

THE CHURCH OF ST URSULA BERNE



June - July 2020

St Ursula's Church Jubiläumsplatz 2, 3005 Berne, Switzerland

Chaplain: Revd Helen Marshall

chaplain@stursula.ch

031 351 03 43

Day off: Friday

Lay Reader

Archana Jacob

archana@stursula.ch

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 Sunday of the month, the 10.00 service is more informal.

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

Services in Thun: 18.30 on the first and third Thursdays of the month at Chapelle

Romande, Frutigenstrasse 22: Eucharist and Bible study.

Contact: Church Office 031 352 85 67

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: www.stursula.ch

E-mail: berne@anglican.ch



St Ursula's Church Magazine

VOL 39/3

June - July 2020

Published & printed in Berne by St Ursula's Church/Hergestellt in Bern durch St Ursula's Church
Appears 6x a year/wird 6x jährlich herausgegeben

Annual Subscription Rates:
Fr22 including inland postage
Postfinance Accounts 30-4416-8 (Church), 60-666488-7 (Charitable Association)

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NOVEL CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19)

During the current pandemic, some of the events scheduled here may be postponed or cancelled. Please check with the Church Office (031 352 85 67) or on the Church website (www.stursula.ch) for recent information.

COPY DATE

for the August - September 2020 magazine is

12 July 2020

Please send copy to magazine@stursula.ch

COLLATING DATE: Thursday 23 July 2020

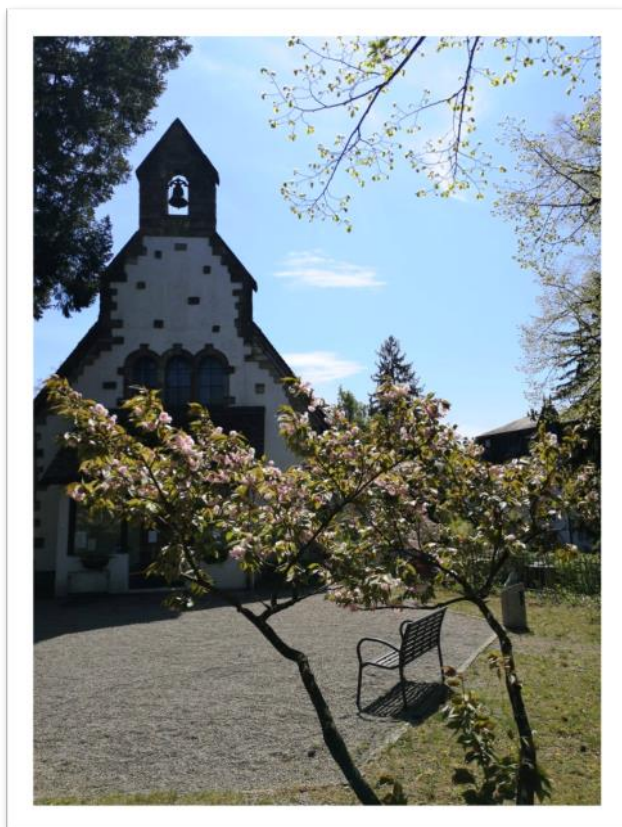
From the Chaplain

Dear Friends,

We have not been able to meet to worship together for over two months now and this has been a new and unparalleled experience for all of us. Christians all over the world were unable to celebrate Easter and Pentecost together.

Nevertheless, we know that although church buildings have been closed, the church is still very much alive. There is a huge amount of material on the internet to encourage us to pray and worship and learn from other Christians, and we have tried to do our best at St Ursula's to keep the spiritual and pastoral life of the community going. I am extremely grateful to everyone who has helped with the online services, and I am thankful for all the encouraging emails I have received. I know that some people have received much grace during this time as they have made more space to pray and study the Bible.

As we look back over this time, let us be thankful for those things that have been good, for little signs of joy, for surprising gifts of grace we have received. Let us also ponder what lessons we might learn. This lockdown experience may prompt us to think afresh about how we use our time and resources; to consider what is really essential in our lives; to find ways to rejoice in simple things; to treasure our families and friends; to realise our need of God. Let us



also hope and pray that lessons may be learned in the wider world about how we treat the environment and care for the vulnerable. I know from the emails I have received that many of you have been pondering these things.

However, although we may have received some good things and learned some important lessons during this time, it has also been very hard and it has put a lot of strain on many people. Some have been anxious and lonely and others very stressed by extra work and responsibilities in difficult circumstances. We all hope and pray that this will soon come to an end and we will again be able to go out, socialise with family and friends, and meet together to worship.

We are not yet certain when the church can re-open. But church will feel very different for some time as we will have to operate under strict regulations. These will include (amongst others) restrictions on how many people can attend services, social distancing, no singing of hymns (as singing heightens the risk of the virus spreading), and rigorous hygiene procedures which will include a thorough cleaning of the church after each service or meeting. We will let you know further details in due course.

Meanwhile, let us continue to put our trust in God who holds the past, the present and the future in his hands. We may face many changes and challenges in our own lives and in our world, but God's steadfast love remains the same.

'The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases, his mercies never come to an end.'

(Lamentations 3: 22)

'Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and tomorrow.' (Hebrews 13: 8)

With my love in Christ,

- *Helen*

Street Exangelists

No, it's not a misprint. It's not a new type of church worker either. It's a Greek word that struck me while looking again at a recent Bible reading from the First Letter of Peter. Part of this letter is aimed at new Christians, growing in their faith, finding their place in a new structure founded on Jesus Christ, living in the light, and members of a royal priesthood. Their task is "to proclaim the mighty acts" of the one who "called them out of darkness into marvellous light".

Proclaiming something doesn't mean using a loud megaphone. Psalm 19 tells us that the heavens declare the glory of God – even that their voice goes out through all the world – yet they do it in complete silence. God has more than one way of getting a message across. Peter's new Christians are to proclaim God's mighty acts, but the word used, *exangellein*, means to show out, to shine out. It is a theme the writer takes up again a few verses later: "Conduct yourselves honourably among the Gentiles (the non-believers) ... so that they may see your deeds and glorify God."

When we have seen something exciting, it is a natural reaction to go and tell our friends and acquaintances – or if it is very exciting, we tell everyone we see. There is a lot of this in the Gospels, especially from people who have experienced Jesus' healing touch. We have all been touched, though. We have all been incorporated – made part of Christ's body, citizens of God's heavenly realm.

Jesus tells us to show this. Shortly after the assurance that the meek will inherit the earth, the Sermon on the Mount declares: "You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven."

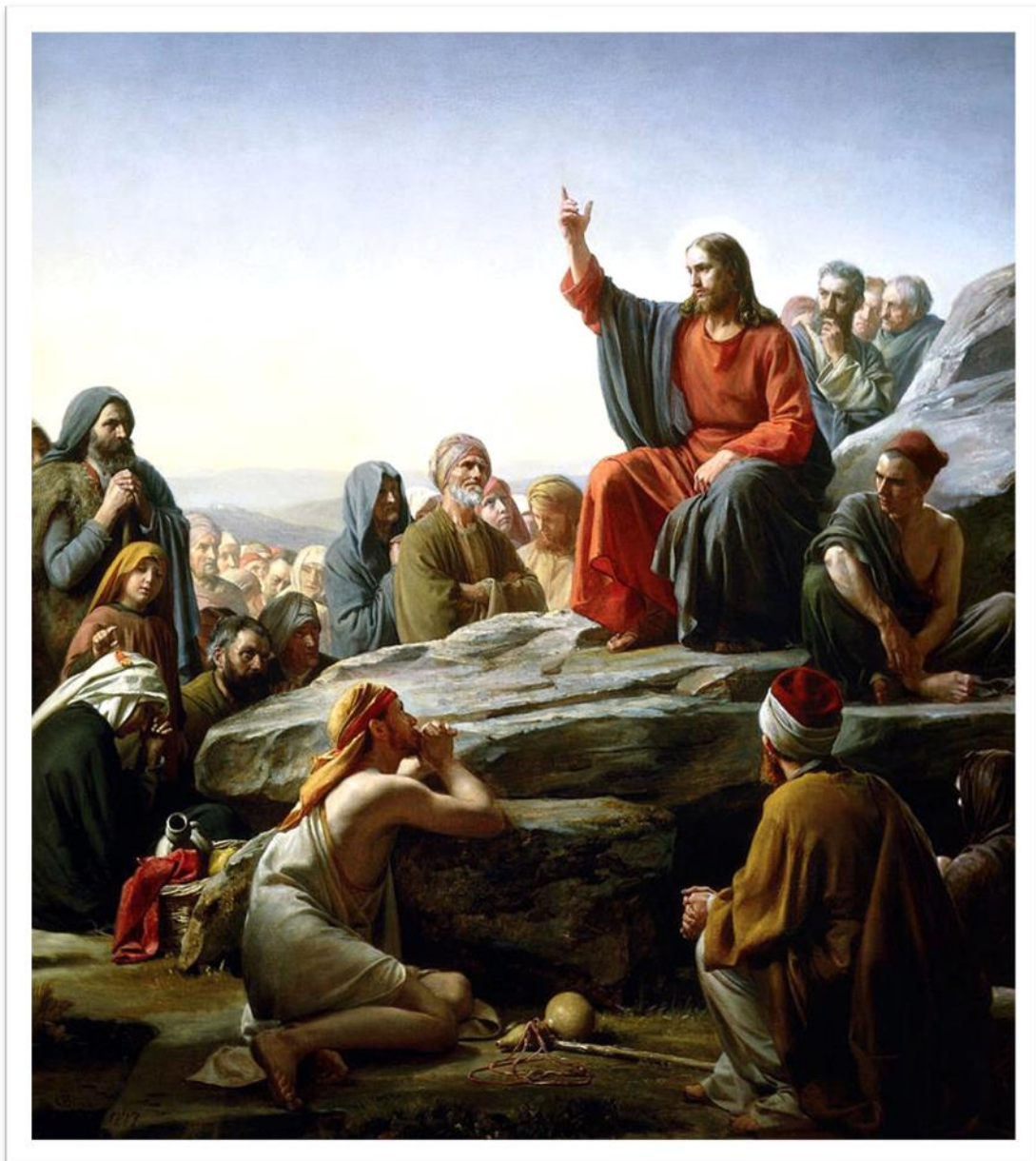
For some people, "good works" can mean serving the down-and-outs on the streets – of Kathmandu, Caracas or Köniz. For some it means nursing the sick and dying. For the authors of the *Book of Common Prayer*, it meant giving generously to the church collection for the poor of the parish. But for most of us, George Herbert's words apply: "Who sweeps a room, as for Thy laws, makes that and the action fine."

A hundred years after Christ's time, Tertullian, a theologian, imagined the pagans marvelling at the Christians: "See how they love each other!" And

centuries later, John Wesley preached: “You are to aim at nothing more, but more of that love described in the thirteenth of Corinthians. If you look for any thing but more love, you are looking wide of the mark. You can go no higher than this.”

There is a great difference between shining out and shining into people’s faces. The love we have must be genuine. We must display it, but it must be real. Jesus has harsh words for people who try to show how good they are, who “blow their own trumpet” (Matt 6:2). In the new body which is Christ’s church, no one member is better than any other – they all work together to proclaim – to *exangelize* – God’s salvation through Jesus Christ. And so must we.

- *Hector Davie*



***Sermon on the Mount* by Carl Bloch (1877)**

A Word for the Month – Crown



Christ King of Kings (Greece, c. 1600)

Crowns are having a bad press at the moment. Astronomers gazing at the sun during eclipses noticed that it gave out flames that looked like a crown, and named this a corona, which is Latin for crown. Scientists researching the common cold in the 1960s isolated a virus which under the microscope had similar bumps on its surface, and a new form of this has come to plague us this year. But of course crowns go much further back than that.

Nobody knows when or how crowns originated. The ancient Egyptian Pharaohs are said to have set a pattern which was followed all over the Middle East and as far away as west Africa. Priests in ancient India and Mesopotamia also wore crowns, or diadems (headbands of fabric or gold). Winners in battle or in races (and races were often religious events) were crowned with wreaths of bay or laurel leaves. A crown showed the wearer's power and authority, their excellence.

The Bible first mentions crowns in the book of Exodus. Aaron is to wear a turban with a diadem around it ‘of pure gold ... with an inscription “Holy to the Lord”’ (Ex. 39:30). Much later, when the people insisted on having a king to rule them, Samuel anoints Saul – but we learn that when Saul dies, he is wearing a crown (2 Samuel 1:11), like the kings of the surrounding countries. In the Old Testament, it is priests and kings who wear a crown, not just as a sign of authority, but also of holiness.

But it is not just priests and kings. Psalm 8 asks “What are human beings that you are mindful of them, mortals that you care for them? Yet you have made them a little lower than God, and crowned them with glory and honour. You have given them dominion over the works of your hands; you have put all things under their feet,” and Psalm 104 talks of God “crowning us with love and mercy.” We too are holy.

In the New Testament, crowns get an uglier twist. The only mention in the Gospels is the crown the guards weave for Jesus – a crown of thorns. Ironically, the soldiers show his true holiness, his true authority, in the pain he endures – the pain of human sinfulness.

Jesus reminded his followers that in him the Kingdom of God had now come, and was among them. Yet only at his Transfiguration, seen by just three of his disciples, did his majesty shine out. His kingdom, as he told Pilate, was “not of this world”. Now resurrected and glorified, our Lord reigns in heaven, and we can think of Christ as king, crowned in majesty. But neither the Gospels nor the Epistles mentions a crown. The crown is for us. It is we who are a royal priesthood (1 Peter 2:9), for whom a “crown of righteousness” is reserved (2 Timothy 4:8).

It is significant, though, that the first martyr also saw “the glory of God”. For his name was Stephen, and the name *stephanos* is Greek for crown.

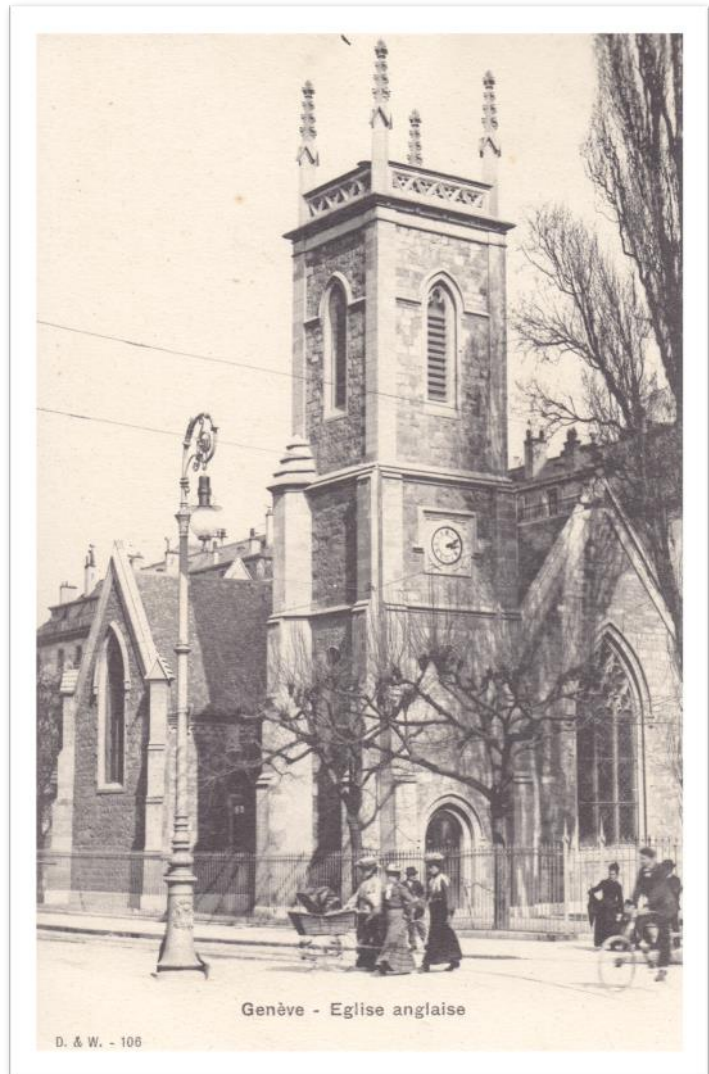
The book of Revelation talks about Christ’s reign, and is full of these images, as our hymn “Crown him with many crowns” (based on Rev. 19:12) reminds us. The image of us, “casting down our golden crowns around the glassy sea” (based on Rev. 4:10) is a reflection of the Son of Man, “with a crown upon his head” (Rev. 14:14).

God is King. But God crowns us – with joy, with righteousness (which is the joy of God’s presence with us), and, as John in Revelation is to write to the church in Smyrna, with “the crown of life”. In these days of depression and lockdown, let us rejoice that we can still wear this crown – one that God has given us.

- *Hector Davie*

The English Church in Geneva

Three hundred years before Holy Trinity Church was consecrated in Geneva in 1853, prayers were already said and hymns sung in English in this city. In order to avoid persecution during the reign of catholic queen Mary Tudor (1553-1558), many Protestants had left England. They had found refuge in a number of European cities, among them the Swiss towns of Aarau, Basel, Geneva and Zurich. Geneva was then a protestant Republic, the leader of its church was the French theologian and reformer Jean Calvin (1509-1564). He petitioned the Council of State to grant the new arrivals the use of a small church, Notre-Dame-la-Neuve at the side of the Cathedral (now the Auditoire de Calvin) and the first service there was held in November 1555. The language was English, but on the order of the Council the service followed the rites of the Geneva Reformed Church established by Calvin.



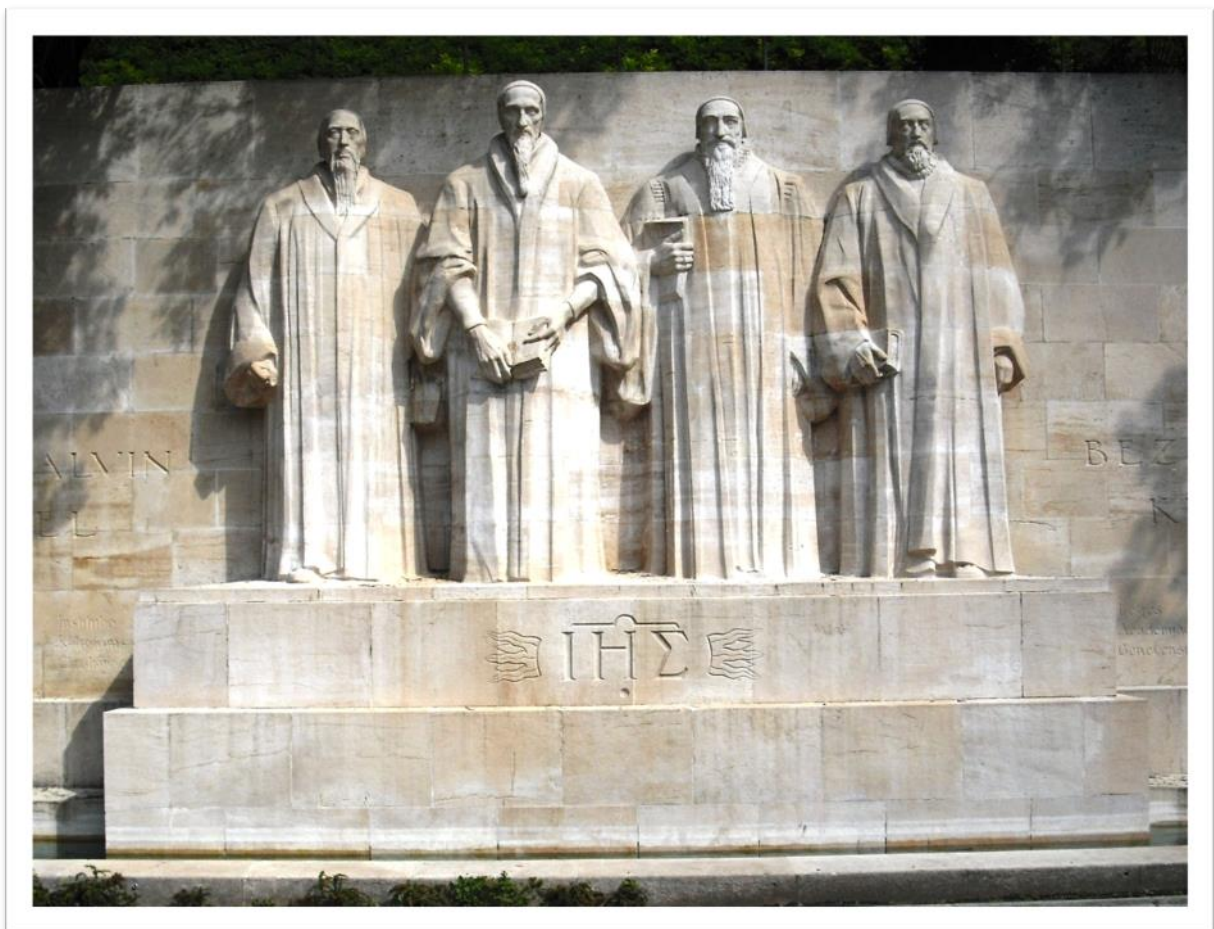
Postcard published by Druz & Warnery, Geneva, around 1900

There were about 50 English settlers in the beginning, members of the gentry, merchants and artisans, as well as preachers and ministers of religion. They had their own spiritual leader in John Knox (c. 1514-1572), the Scottish minister and theologian. He had become royal chaplain to King Edward VI but left England when Queen Mary I re-introduced Roman Catholicism. Knox met Calvin in Geneva and adopted his views on the liturgy and on church government by representatives of the congregation. The new Order of Service he created was later taken over by the reformed church of Scotland, where Knox became leader of the Protestant Reformation after his return in 1559.

The spiritual climate in Geneva at the time led to another event significant in church history: several English scholars who had chosen exile in Geneva worked together on a new translation of the Bible. Published in 1560, fifty years before the King James version, the Geneva Bible with its notes and study aids became the primary bible of 16th century English Protestants.

When Elizabeth I followed Queen Mary on the throne in 1558, the need for exile ended, and within about twenty years the English community had left Geneva. But the city remained a hub of theological, scientific and social exchange between Switzerland and England. There was even a British Library founded in 1796 by a local family to spread the liberal thinking of English writers against French revolutionary ideas. It managed to stay open during the 15 years Geneva was occupied by Napoleon's forces.

After the war Europe was open to travellers again and English visitors returned to Geneva: students came to attend the college and academy Calvin had founded, young aristocrats stopped here on their Grand Tour, families with children and servants stayed for months at the time to enjoy the mild climate in the Geneva countryside, scientists and adventurers arrived to explore the



The International Monument to the Reformation in Geneva with Jean Calvin, 2nd from left, and John Knox, right (Wikimedia Commons)

mountains, and merchants came looking for opportunities in trade. As the English-speaking community grew, the need for their own place and tradition of worship increased. Again a petition was sent to the Council of State, and on Christmas Day 1814 the first service was celebrated in the Old Hospital Chapel near the Cathedral.

In 1846 discussions began in the English community about building a church of their own. The Council of State donated a piece of land at avenue du Mont-Blanc, and in August 1853 Holy Trinity was consecrated. Local architect Jean-Pierre Guillebaud was responsible for the gothic revival design, yet art historian André Meyer calls Holy Trinity one of the most English of all English churches in Switzerland (along with St. Marks, Lucerne) because of the asymmetrical layout with the tower at a corner of the building, the tower itself with its pinnacles, and the steep open-beam roof construction.

The first 25 years of the Holy Trinity congregation were turbulent; there were conflicts with the chaplain, and the building had unexpected maintenance problems causing financial difficulties. But towards the end of the century and until World War I peace and prosperity reigned. Male church members were actively involved with local groups in various sports, and the women organized successful fundraising events for the church.

At that time Geneva was the only place in Switzerland with two Anglican congregations: Holy Trinity followed the Church of England, Emmanuel the American Episcopal Church. This proved to be helpful during World War I: when coal was in short supply, services were held alternately at Holy Trinity and Emmanuel for both congregations. In the years following the war, Holy Trinity was struggling with financial problems again. Fortunately the Colonial and Continental Church Society in London agreed to help out, but soon a new disaster loomed: the Depression of the 1930's. As the British Pound lost half of its value, many church members returned home and hardly any visitors arrived. There were even talks of closing the church. A small and hard-working congregation kept the doors open, however, and was even able to raise 1'000 francs in 1945 for the reconstruction of churches in Europe destroyed during the war.

Again some difficult years followed World War II, but Holy Trinity recovered and had much to celebrate in the decades that followed. A series of stained-glass windows created by artist Jacques Wasem were installed between 1958 and 1981; a church hall was built under the forecourt in 1966 leading to an increase in activities; the entire interior of the church was cleaned in 1976. In 1983 an appeal was launched for a complete renovation of the building, at the

same time the church was placed under protection. After a successful campaign the renovation was completed in 1985.

Forty years later, a new project of renovation, renewal and extension of the church building is under way, while the congregation is waiting for a new chaplain, and the Coronavirus is

upsetting familiar church life. As Holy Trinity, the building and the community, have come through the ups and downs of one and a half centuries successfully, I have no doubt they will weather these new challenges, too.

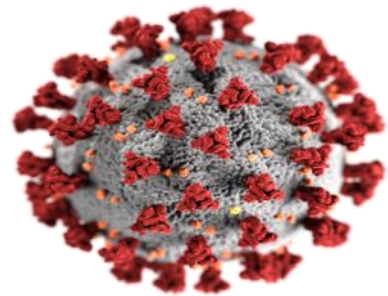
- Ruth Freiburghaus



The Auditoire de Calvin, today home of the Church of Scotland (shipoffools.com)

Reflections During the Lockdown

We would like to produce a little booklet of different people's reflections during the lockdown and then sell copies to raise money for church funds. I know several members of the congregation have written poems but we are also looking for some more contributions. If you have a poem, a picture, a photo, a reading or prayer, any musings about how this experience has affected you and the wider world, or a testimony to how your faith has sustained you during this time, we would love to hear from you. We are hoping to have contributions from adults, and from children as well.



Please send any contributions to reflections@stursula.ch, preferably before the end of June. Ask me, Hector, Querida or the office if you want to know more.

Many thanks,
Helen

Treasurer's report June-July 2020

Romans 12:12: Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, and faithful in prayer.

Dear all

My last report was written at the start of the Covid-19 Lockdown light period here in Switzerland. At the time I mentioned that we expected our income to drop as a result. This is obvious due to being unable to rent out our halls, have events or have any physical services. Now as I write this report we are two months in and we are not yet having physical services, in fact it is still another month until we will, assuming we can restart in June. It is longer than I thought it would be, and I am very grateful that we have been able to carry on with our virtual services and coffee mornings, etc. I personally have also been doing a lot more praying in this time. Working from home gave me more time to focus on my prayer life, and I have seen many answers to prayer. One in particular was for a friend in the UK, who contracted Covid. I really thought he would not make it, and he was very close to death more than once. But I prayed for him and so many others prayed for him, people who did not know him, people in our congregation. As I write this, he went home yesterday and I really feel that it was a miracle that he survived, and thanks to all those who prayed.



I also see answer to prayer in the response of our congregation to our financial needs. The reduction in our income is quite significant, but once our congregation heard of the need, then the funds started coming. I am so grateful for all your support. In addition we had the online quiz night, which was an amazing success. Everyone had fun. We

decided to ask for donations towards the defibrillator from the people taking part in the quiz, and by one week after the quiz Fr650 had come in as a result of that quiz. Perhaps by the time you read this magazine, it will be even more.

Good news also came in the form of a grant from the money given in memory of Vreni Hawker towards our Eco garden, specifically towards the contemplation or meditation garden we want to include within it. The Hawker family will be generously supporting that part of the project and this is also an answer to prayer as it will allow us to make our budget go so much further.

Please continue to keep all at St Ursula's in your prayers.

- Sue Higson

Summer Fête and the Book Stall

We originally planned our summer fête for 27 June, but in these times planning is no longer something that we can take for granted. We do not know if we will have the fête on that date, and in fact cannot make a decision until mid-June. So please keep that date free, just in case we have a pop up event of some sort, even if it is just a food and book stall with a barbeque.



We have placed an order from the UK in anticipation, but also knowing that it might not happen. Therefore we have ordered items with long shelf lives and we will also be doing boxes for collection or delivery. You will be able to download an order form from our website in June.

Online Quiz Event to get to know each other better



Our last quiz was a fun event for all who took part. In particular people enjoyed getting together in small groups in the breakout rooms, discussing the questions and getting to know each other. Therefore we are planning another event for church members only, where the questions will be aimed at getting to know each

other better, and the teams will change from round to round.

The event will take place on Zoom, on **Sunday 14 June** in the afternoon to allow families to join in. As it is an online event, you will join from the comfort of your own home, and can join as a family, a couple or a single. It really does not matter.

There is no fee to join, as this is just for fun. To register, please send an email to event@stursula.ch. Include in the email your name and the names of any others in your household joining. To help us plan age appropriate questions, please give ages of any children under 16. The time of the quiz is currently

planned for 15.00, but we can be flexible, so if there is a time that works better for you, please include it in the mail, and we will see if we can change it. The duration of the quiz will be around two hours, but children can come and go as they please.

Who do we mean by church members? Well anyone reading this magazine, even if they do not live in Bern is welcome to join, plus of course anyone who attends our services, either virtual or physical, even if it is infrequent attendance. Questions will be displayed on the screen for the hard of hearing.

- Sue Higson

Eco-Notes

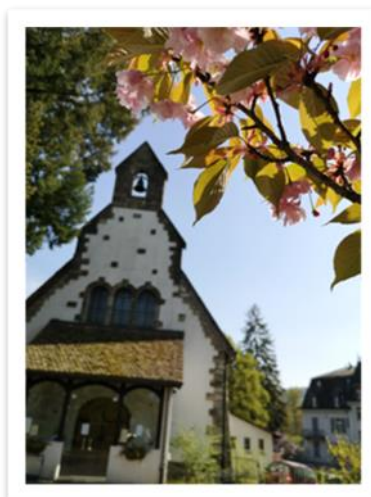


The current situation has made us all look more carefully at our needs and our priorities. We have had to put plans on hold, and some of them may change when we see what “the new normal” entails for us.

One area where we continue to plan is our garden. Plants do not stop growing, butterflies do not stop fluttering, insects do not stop crawling just because we humans are locked down. During the recent dry spell, people have come together for practical tasks – thanks to Agnes for watering during the recent rainless period, and to work on ideas – we hope we can report in more detail in our next issue.

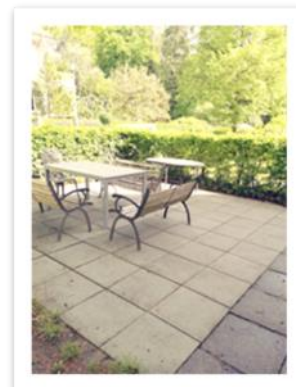
On another theme, the Church of England’s General Synod has taken steps to make churches carbon-neutral by 2030 – fifteen years earlier than originally planned, and has come up with planning tools to help us achieve this. We hope that with our recent energy project we are well-placed to succeed, but again, watch this space. And why not examine your own carbon footprint too?

- Hector Davie



Behind the scenes at St Ursula's during Covid

Thanks to the lovely weather we had in March and April, the opportunity was offered to me to water the garden, which enhanced my days, especially when it was extremely quiet and warm and when people stayed at home. We could hear so many birds singing, which gave another life to the church garden sometimes!



It was really nice seeing the young trees and plants recently planted by Martin and Richard and the team of the Eco Church Garden growing slowly but surely, to see their new leaves created and to water that soil so dry. The magnolia tree bloomed quite quickly and stayed in flower for few weeks, it was a delight! I also enjoyed cutting the grass and cleaning up the stone path at the entrance of the church!

I could see each time the past job done in the garden by Edi, Rolf and Hans and it was much appreciated! Thanks again to Hans who helped me to fix the garden hose and to Martin who kindly let me use his waterpressure machine. The paths look amazing.

Following our first happy Food Corner experience at the spring sale last March, Caroline, Sue and I, published the products we had left over and with a short shelf life in some expats groups on Facebook.

This exceptional lockdown was the opportunity to raise interest in the expat community, and to let them know more about St Ursula's community as well and we got many requests by email in a very short period of time! That was actually a surprise!

Thanks to Caroline and Maria, we could organise orders to be picked up directly at the church and send some by post as well.

The next Food order is now on its way, and we will publish a list on Facebook as well as our website of what you can order.

We should be able to offer you marmalade, English tea, Marmite, mint sauce, Golden Syrup puddings, ginger biscuits, tomato soup, beans, digestives, salad cream, English mustard, mixed spices, Cadbury chocolate, chutney, Walkers crisps and more!

Thanks very much in advance for your support!

- *Agnes Derory*



Save the Date! (Just in case it happens!)

The past months we faced an unusual challenge for our health. Life was paused. Switching to survival mode, most of us had to spend the days isolated, confined in our homes, worrying about ourselves and our loved ones.

In this very difficult time, our chaplain Helen kept us united with her weekly updates encouraging and praying for us. When the whole world was kept apart our congregation managed, with its own unique way, to stay together.

Leaving behind the anxiety and the confinement of these past months, life seems to be getting back to 'normal' again.

In the current context of the Covid-19 pandemic, numerous events worldwide were either postponed or cancelled. Our Summer Fête was supposed to take place on Saturday 27 June and I know we were all looking forward to it. At the time this text is written, we are still waiting for any new regulations and restrictions to be announced but, unfortunately, it doesn't seem likely that it will happen - at least not like in the past years.

For more updates and additional information please stay tuned on St Ursula's website www.stursula.ch and Facebook page. Moreover, Helen with her weekly emails will send you more details closer to the date.

Stay healthy and take care of yourselves!

- Maria Avdikou, Church Office

Services and Readings

June and July 2020

It is not clear as we go to press when services will resume after the Covid-19 crisis, and in what form. We will communicate with you by mail and on the website as soon as anything definite can be planned.

Sunday 7 June - Trinity Sunday

10:00 Sung Eucharist
Isaiah 40:12-17,27-31
2 Corinthians 13:11-13
Matthew 28:16-20

Sunday 14 June - First Sunday after Trinity

08:30 Said Communion*
10:00 Informal Eucharist
Exodus 19:2-8a
Romans 5:1-8
Matthew 9:35 – 10:8

Sunday 21 June - Second Sunday after Trinity

10:00 Sung Eucharist
Jeremiah 20:7-13
Romans 6:1b-11
Matthew 10:24-39

Sunday 28 June - Third Sunday after Trinity

08:30 Said Communion*
10:00 Sung Eucharist
Jeremiah 28:5-9
Romans 6:12-23
Matthew 10:40-42

Sunday 5 July - Fourth Sunday after Trinity

10:00 Sung Eucharist
Zechariah 9:9-12
Romans 7:15-25a
Matthew 11:16-19,25-30

Sunday 12 July - Fifth Sunday after Trinity

08:30 Said Communion*
10:00 Informal Eucharist
Isaiah 55:10-13
Romans 8:1-11
Matthew 13:1-9,18-23

Sunday 19 July - Sixth Sunday after Trinity

10:00 Sung Eucharist
Isaiah 44:6-8
Romans 8:12-25
Matthew 13:24-30,36-43

Sunday 26 July - Seventh Sunday after Trinity

08:30 Said Communion*
10:00 Sung Eucharist
1 Kings 3:5-12
Romans 8:26-39
Matthew 13:31-33,44-52

Sunday 2 August – Eighth Sunday after Trinity

10:00 Sung Eucharist
Isaiah 55:1-5
Romans 9:1-5
Matthew 14:13-21

** - Note: There will be no 08:30 Said Communion service until the Covid-19 restrictions are lifted, and we shall need to limit attendance at the 10:00 service drastically owing to the government's social distancing measures. There will be fuller details on our website.*

For Your Diary June & July 2020

Our Regular Weekly Events are not taking place until further notice

Mondays	08.30	Morning Prayer
	18.00	Evening Prayer
Tuesdays	08.00	Morning Prayer
	18.00	Evening Prayer
Wednesdays	08.30	Morning Prayer
	09.15 - 11.15	Parents and Tots
Thursdays	10.30	Holy Communion & Fellowship
	11.30	Lectio Divina
Fridays	09.30	Patchwork
	18.00 - 18.30	Evening Prayer
Saturdays	09.30 - 11.30	Choir Practice

Other Events (all events are provisional)

Tuesday 2 June	19.00	Council Meeting
Thursday 4 June	18.30	Thun Service
Sunday 7 June		TRINITY SUNDAY
		Treasure Hunt
Friday 12 June	09.00 - 12.30	Book Sorting
Thursday 18 June	18.30	Thun Service
Sunday 21 June		Thank you barbecue for JC teachers
Friday 26 June	09.00 - 12.30	Book Sorting
Saturday 27 June	10.00 - 15.00	Summer Fête
Tuesday 7 July	19.00	Council Meeting TBC
Sunday 12 July		COPY DATE
Thursday 23 July	09.00 - 11.00	Magazine Collating
Friday 24 July	09.00 - 12.30	Book Sorting

Future Dates

Saturday 29 – Sunday 30 August	Family Event & JC Sleepover
Saturday 5 September	Autumn Book and Food Sale
Friday 18 September	Afternoon Tea & Quiz
Sunday 20 September	Talk by Sarah French from A Rocha after the service
Wednesday 21 October	Christmas Cake Baking
Friday 13 November	Pub Quiz
Sunday 15 November	Cecily's Fund Pumpkin Soup Lunch
Friday 27 & Saturday 28 November	Christmas Bazaar



Councils and Synods

Thanks to the internet, running the church is still possible in these locked-down times. The House of Bishops meet regularly by Zoom, and so does St Ursula's Church Council. But some business cannot be done electronically. Our AGM is an example – we need to meet in person.

This means postponing our AGM to a date in October. The reports are available now on our website or from the office, but the elections cannot be held until we meet in person. This also means that our representatives who will vote in this year's big elections for General Synod will be the set we chose back in 2017. As soon as our AGM date is fixed we'll let you know.

- Hector Davie, Council Vice-Chair

Junior Church News

As is probably no surprise we are not able to have Junior Church meetings due to the current restrictions. Hopefully, by the time this is in print or shortly after, we will be able to meet again during the service. However, for now we must wait to see what will be possible and how the situation develops.

In the meantime, we may be able to take the time we can't spend together as a church to share our faith together as a family. Maybe by sharing our favourite Bible stories and reading them to each other, by asking and trying to answer questions we all have about the Sunday readings or by doing crafts or drawing together.

We will try to provide you with materials and ideas that the Junior Church teachers have access to, to help with exploring our faith in a strange and unusual time.

Until we can meet again in person, let us keep each other, families, loved ones, communities and the world in our prayers.

- John Hutchison



Congratulations to our Junior Church children with birthdays in June and July:

Zornitsa Neda Holden 11 on 8 June

Jakob Klingler 3 on 10 June

Charlotte Gertsch 15 on 10 June

Clive Kammermann 5 on 11 June

Fumi Browne 16 on 11 June

Michelle Amporful 15 on 14 June

Coline Crettaz 12 on 14 June

Ariel Hutchison 13 on 18 June

Benjamin McKinley 8 on 24 June

Nayden Holden 8 on 25 June

Rachel Eze 14 on 3 July

Emma Quesnot 14 on 6 July

Emanuel Schmidt 9 on 9 July

Samuel Ondondo 12 on 11 July

Kimberley-Cass Ampadu 7 on 14 July

Cem Roser 5 on 14 July

Jillian Patton 12 on 16 July

Nadja Tomczak 16 on 17 July

Michael Hänggi 15 on 21 July

Louis Carlotto 1 on 27 July

Pentecost

Pentecost is often referred to as the birthday of the Church. We also celebrate the unity which the Spirit brings.

A prayer

Holy Spirit, you are welcome.
Come among us like a wind,
like a fire, like a dove.
Come gently or come boldly.
We are waiting for you.
Fill us with your confidence and
energy,
and make us a blessing to the world.

Amen.

A song

Spirit of the living God,
Fall afresh on me:
Spirit of the living God,
Fall afresh on me.
Break me, melt me,
Mould me, fill me.
Spirit of the living God,
Fall afresh on me.

Bible Story : Acts 2.1-21: The Church welcomes the Holy Spirit.

Activity



Cut out flame shapes from orange, yellow and red paper and write on them the names of different countries. Build up a fire picture using these flames. Or colour in the picture.

Look at the flames that you've made. The Holy Spirit can help all of us, whoever we are and wherever we are from. It can help us do things and give us the courage to speak out.

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Our Junior Church teachers use “Roots” (Worship and learning resources for the whole Church). Currently these materials are free for everyone to use, so I thought I'd share some ideas that you might like to use in your family. You can find lots more on <https://www.rootsontheweb.com/>

- *Tricia Carrick*

Youth Confirmation Class



As I am sure you all know, the confirmation service (originally planned for 7 June) has been postponed indefinitely. The bishop could not come to Berne and with a very full diary, he does not know when he will be able to do so.

The group have agreed to continue to meet, either via Zoom (which we have done three times already) or in the church garden, at least over the summer. We are also discussing ideas for baptising those who have not yet been baptised and for admitting them all to communion before confirmation (as it is very likely that the confirmation itself will not take place this year).

The focus of the last part of the confirmation course is “living as a Christian”. In the past we have been very privileged that several members of our congregation agreed to come and talk to the group about some aspect of their Christian life. This was a special time for both the members of the group and also for those who came to meet the young people.

So I'd like to ask if anyone would like to volunteer to do this (again!): by coming to a meeting via Zoom; by attending a meeting in the church garden or by preparing a video. Don't be afraid of the technology – we can sort that out. I think that it is important to share our stories with these young Christians. If you can help, please get in touch with me, with Helen or with the church office.

-Tricia Carrick

Charity of the Month – Cecily’s Fund

supporting and educating Zambian children who have been orphaned by AIDS

We are incredibly grateful here at Cecily’s Fund for the much appreciated, long standing support of the Charity and Mission team of the St Ursula's church in Berne.



As you well know our children are orphans or they are vulnerable children who have lost one parent but the other parent is too ill to work and that child is in the care of a guardian. These children are least likely to go to school, most likely to drop out, and least likely to succeed in life. They live in desperately poor households which are more concerned with nutrition and sanitation than education.

When we first started in 1997 it was just about paying school fees. We now cover the fees of over 1000 children in Lusaka and Kitwe although we will pay just 50% in

many cases to prevent dependency. But we now understand we need to have interventions in place to help these children succeed by staying on at school.

Our Peer Health Education programme trains 30 young High School graduates each year who were helped by Cecily’s Fund with their education, who will deliver sexual reproductive health information to grades 8 – 12 in schools across Lusaka and Kitwe. We want our vulnerable young children, particularly girls, not to drop out of school, not

experience early sexual debut, not risk STIs or HIV/AIDS and not experience teenage pregnancy and forced marriage. The Peer Health Educators can be very inspiring and regarded as role models to the younger children.

We also work with out-of-school youth, teaching over 300 young people life skills and entrepreneurship through our Sunshine Clubs. Many young people have set up small income generating activities. We also provide more advice about sexual reproductive health.



We now work directly with mothers/ carers/guardians of our vulnerable children encouraging them to set up saving clubs (we call them GROW groups, Grassroots Owning Your Wealth) so that eventually members can take out small low interest loans to set up a small micro business so that they have more income to feed their families and pay school fees. At the end of the day education for these children is their best route out of poverty.



Working with our partners we do have some influence with District Education Boards and there has to come a time when the Zambian Government recognises that education has to be free for both primary and secondary education. Currently only primary school education is technically free if you don't include the cost of travel, uniforms, PTA fees etc. That would be our ultimate goal to have been part of the campaign to extend free education up to Grade 12.

How Cecily's Fund is responding to Covid-19

In the communities where our support takes place, families live side by side with little space or adequate sanitation and healthcare provision. We know from our own experience in the UK that the impact of the Coronavirus in Zambia will have life changing consequences for thousands of families if we don't act soon and help our local partners to share vital health information and provide essential provisions for the poorest and most vulnerable children who are supported by us.

A gift of £15 will buy an essential emergency response 'Food and Health' pack that will last 4-6 weeks and provide a child and his/her family with flour, beans, dried fish, oil, soap and vital health information about how to stay safe and not contract the virus.



Acting now will save lives. Anything you give will help, and you can trust Cecily's Fund that we can get this to the children most in need.

We really hope you can work with us to protect those children most at risk.

Stay safe, stay healthy and THANK YOU

<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/cecily-s-fund>

- Anne Cooper - Senior Fundraiser Cecily's Fund UK

SWISS FRIENDS OF



Please save the dates

You are cordially invited to the

Swiss Friends of Cecily's Fund (SFCF) annual "Pumpkin Soup" –

Sunday, 15 November, 2020

St Ursula's Church, Berne

SFCF traditional "Benefit Concert" – Sunday, 22 November, 2020

Heiliggeist Church, Berne.

These events are free to attend but donations towards the SFCF are certainly welcomed!

Also huge special thanks for all your prayers, thoughts and financial support, to the Children Orphaned by AIDS in Zambia.

Prayer for Children in Need

We pray for children who live without either of their parents: children whose parents have died, children who have been abandoned, children taken away from their parents because of abuse or neglect, and children who have run away from home.

You care for these little ones, God, and not one of them is lost from your sight. Guide, guard and protect these children as they move in with relatives, as they live with foster parents, as they are adopted into new families or as they struggle on the street.

Comfort each one who feels unloved, unwanted and afraid. Give wisdom to people who make decisions about children's lives. Empower those who care for them to be loving and compassionate. Instil in our governments' leaders a passion for protecting the most vulnerable. We pray this in the name of Jesus, who loves the little ones. Amen.

With hearty thanks,

Yvonne Bomonti – Berne Representative Swiss Friends of Cecily's Fund

www.jeanchartonwhite.com

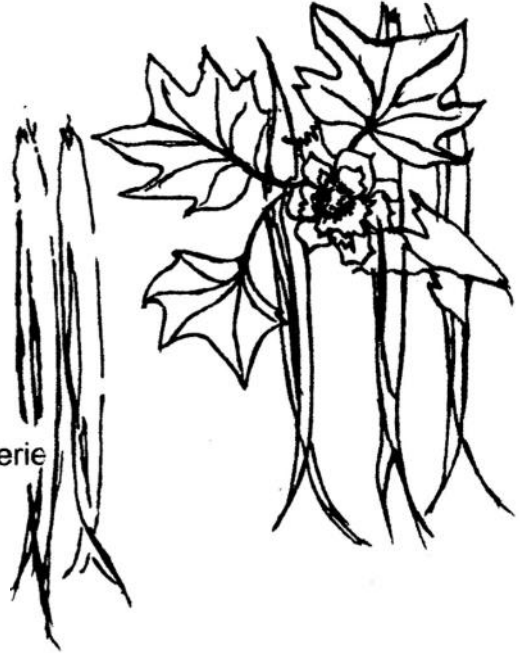
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finissage sunday 28th june

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sonntag 11h-19h



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We are looking forward to meeting you

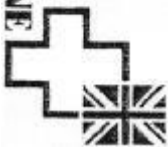
Mittelstrasse 55, 3012 Bern | Open every Thursday & Friday from 8pm | www.englishclub.ch

Why not join the International Club of Berne ?

The club was formed in 1991 as a non-political, non-religious organization open to all men, women and their families, interested in meeting for social and cultural activities. Our aim is to facilitate a better understanding of - and integration into - Switzerland, through a variety of services, programmes and joint explorations of this country and its people. We welcome members from all over the world, and currently count 140 members (including families) from some 30 nations. Our common language is English, but among our members many other languages can be heard. We hold a monthly meeting with guest speakers and presentations on a wide range of topics, and publish a monthly Newsletter. In 2016 the club celebrated its 25th anniversary with several special events. We are waiting to welcome you !

Nazanin Kupferschmid, President
Tel. 078 905 5743, email nkschmid@gmx.net
International Club of Berne, 3000 Berne, [www: icberne.ch](http://www.icberne.ch)
Annual membership: CHF 50 for singles, CHF 60 for families.

SWISS-BRITISH
SOCIETY BERNE



The Swiss British Society, Berne organises a number of cultural events including visits to exhibitions, concerts, a Christmas dinner, Burns supper and musical evenings. We also invite guest speakers to address our members on a range of literary, musical or political topics. Usually our events have a social element - we try to combine dinner or lunch together with our lectures and outings, or at least a chat and a cup of tea! New members are always welcome. Our website (and circular) is hosted by the Federation of Anglo Swiss clubs at www.angloswissclubs.ch

Contact: President: Chris Warren

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This hymn fits well the present time. The first Sunday in June this year is Trinity Sunday, when the Church stops reflecting on particular themes in Christ's life and starts what we now call 'Ordinary Time', reflecting on the God who is Three and yet One. It is a strong affirmation of faith. Yet it is taken from a long poem, *The Dream of Gerontius*, the tale of an old man facing death and being received into heaven.

Is it really a hymn? It was not written as a hymn, but in fact it is full of prayer and praise, and not only in its last verse! Not all of it is joy and praise though. The poem includes an additional verse, repeated at the beginning, in the middle and at the end, but it is in Latin: "*Sanctus fortis, sanctus Deus, / de profundis oro te, / Miserere, Judex meus, / Parce mihi, Domine.*" ('Strong and holy God, I pray to you from the depths; have mercy, my Judge; spare me, O Lord.'). and the last verse but one reflects on the pain, fear and sadness of death in a way that strikes a chord with us these days in locked-down Switzerland.

The Dream of Gerontius was written by John Henry Newman in 1865. Newman was the son of a rich London banker, and had a brilliant academic career at Oxford. He was ordained in 1824, when he was 23, and four years later became vicar of St Mary's, the university church. He became convinced that the British government was abandoning Christian principles, and with a group of like-minded clergy, set about reforming and restoring the Church of England to its former status.

This, the so-called Oxford Movement, had unexpected consequences. It started with a strong pastoral message, trying to bring society closer to God. But it was too antiquarian, too ritualistic, too far from modern life for many. Moreover, it had no effect on the British government. Newman left in frustration, and in 1845 joined the Roman Catholic church.

Parts of the hymn come across as rather dry, like responses from a catechism – the sort of stuff that goes with an academic sermon for Trinity Sunday. In fact, though, the hymn is rooted in the Cross. It is about Christ, just as the Trinity only makes real sense in relation to the Incarnation.

It is Christ who took our human nature upon him. It is Christ who suffered the pain of crucifixion, and it is in Christ that we bury our own unruly thoughts and deeds. Christ is our light, our life and our strength. Our lives are bound up with Christ's, and that is where our joys are to be found, not in this world.

For Gerontius, loving Christ meant loving the people he had called to serve him – Christ's body. For us the fourth verse of the hymn is perhaps too strong a reminder of the institutional church in the nineteenth century, a church that taught a set of rules rather than teaching the Good News of God's loving forgiveness. But for Newman, Christ's holy people were just as much part of God's presence in the world as Jesus' life and death in Palestine.

The hymn has been set to several tunes – old (Boyce's 'Holton Holgate'), stately (Vaughan Williams' 'Shipston'), and even catchy (Appleford's 'Alton'). But it should be sung with confidence, and – as the last verse implies – adoration!

- Hector Davie

Sanctus fortis

Firmly I believe and truly
God is Three, and God is One;
and I next acknowledge duly
manhood taken by the Son.

And I trust and hope most fully
in that Manhood crucified;
and each thought and deed unruly
do to death, as he has died.

Simply to his grace and wholly
light and life and strength belong,
and I love supremely, solely,
him the holy, him the strong.

And I hold in veneration,
for the love of him alone,
holy Church as his creation,
and her teachings are his own.

And I take with joy whatever
Now besets me, pain or fear,
And with a strong will I sever
All the ties which bind me here.

Adoration aye be given,
with and through the angelic host,
to the God of earth and heaven,
Father, Son and Holy Ghost.

John Henry Newman (1801 - 1890)

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