

THE CHURCH OF ST URSULA BERNE



April - May 2021

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

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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 June - July 2021 magazine is

16 May 2021

Please send copy to magazine@stursula.ch

COLLATING DATE: Thursday 27 May 2021

From the Chaplain

Dear Friends,

I have sometimes heard people say (usually in jest!): ‘Oh, I thought vicars only worked on Sundays!’ Hopefully you know that is not true! In the same way, our Christian lives are not just about what we do on Sundays. In our worship on Sundays we meet together as the gathered church to be fed by word and sacrament and to encourage one another. (This has of course been more difficult in Covid times.) But at the end of the service we are then sent out to live out our faith in our daily lives. At the end of every Eucharist, we say: ‘Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. In the name of Christ, Amen.’

Our faith needs to be an **Everyday Faith** affecting the whole of our lives, including our work, our family life, and our involvement in the community around us. These issues are highlighted in a recent Church of England project. The project, originally called Setting God’s People Free, but renamed Everyday Faith by many churches, stresses two things:

1. We all need to be equipped to live out our faith in our daily lives, and share our faith in word and deed with those beyond the church.
2. Lay people and clergy should work together in the ministry of the church; each person with their different gifts has a part to play.

Of course these ideas are not new, but it is good to be reminded of them. We have been trying to raise these issues of Everyday Faith in different ways at St Ursula’s in recent times.

In relation to the first point above, we have encouraged people to talk more about their faith and their daily life. Just before the church was closed again at the beginning of November, we began inviting someone to share something briefly about their faith, daily life and work during the Sunday service and then said a prayer for them. We hope to start this up again after Easter. We have also had several interviews in the Men’s Group, and in the Thun group online worship, when individuals have talked about how their Christian faith affects their daily life and work. These have been very encouraging occasions as we have shared together and learned from each other.

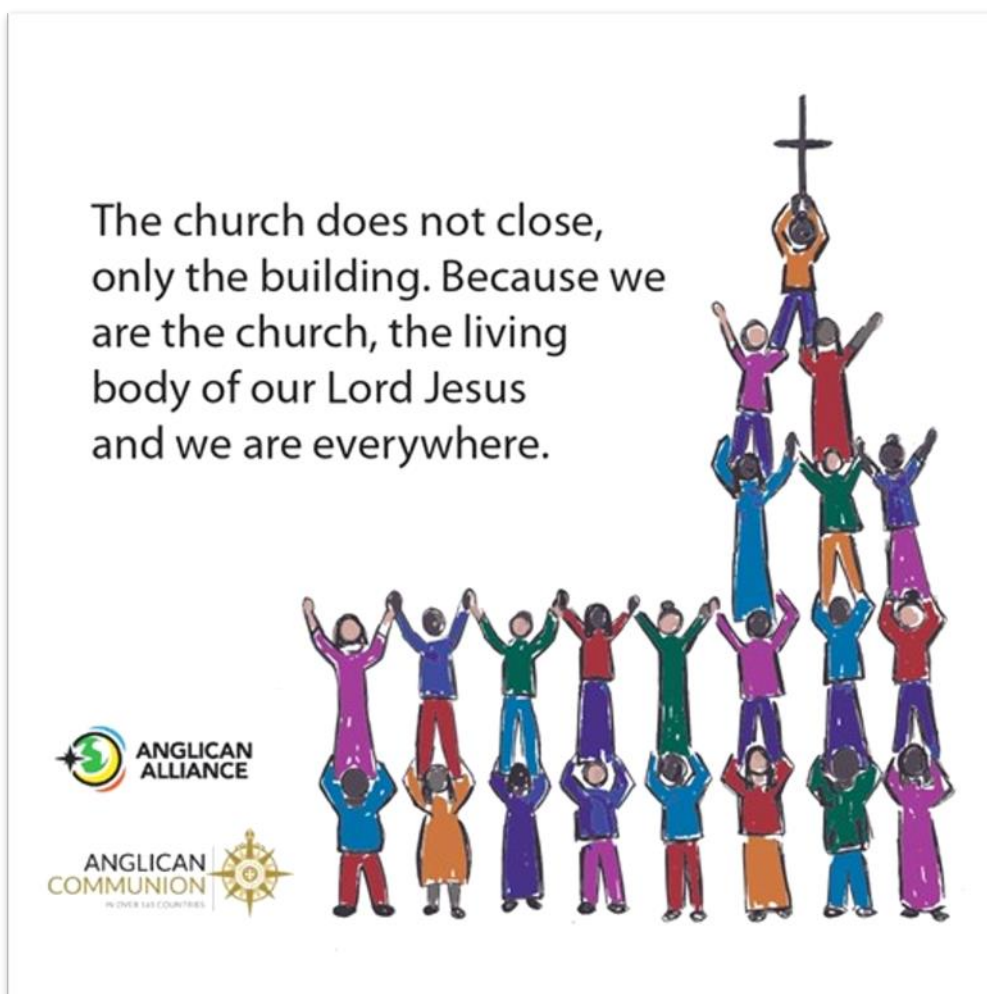
One particularly striking example was when a group shared one sentence testimonies after a Bible study. We did this again with the Thun group and some very interesting things were shared. The point of this exercise was to help us articulate to ourselves what following Jesus

means to us, to share that with one another, and to build confidence in sharing that with our friends and neighbours when appropriate. You can read more about these testimonies later in the magazine.

There are more things that we are planning to do to help us relate our faith to our daily lives. We are considering ways in which we can bring our daily life and work with us into our worship, including bringing symbolic objects from our daily lives and incorporating them into our liturgy. We will hope to do this once a month after Easter.

We are also hoping to include in the Sunday intercessions prayers for issues that church members (and others) may face in their work situations and daily lives. If you have something you would like prayer for, or something you would like to give thanks for, please do let me know so that I can pass that on to the person preparing the intercessions.

Also related to Everyday Faith, the council is looking at the Five Marks of Mission and how we can seek to fulfill these more effectively as individuals and as a church. These five marks (defined by the Anglican Communion here: <https://www.anglicancommunion.org/mission/marks-of-mission.aspx>) include: *telling* the gospel, *teaching* new (and mature)



believers, *tending* people in their need and showing God's care to the vulnerable, *transforming* unjust structures and campaigning against injustice, and *treasuring* the creation and caring for the environment. We are hoping to involve small teams from the council and the congregation to look at these different areas of mission and how we can live out our faith more faithfully in all these areas.

In relation to the second point above, we try at St Ursula's to use the many gifts of the congregation in the ministry of the church. I am very grateful that so many people are involved in the life and mission of the church in different ways; reading and leading intercessions, showing pastoral care, teaching the children and young people, prayerfully organising our money and giving to charity, arranging events that build up our own fellowship and also connect us to the wider community, caring for our buildings and our church grounds and much more. Many new gifts have been needed in these Covid times and I am very thankful for those with IT skills who have enabled our worship and study activities to continue and develop in these strange times. We all need one another within the church. So let us seek to build one another up and encourage one another. Everyone has a part to play.

It is important to remember with all these things that everything comes first from God and his grace. Our faith is in God. It is God's mission not ours. So the most important thing in seeking to live out our faith in our daily lives is first to pray and read God's Word regularly both as individuals and together.

May we all receive God's grace deeply into our hearts and seek to follow Christ faithfully in every area of our lives.

'Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. In the name of Christ. Amen.'

With love in Christ,

Helen

Like Unto It



Photo by Joe Flood, Flickr

Every Lent, just after the beginning of our services, we hear our Lord's summary of the Law: *'The first commandment is this: "Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God is the only Lord. You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength." The second is this: "Love your neighbour as yourself." There is no other commandment greater than these. On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.'* (Pedants will note that the quotations in this summary did not originate from our Lord himself – they are from the Old Testament (Deuteronomy 6:4-5 and Leviticus 19:18 if you want to check.))

If you look at older translations, using the Bible that King James commissioned after he came to the throne at the start of the 1600s, you will find in the middle *"The second is like unto it, namely this"* – an extra thought that Jesus added. It is not just: firstly, love God; secondly, love your neighbour. It is that loving your neighbour is connected in some way with loving God.

If we know our Bibles, we may remember the first letter of John, which says, for example, at the end of chapter 4: 'Those who say, "I love God," and hate their brothers or sisters, are liars; for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.' We'll remember that we love because God first loved us, and we'll remember, as Helen reminded us on Mothering Sunday, that this love was deep and came at a price.

The Old Testament uses the word "neighbour". John uses "brother" – which is a unisex term in Greek – and this reminds us that we are not simply people who live next to each other. We are a family – God's family. Each of us, rich and powerful, poor and smelly, old and wise, young and mentally handicapped, weak and demented, from no matter how alien or unfamiliar a culture, we all belong together. We can all know God's love for us and respond to it.

The theme of love runs through the New Testament. Paul reminds the Galatians that they should 'through love become slaves to one another. For the whole law is summed up in a single commandment, "You shall love your neighbour as yourself."' (5:14). He tells the Romans: 'Love is the fulfilling of the law' (13:10).

But what is love? Not just a warm feeling – or even an intense and urgent one. When John in his letter says that we love "because God first loved us", he goes further and says that God did something practical – sent God's son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins (1 John 4:10). If the love we have is "the fulfilling of the law", then we too need to do something practical – we need to serve each other, to walk with them along their way, the Way. And Jesus, Love in human flesh, who is the Way, will show us the way.

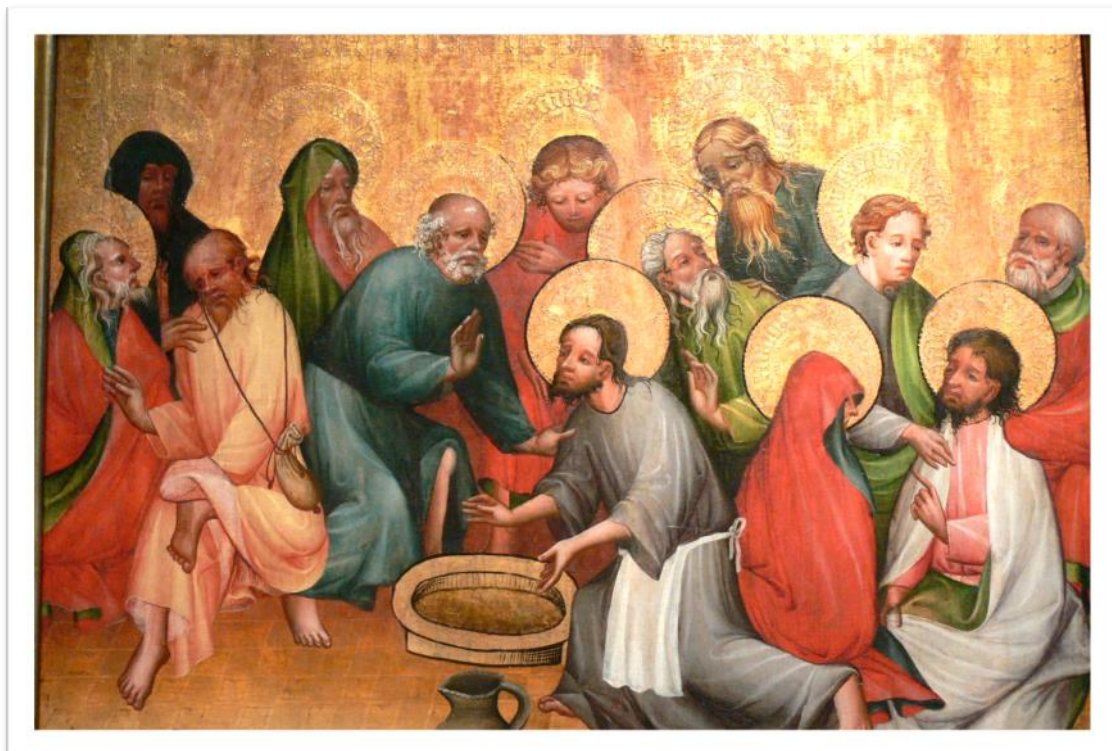
- *Hector Davie*

A Word for the Month – Maundy

A number of people have asked me what “the Royal Maundy” is, and in self-defence I am writing an answer here. The simple answer is difficult to write without defining jargon in terms of yet more jargon – but here goes!

Christians have always come together to worship and to remember Jesus. In particular, they meet on Sundays, the first day of the week, to share in prayer, in praise and thanksgiving, and often in breaking bread “in remembrance of him”. To mark the seasons of the year, ordinary people gave their own names to particular Sundays (or weekdays) – or borrowed the name from some saint the church might commemorate on that day. So in the middle ages, for example, contracts might end at Michaelmas (29 September), or Candlemas (2 February), or Lady Day (25 March), on one of the so-called Quarter Days.

The church had its own special days too. On the Thursday in Holy Week – the night before Jesus was crucified – churches remembered his Last Supper with his disciples. They recalled how, in John’s Gospel, during supper, Jesus washed the disciples’ feet, and gave them “a new commandment”, to love one another “just as I have loved you.” Churches re-enacted this foot-washing, during which a choir might sing



Jesus washing the feet of apostles - altarpainting (1400 / 1420) from Mainz. German National Museum (Nuremburg). Wolfgang Sauber

John 13:14 – in Latin: *Mandatum novum do vobis*. So people called the day Mandate Thursday – or Maundy Thursday.

Kings were also expected to follow Christ's model, and we know that from the twelfth century they took part in services where they made gifts to the poor and washed their subjects' feet. We hear how in 1213 King John visited Rochester and made gifts of thirteen pence to each of thirteen poor men – a number that symbolized those present at the last supper. Important noblemen made gifts too.

Over the next hundred years or so, the custom became more formal. The gifts were always made on Maundy Thursday, always during a service, usually in the Chapel Royal in Westminster. The number of beneficiaries and the number of pence given was the number of years of the monarch's life. For practical reasons, gifts of clothes and food were converted into a money payment. James VII of Scotland and II of England in 1685 was the last king to wash feet – though the Queen still has a bunch of flowers carried in front of her as a reminder of how smelly that could be! Between 1698 and 1932, the monarch did not attend the service, but had the Lord High Almoner preside (an almoner is someone in charge of distributing alms – the current Lord High Almoner is the Bishop of Worcester.)

In recent years, the Royal Maundy service has been held in cathedrals around England, in Westminster Abbey or in the Chapel Royal in Windsor. The number of recipients has doubled – an equal number of men and women, and they are no longer chosen because they are poor, but because of their service to the church – each diocese takes turns to nominate people. This year the pandemic has led to the cancellation of the ceremonial service, but despite its medieval origins, it still has a meaning for today – a reminder that true power shows itself in serving others.



Queen Elizabeth II and Prince Philip at Wakefield Cathedral for the Maundy money Ceremony, 2005.

- *Hector Davie*



Save the Date

I am excited to announce our upcoming Summer Fête, where we all come together for a day of fun, games and delicious food.

This past year was hard for everyone and it is going to be a long road to recovery and normality.

At the time this text is written, outdoor events involving only up to 15 people are permitted. We are still waiting for any new regulations and restrictions to be announced and, depending on the epidemiological situation, we can hope that we will be able to welcome you in June.

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.

Say healthy and take care of yourselves!

- *Maria Avdikou, Church Office*

The background photo used for our Summer Fête flyer and the respective article was created by www.freepik.com

Short Testimonies

A few weeks ago, we had a Bible study on the encounter between Jesus and the Samaritan woman in the fourth chapter of John's gospel. During the conversation, Jesus reveals that he knows all about the woman's life and he then reveals to her that he is the Messiah. Afterwards, she excitedly shares her experience with her neighbours, saying 'Come and see a man who told me everything I have ever done. He couldn't be the Messiah, could he?' Her very short, personal testimony stirs much interest and curiosity and many of her neighbours come to Jesus to find out more which eventually leads them to faith in Jesus themselves.

As a response to this Bible study, some people took up the challenge of writing their own one sentence testimony as to what faith in Jesus Christ meant for them. Later, we did this exercise again with the Thun group.

Below are some of the resulting testimonies:

Christ is the one who allows me to fail and stays with me to the end.

Jesus is the truth I always try to run away from but can't.

Jesus is the powerful personal experience in prayer.

With Jesus I know there is never a dead end, but always a new start.

Jesus equips me to be the person I should be and maximizes the potential in me.

Jesus' call is deeply personal, yet he calls me out of myself to live his life with others.

Jesus gives me the inner peace which helps me through the good times and the bad.

Jesus inspires me to want to be a better person everyday.

Jesus leads me into 'gracespace' where I find security and freedom in God.

Knowing Jesus means I am not alone even in my darkest hour.

Jesus is always with me when I need him, but certainly I need him more than I think I do.

Come and meet the man who has led me gently like a shepherd.

In Jesus, I see myself as I am and as I can be.

Knowing Jesus, I want to follow him and strive to be like him.

God's love surrounds me; I am held in the three, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

It was a great encouragement to share these testimonies with one another. Hopefully such testimonies can also be a gentle way to begin to share our faith with others beyond the church.

As it says in 1 Peter 3. 15-16: 'Be ready at all times to answer anyone who asks you to explain the hope you have in you, but do it with gentleness and respect.'

What would *your* one sentence testimony be?

- Helen Marshall

A Note from the Treasurer

I just wanted to give a big thank you here to all who supported our needs last year. We managed to close 2020 with a small plus in both the Church and the Association. This is because we received an unexpected legacy, and

because our drop in collections income was covered by your generous extra giving, plus we managed to still run events online. All three factors played a vital role in ensuring we had enough funds in 2020.

We felt so blessed that council made the decision to give some of the extra income to Tear Fund who normally would have received the Junior Church collection funds as well as the harvest collection and auction proceeds. We covered the shortfall so that their projects would not be impacted, and we also gave a small amount to the Diocese Hardship Fund to help out those chaplaincies not as fortunate as us. We are also able to transfer Fr20,000 to the building fund again from the results in the Association for 2020 and a small amount into our general reserves.

The accounts will be available on the website to download as well as in the hall, and for those who come to the AGM I will be able to give more information about the year.

The year 2021 has started with COVID-19 continuing to affect all our lives, but at least, at the time of writing, some of us can return to church and we have the successful spring sale behind us. I am convinced that the Lord will continue to provide via your generosity also this year.

Best wishes,
Sue Higson, Treasurer



Eco-Notes



This month's advice to the wise lover of God's creation is to do nothing. In particular, if you are a gardener, do not rake away your dead leaves to make the beds tidy for spring's new growth – you will disturb the insects which are still hibernating and which need the sun's warmth to gain strength. If you are a shopper, wait a while – the fruit and vegetables on sale at present have come long distances to reach the shelves, and some have been produced by under-paid labourers working in poor conditions. If you are planning a post-lockdown trip to Tenerife, then think twice before filling the sky between here and there with burnt kerosene and distorting the local economy with your presence.

Lie back and reflect on the damage we are all causing with our unhealthy hunger for plastics – especially the ones we use once and then throw away. Do we ever think where they go to? Do we imagine they get taken to a rubbish dump and get buried for ever? (The euphemism for that is landfill – was the land ever empty?) If you have the time and the resources, look at the eco-pages on our website – there is a wonderful series of seminars via Zoom between 17 and 27 April, with high-profile leaders of ecological initiatives in the church worldwide. Don't miss them! <https://www.stursula.ch/Eco/3OnlineWorkshopsChurchClimateConferenceTemp.pdf>

- *Hector Davie*

Garden Idea of the Month

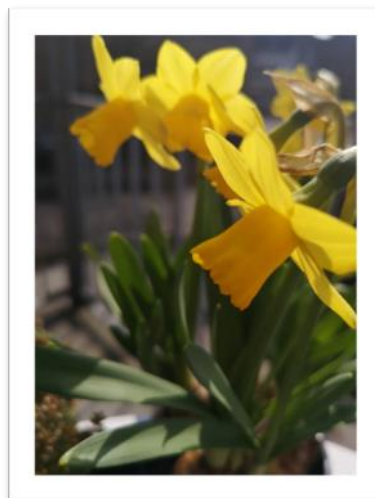
Many of us buy potted spring flowering bulbs, daffodils, tête-à-tête, etc and when they are over, we throw them out.

As an Eco Church, we would be happy to collect them, as the bulbs can be planted and they will flower for years to come.

If you have any at home this spring, just put them on the vestry steps and we will plant them in the church garden.

Thank you.

- *Agnes Derory*



The Church Garden – a city oasis of calm

A small team started weeding and cutting back last year's growth during the sunny days of early March, to the sound of birdsong and in the company of a not so shy local squirrel. The crocus and snowdrops added the first spring colour throughout the garden and even the daffodils were growing well in the sunshine.

A garden is always a work in progress, and we are very aware that we are following in the footsteps of countless others who have toiled in the garden over the years. Thank you to them all, and particularly to Edi, Hans, Art, Beat and Chloé.



The current Gardening Team have a small action list for spring 2021.

1. We would like to dig and replant the flower bed on the right towards the church hall entrance, at the moment much overgrown with grass.
2. The pathways and patio will be cleaned with the high pressure hose (Agnes has offered to do this again).
3. The new wooden high boxes should be placed in their final position, filled with earth and planted with easy fruits and vegetables (perhaps a project for Junior Church?)

4. Two water butts will be installed to conserve rainwater from the church roof for garden use.

5. We would like to look after the rejuvenated flower beds. Any plant donations gratefully accepted!

On either side of the unused main church garden entrance are three small elderly trees. We feel that they may need to be removed and perhaps replaced.

Does anyone know their history or have suggestions? If so, please let us know.

We are planning gardening Saturdays on 24 April, 15 May and 19 June and welcome anyone who would like to join us for any length of time on those dates. Please let us know and we will include you on our WhatsApp Group.

- Agnes, Alison and Sue



Services and Readings April and May 2021

Sunday 28 March - Palm Sunday

10:00 Eucharist

Mark 11:1-11

Isaiah 50:4-9a

Philippians 2:5-11

Mark 15:1-39

Thursday 1 April - Maundy Thursday

18:30 Eucharist

Exodus 12:1-14

1 Corinthians 11:23-26

John 13:1-17, 31b-35

Gospel of the Watch: Matthew 26:30-75

Friday 2 April - Good Friday

10:30 Family Service (online)

14:00 Liturgy of the Last Hour

Isaiah 52:13 - 53:12

Psalms 22

Hebrews 4:14-16; 5:7-9

John 18:1 - 19:42

Sunday 4 April - Easter Sunday

08:30 and 10:30 Proclamation of the Resurrection

and First Eucharist of Easter

Acts 10:34-43

1 Corinthians 15:1-11

Mark 16:1-8

Sunday 11 April - Second Sunday of Easter (Low Sunday)

10:00 Eucharist

Acts 4:32-35

1 John 1:1 - 2:2

John 20:19-31

Sunday 18 April - Third Sunday of Easter

10:00 Eucharist

Acts 3:12-19

1 John 3:1-7

Luke 24:36b-48

Sunday 25 April - Fourth Sunday of Easter

10:00 Eucharist

Acts 4:5-12

1 John 3:16-24

John 10:11-18

Sunday 2 May - Fifth Sunday of Easter

10:00 Eucharist

Genesis 22:1-18

Acts 8:26-40

John 15:1-8

Sunday 9 May - Sixth Sunday of Easter

10:00 Eucharist

Acts 10:44-48

1 John 5:1-6

John 15:9-17

Thursday 13 May - Ascension Day

10:00 Eucharist

Daniel 7:9-14

Acts 1:1-11

Luke 24:44-53



Sunday 16 May - Seventh Sunday of Easter

10:00 Eucharist
Ezekiel 36:24-28
Acts 1:15-17, 21-26
John 17:6-19

Sunday 23 May – Pentecost (Whit Sunday)

10:00 Eucharist
Acts 2:1-21
Romans 8:22-27
John 15:26-27, 16:4b-15

Sunday 30 May - Trinity Sunday

10:00 Eucharist
Isaiah 6:1-8
Romans 8:12-17
John 3:1-17

Sunday 6 June – First Sunday after Trinity

10:00 Eucharist
Genesis 3:8.15
2 Corinthians 4:13 – 5:1
Mark 3:20-35

Electoral Roll Revision

Each year our Electoral Roll is revised just before the Annual General Meeting (AGM) – you will find more information about the AGM elsewhere in this magazine.

At the AGM we elect representatives to the church council and also the churchwardens.

In order to vote at these elections, you must be on the Electoral Roll. You must also be on the Electoral Roll if you would like to stand for election yourself or nominate someone else. The current list of members of the Electoral Roll is displayed in the church hall. However, if you are not able to go to the church hall and want to know whether your name is on the list, you can email or phone me and I will check.

If you are not already on the Electoral Roll, may I encourage you to consider joining – it costs nothing and gives you the chance of being more involved in the life of our church. You can find an application form in the church hall and on our website (<https://www.stursula.ch/Forms/ERApp1.pdf>), or you can contact the church office or me to get one sent to you. Please fill in this form and return it to me. The closing date for the receipt of applications is Monday 5 April.

If you have questions about the Electoral Roll or are unsure whether to join please speak to me or to a member of council.

- *Electoral Roll Officer (Tricia Carrick)*

For Your Diary April and May 2021

**Our Regular Weekly Events are NOT taking place
IN CHURCH until further notice.
(Many of them continue on Zoom.)**



Other Events

Thursday 1 April	MAUNDY THURSDAY
Friday 2 April	GOOD FRIDAY
Sunday 4 April	EASTER DAY
Monday 5 April	Closing date for electoral roll applications
Tuesday 13 April	Church Council meeting
Sunday 18 April	AGM yearly reports available
Sunday 25 April	St Ursula's AGM
Tuesday 4 May	Church Council
Thursday 13 May	ASCENSION DAY
Sunday 23 May	PENTECOST
Sunday 30 May	TRINITY SUNDAY

Future Dates

Saturday 5 June	Summer Fête
Saturday 4 September	Autumn Sale
Sunday 3 October	Pledge Sunday & Harvest Festival

AGM Agenda

To: All Members of St Ursula's, Bern

11 March, 2021

Annual General Meeting

Dear friends,

You are invited to the Annual General Meeting (AGM) of St Ursula's Church, Bern, which will be held at **11.30** on **Sunday 25 April 2021** in the church.

The **Agenda** for the meeting is as follows:

1. Welcome and Apologies for Absence
2. Reception and Approval of the Electoral Roll
3. Approval of the Minutes of the last AGM held on 13 September 2020
4. Approval of the Audited Accounts for the year 2020
 - a. Treasurer's Report
 - b. Auditors' Report
5. Presentation of the Budget for the year 2021
6. Election of
 - a. Two churchwardens
 - b. Six council members

There will be a short break while the votes are counted.

7. Appointment of Auditors
8. Chaplain's Report
9. Any Other Business

A list for nominations for the elections will be available in the church hall from **4 April**. Names should only be entered after obtaining the consent of the candidate. The proposer and seconder should sign their names (and also print their names, just in case the signature is unclear). All those standing for election or proposing or seconding someone for election **must** be members of the electoral roll.

Please make nominations on or before Sunday 18 April, so that those voting have time for prayerful consideration before the AGM.

Note that to be able to vote at this meeting you must be on the electoral roll.

Annual reports of the various groups and activities in St Ursula's will be available from Sunday 18 April from the church office on request.

Yours sincerely,
on behalf of the Church Council,

Johannes Hewel
Council Secretary

Junior Church News

Unfortunately, we are still not able to meet at church. However, we have held short family services via Zoom once a month. At the last one there were 8 families present. The next one is planned for Good Friday and we hope that more families will be able to join us.

We are also working on a “virtual” service for Easter (like we did for the Nativity Service) – many families have signed up for this project and several have already prepared their material. I hope you will appreciate it, even if you don’t have young children – it is meant for all.

In addition, there are many resources on the web. The Junior Church teachers use “Roots” (<https://www.rootsontheweb.com/>) which are currently available to all. If you have questions about how to access these, please contact me or another Junior Church teacher.

Please continue to pray for the children, their families and the teachers during this strange time.

- *Tricia Carrick*



Happy Birthday

Congratulations to our Junior Church children with birthdays in April and May:

Rebecca Shergold 15 on 11 April

Lily Janssen 13 on 15 April

Miriam Patton 11 on 6 May

Esabe Alexande Ngho 4 on 26 May



Youth Confirmation Class



The Youth Confirmation Class met a number of times at the start of this year via Zoom. But we found it rather unsatisfactory, so have temporarily stopped. Hopefully to be resumed after Easter.

The good news is that Helen plans to baptise two members, Delali and Joana, together with their younger brother, Edem, on Easter Sunday. So that will be a special occasion.

Please keep on praying for these five young people.

-Tricia Carrick

Jam Jars!



I've almost run out of jam jars especially the "Bonne Maman"-type ones that I use for jams and marmalade. So, a special plea for lots of jam jars so that we don't have a shortage of marmalade and jams at this year's sales.

The jars should be no bigger than 450g size, have all their labels removed, be totally clean inside and out and have their lids with them.

If you have any to spare, please leave them either outside the hall door or in the church kitchen.

Thank you!

- Jana Kutesko

Spring Sale 6 March 2021



This Spring Sale was once again a **real team adventure** and in a very positive way.

Since the last Christmas Bazaar, we've been trying to think of ways to make life easier for Caroline who last time round had spent every evening of November stock counting to ensure that the Excel stock forms were up to date.

For this project, we were blessed to get **good news** on several fronts.

First, the Council accepted the creation of a new website dedicated to our future online events including the food stall, the restaurant section, the jams & marmalades section, Helen and David's books, the postcards of the church plus the patchwork section. Brilliant!

Graeme from Aare Webdesign, put together a **dedicated website** for us and from then on the spring sale adventure could start successfully.

Our second bit of good news was that the food order we processed with the usual wholesaler in the UK took only **six days to be delivered to St Ursula's** instead of the six weeks it took in November.

Then, another great boost was receiving enthusiastic support from a **tremendous baking team!**

To name only a few, Lynn prepared over **150 fresh hot cross buns**, Georgina more than **200 fresh crumpets**, Jana **65 fresh pies and approximately 70 jams & marmalades**, Jane **12 cakes** and we got orders for over **125 scones** baked by Tricia, Cecily and Alison. To complete the baking delights, Sue and Caroline prepared **flapjacks and**

cookies. The patchwork team provided us with their beautiful masks and some cushions, socks and quilts. We also had a guest appearance from Poorna with her lovely home made products.

On Thursday, three days before the Spring Sale, a small team prepared the **89 orders** ready to be picked up on the Saturday between 10.00 and 15.30. What a pleasure it was to see it all working smoothly.

In addition, we were able to open the book sale section before, during and after the sale day thanks to the book team being so flexible.

We received great feedback on the fresh Sunday roasted lunch cooked by Lynn and Brian and we could hear only great joy in the discussions between customers and helpers.

A great team of volunteers made the Spring Sale possible and a **big thank you to all of them** (Lynn, Jackie, Maria, Jana, Agnes, Caroline, Sue, Emily, Jane, Georgina, Allison, Yvonne and Tricia).

So, thank you very much again for your support. We have been more than happy to fulfil your wishes again this time!

The **turnover** of the event was nearly **Fr5,000** which is actually more than a regular book sale.

In case you would like to help us at future events with baking, packing, delivering or cooking, we are happy to **welcome new people** to our team. Do not be shy 😊, contact us!

Our website is now closed until the next event and we will be happy to use it again as long as pre-ordering is the safest option for running our fundraising events.

Just a reminder, our recipes section remains open - <https://www.sale-stursula.ch/category/recipes/>.

The next event, the **Summer Fête is planned for 5 June!** We hope to welcome you face to face in our garden and with our online interface in case of pre-ordering!

- *Agnes Derory*



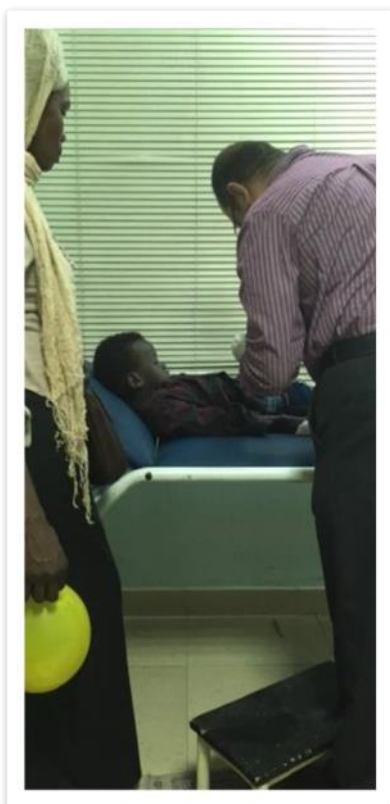
Charity of the Month



Refuge Egypt
خدمة اللاجئين

Refuge Egypt serves refugees living in Egypt who have fled their original country of nationality due to war or disaster, and who have well-founded fears of returning due to persecution or loss of rights. Egypt hosts 256,000 registered asylum-seekers and refugees from 56 different countries. Most come from nearby countries such as Sudan, Ethiopia, Eritrea and Yemen.

They write: “We seek to provide humanitarian assistance, spiritual guidance and encouragement to help build self-sufficiency and self-respect in preparation for repatriation, resettlement or integration into Egyptian society. Our mission is to seek to show God’s compassion, respect and value all people, communicate clearly and openly and work with commitment and integrity.”



A recent activity of Refuge Egypt was emergency winter relief for newcomer refugees who were provided with needed household items and warm clothes.

Also, Refuge Egypt clinics have created a new psychosocial department. There is a great need for culturally sensitive mental health care for refugees. One-on-one counselling and group therapy sessions will be available, especially for people living with HIV, TB, war trauma and complicated pregnancies.

Other important areas that Refuge Egypt is involved in with their refugees are youth outreach, medical services and health education, preschool, learning to become self-sufficient through skills training and adult education services.

One branch of Refuge Egypt is the St Raphael School which aims to assist poor and

vulnerable Sudanese refugee children. Often when families arrive in Cairo they are unable to enrol their children in school because they lack the proper documentation or the children have only had intermittent schooling. Additionally, they are afraid their children will be bullied. The St Raphael School is KG to Grade 8 and the school's goal is to prepare the children to enter



secondary school and perhaps attend university later. The school additionally provides meals and transport and seeks to ensure that the students attend regularly and are safe and secure within its walls.

Refuge Egypt accepts volunteers to help in their programs, although they ask that those people be fully self-supporting. Donations are also welcome. It is a non-profit organization.

Please pray for their important work; for the necessary workers and funds and the success of all their programs.

- Donna Goepfert



Photos from Refuge Egypt website (refuge-egypt.org)

Donations to Passentenhilfe



A big thanks to all who have donated items for the Passentenhilfe in Berne. These were delivered to them in February.

Ursula Kaeufeler, from the Home would like to thank everyone again for taking the time to think of the people who need this kind of care to survive in these special times.

The Passentenhilfe does a wonderful job helping people in need here!

She looks forward to visiting us again in the coming months and hopes that our congregation is doing well.

Items of dried or canned foods can be donated at our church at any time.

- Agnes Derory



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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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MAGAZINE EDITOR

Querida Long 079 816 86 55

MUSIC

Organist

Hans-Karl Pfyffer 026 492 03 26

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chandler.ashleigh@gmail.com

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Hector Davie 031 971 27 71

On the back cover is one of our best-known Easter hymns. We have no idea who wrote it. Whoever wrote it, wrote it in Latin, some time in the fourteenth century. They must have been a monk, because monks had the time and the education to write poems in Latin; they must have lived in Bohemia, because the area around there is famous for its music, and we know of several composers from around there who set the song to music. The song was a popular one to sing at Easter, and before long was translated into German (“Erstanden ist der heilig Christ”), though the German settings from four hundred years ago, when chorales were coming into fashion, are not as cheerful as the Latin ones! And certainly not as cheerful as the setting in our own hymn-books!

Several hundred years later, someone translated the song into English, and added it to a collection of hymns, the *Lyra Davidica*, published in 1708. It was not a very inspiring translation (for example: “Haste ye females from your fright, / Take to Galilee your flight,”), but the Latin original was not marvellous either. The version we now sing in church, and the version in nearly every other hymn-book, was written over forty years afterwards, and only the first verse has any similarity to the Bohemian original. The theme is the same, though – our joy at the redeeming work of Christ his triumph over death and his kingship in Heaven.

A distinctive feature of the hymn is the Alleluia repeated after every line – a Latin version of the Hebrew *Hallelujah* – Praise God, or Praise the Lord: a refrain used in many of the Psalms in the Bible. This makes it very appropriate to sing to express the joy of Easter.

Nowadays we sing it to the same tune that was used in 1708. Nobody knows who wrote the setting – musicians call it *Easter Hymn*. (Only one other tune fits the words – *Llanfair*, named after that Welsh village with a very long name – we use *Llanfair* for an Ascension Day hymn.) Charles Wesley found the *Easter Hymn* tune so attractive that he wrote a new hymn, *Christ the Lord is risen today*, with very much the same idea behind it. We can use it too, to express our own joy at Eastertide.

- *Hector Davie*

Surrexit Christus hodie

¹ Jesus Christ is risen today, Alleluia.
our triumphant holy day, Alleluia.
who did once, upon the cross, Alleluia.
suffer to redeem our loss. Alleluia.

² Hymns of praise then let us sing, Alleluia.
unto Christ, our heavenly King, Alleluia.
who endured the cross and grave, Alleluia.
sinners to redeem and save. Alleluia.

³ But the pains that he endured, Alleluia.
our salvation have procured; Alleluia.
now above the sky he's King, Alleluia.
where the angels ever sing. Alleluia.

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