nordstokke, Professor of Theology, Diakonhjemmet University College and Revd Johan Arnt Wenaas. They will share their experience of church hospitals in the Norwegian health system, and explore with the panel how the push towards local primary care services might provide parishes with a creative opportunity to inject a more holistic partnership between faith and health.

The conference will take place at the National Motorcycle Museum near Birmingham International Airport in the week beginning **22 April 2013**.

The partner organisations include:

- Anglican Health Network
- The Guild of Health
- Burrswood Hospital
- Acorn Christian Healing Foundation
- Parish Nursing UK
- St. Marylebone Healing and Counselling Centre
- Project for Spirituality, Theology & Health, University of Durham
- Holy Rood House
- Wholecare

Individual members of the planning group include:

- Dr. Sandy Bradbrook, former CEO, Heart of Birmingham Primary Care
   Trust
- Professor Helen Leathard, Professor Emeritus, University of Cumbria, member of the General Synod of the Church of England
- Dr. Peter Rookes, researcher, international Christian health mission

The organisation of the event has been made possible through the financial support of the Guild of Health. For further information, please contact Revd Paul Holley: <a href="mailto:paul.holley@anglicanhealth.org">paul.holley@anglicanhealth.org</a>

- Press release from the Anglican Health Network 1 February 2012, Geneva

28

# The Pastoral Team says "Let us pray"

Prayer is a crucial part of the Church's pastoral ministry. In last month's magazine we announced a new initiative by the Pastoral Team to help us to be a community that prays for each other. You can pray at home any time, of course, but praying together brings a very powerful addition to our prayer.

On 16 April at 19.00 the Pastoral Team invites you to join them at St Ursula's. Fr Peter will lead a discussion on prayer of intercession and then afterwards there will be time to pray together. This might be for yourself, others known to you – and for each other. We hope that praying together will lead to both concern and action.

There will be refreshments in the hall afterwards.

One final point – we hope this will be the first of a series of times to pray together, but they will be in addition to (not instead of) the prayer for healing that is offered in our Sunday services.

Please join us.

# **Quotable Quote**

What can we know? Why is there anything at all?

Why not nothing?

What ought we to do? Why do what we do? Why and

to whom are we finally responsible?

What may we hope? Why are we here? What is it all

about?

What will give us courage for life and what courage

for death?

Hans Küng, "On being a Christian"

I have copied the lines exactly as he wrote them, i.e. the arrangement of them. He had his reasons.

- Dorothy Beriger

# Archdeaconry Choir Festival 2012: Basel 28 & 29 April 2012

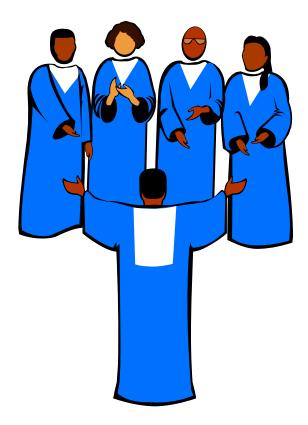
The traditional annual Archdeaconry Choir Festival will take place in Basel over the weekend 28 / 29 April 2012. A first practice for all singers will be held in the evening of Friday 27 April. There will be an all-day practice on Saturday. A choral Evensong (from about 5.30 - 6.15 pm) will be supported by the joint choirs. On Sunday morning a Communion Service will be held, shared with the Old Catholic Community.

The venue in Basel will be the 'Prediger Kirche' of the Old Catholic Church in Basel. The Festival Music Director will be Mark Duley, who has led two of our Festivals in past years.

St Ursula's Choir will be preparing and practising the music for the Choir Festival at our regular choir practices. Any singers who wish to join the choir for this occasion are very welcome; please let us know as soon as possible. They should attend our choir practices leading up to the Festival (Saturdays 9.30am at the church).

For any further information please contact Hans-Karl or Elisabeth Pfyffer.

-Hans-Karl Pfyffer



# **Church Ladies With Typewriters**

They're Back! Those wonderful Church Bulletins! Thank God for church ladies with typewriters. These sentences (with all the BLOOPERS) actually appeared in church bulletins or were announced in church services:

The Fasting & Prayer Conference includes meals.
The sermon this morning: 'Jesus Walks on the Water.' The sermon to- night: 'Searching for Jesus.'
Ladies, don't forget the rummage sale. It's a chance to get rid of those things not worth keeping around the house. Bring your husbands.
Remember in prayer the many who are sick of our community. Smile at someone who is hard to love. Say 'Hell' to someone who doesn't care much about you.
Don't let worry kill you off - let the Church help.
Miss Charlene Mason sang 'I will not pass this way again,' giving obvious pleasure to the congregation.
For those of you who have children and don't know it, we have a nursery downstairs.
Next Thursday there will be tryouts for the choir. They need all the help they can get.
Irving Benson and Jessie Carter were married on October 24 in the church. So ends a friendship that began in their school days.
At the evening service tonight, the sermon topic will be 'What Is Hell?' Come early and listen to our choir practice.

- Sheila A. Berger

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Please contact Ellen Schwab mail address is:- <a href="mailto:ellschwab@eircom.net">ellschwab@eircom.net</a> or tel: 0035 351-593970 (Ireland).

- Mary Wittwer

# A Mongolian Guest?

The Swiss Program for Language Instruction and Teacher Training is an educational exchange program working with Mongolian schools and universities. Through this program Mongolian teachers of English are invited for a three-month internship at an International School in Switzerland, after being personally interviewed and selected in Mongolia by the program coordinator. Two interns will be at the International School of Berne this coming fall.

We are now looking for two English-speaking host families willing each to house one younger Mongolian teacher of English during his or her approved 3-month internship at the ISB. The internship will take place from the second week of August to the beginning of November 2012. The interns will be fully integrated in the school and are provided with all necessary insurances, pocket money and a GA pass for all public transportation. The intern will explore the local area and Switzerland independently over weekends and holidays. If you are able to offer one of these interns the opportunity to stay in your home this fall please contact Anita Fahrni at 052 375 1985 or a.fahrni@clinch.ch.



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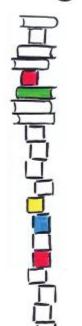
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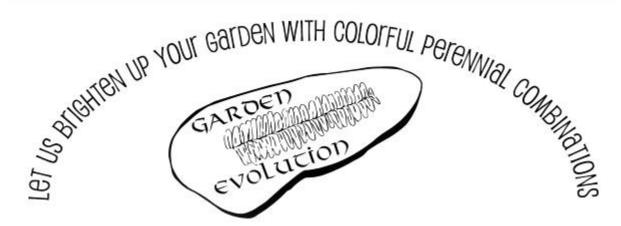
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## Why not join the

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Graham Tritt, President, tel. 031 829 34 79, email g.tritt@gmx.net International Club of Berne, 3000 Berne, www: icberne.2ya.com
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For membership enquiries, contact Werner Dettwiler,
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New members are always welcome. Our website hosted by the Federation of Anglo-Swiss Clubs is: www.angloswissclubs.ch



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Lynn Morgan	031	971	13	36
CHARITY AND MISSIONS TEAM				
Cecily Klingler	031	302	48	59

Church Council				
Lay Members:				
John Eze	079	489	58	46
Querida Long	031	331	41	07
Mary McKinley (secretary)	078	921	15	50
Allison Masciadri	031	829	18	69
Tony Read	033	243	34	32
Edi Wildhaber	079	460	61	15
Lay Representatives to Arc				
Hector Davie	031	971	27	71
Donna Goepfert	031	931	27	42
Janet Wenger	031	839	46	53

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Administration: Jana Kutes					
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CHURCHWARDENS					
Archana Chittazhathu	031	859 64 12			
Maxine Wildhaber	076	349 40 42			
CRÈCHE					
Maxine Wildhaber	076	349 40 42			
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Elisabeth Pfyffer	026 492 03 26
Music Group	
Tony Read	033 243 34 32

	<b>5</b>
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# A Pilgrim's Prayer

"Lord, you who called your servant Abraham out of the town of Ur in Chaldea and who watched over him during all his wanderings;

Be for us
a companion on our journey
the guide at our crossroads
the strengthening during fatigue
the fortress in danger
the resource on our itinerary
the shadow in our heat
the light in our darkness
the consolation during dejection
and the power of our intention

so that we may reach the end of our journey, and finally come to our heavenly home,
through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Apostle James, pray for us Holy Virgin, pray for us"

From a prayer for pilgrims on the road to Compostela.

