

ICS News and Prayer Update

March 2018



Dates for prayer/information

- 2 *Women's World Day of Prayer* at **St. Marc's, Grenoble** with Val Golton Chair of the organising committee; also at **HT Corfu** with Catholics and Evangelicals participating.
- 2-4 **Trinity Church Lyon**: For the Conference of Protestant Churches held in Lyon; for the smooth running, safe travel and fruitful discussions.
- 10 **HT Utrecht & All Saints Amersfoort**: A Baptism and Confirmation Service with Bishop Norman Banks. **St. Paul's, Tervuren**: WHOLE LIFE WORSHIP weekend led by Sam and Sara Hargreaves, as we encourage and build on music and ministry in worship. Memorial Service for **the Revd David Gerrish** (former Chaplain in Aquitaine) at 11:30 am at St. Ann's Church, Weymouth.
- 11 Jackie Dallos, Reader from Lefkada, is preaching at **HT Corfu** today.
- 12 **Poitou Charentes**: Ministry Team Lent Retreat.
- 16 Members of **St. Paul's, Tervuren** Men's Group are having a weekend away in Megève.
- 18 **Zwolle Anglican Church** hosts the Dutch church music choir 'Anthem' as they lead a special English Evensong. Asking for prayers for preparations, for the Evensong itself that it would be a blessed and encouraging time. For many guests to be drawn in as well as raising the profile of the Anglican Church in Zwolle. May this also be the beginning of a good working relationship with 'Anthem'.
Today's Annual Meetings All Saints, Amersfoort: For those considering standing for election to our leadership team and to be representatives on the Utrecht Chaplaincy Council. **HT Brussels**: We give thanks for those who have served faithfully and pray for those who continue or take up new responsibilities. **Christ Church Brittany**: For the appointment of churchwardens and church council members—that the Lord's will may be pre-eminent.
- 24 For Jen and Nathan Gregory and team as they lead **St. Paul's, Tervuren** monthly Messy Church. A social event at **St. Marc's, Grenoble**: 'Food and Dances of the World'. At **St. Michael's, Paris** this Lent we are sensing a call to go deeper in prayer, please pray for today's 24-hour Day of Prayer.
- 29 *Maudy Thursday* Pray that today's *Agape* at **St. Paul's, Tervuren** draws us closer to our Lord in preparation for these three days of journeying with Jesus towards the glory that is Easter.
St. Marc's, Grenoble: Evening meal together with Communion.
- 30 *Good Friday* **St. Marc's, Grenoble**: Evening Devotional Tenebrae Service.

St. Mark's Versailles is looking for a Chaplain. The advert is here: <http://ics-uk.org/work-with-us/chaplaincy-vacancies/> closing date for applications is 19 March, interview in Versailles on 17 April.

ICS Family News

On 1 February, **the Revd Brian Bradley** died peacefully in Exeter hospital at the age of 86. If sport was a great love, Christ was a greater one and he was ever-ready to give his testimony in season and out of season. After a London curacy and marriage to his beloved Rosemary he worked with the Missions to Seamen in Teesside and Sri Lanka. His ministry with ICS began in 1974 as Chaplain of Christ Church, Amsterdam. From there he became Chaplain in Lyon and Grenoble. After a spell as Team Vicar in Stoke-on-Trent he became Chaplain in Sharjah. He will be very much missed by his family. His funeral has taken place. *His brief autobiography 'A Modern-Day Jonah' can be purchased on Amazon.*

On 7 February, **the Revd David Gerrish** died after a short illness at the age of 78. The ICS chaplaincy of Aquitaine became all the richer in spiritual terms when David was appointed Chaplain from 1996-2000. David and his wife Maureen, arrived taking up the daunting challenge of ministering to six churches over an area the size of Wales and spreading the Good News. Leading different congregations with varied needs was more than daunting and a source of great prayer. David kept in contact with ICS upon his return to England where he continued working and preaching. He suffered greatly from the death of his wife Maureen in 2003 followed by that of son Mark in 2006. Life brightened again thanks to his marriage

a few years ago to his beloved Rosie. We give praise to the Lord for David's example, his friendship and for his life. Asking for God's comfort on Rosie, son Simon and granddaughter Emily in the days to come. (Full article with photos is on the ICS website www.ics-uk.org)

Guy Crumpler is the CEMES intern at the Bruges/Ostend/Knokke/Kortrijk chaplaincy. He writes: 'While in Bruges I have learned a lot in a short amount of time: the hard work that goes on behind the scene preparing for each service and being involved in the ministries of the church. A major event for me was being confirmed with the other candidates in Ostend last October. A lovely ceremony, my parents came over to celebrate the occasion.'



Please Pray/Give Thanks

St. Mary's, Rotterdam: For a continued blessed and holy Lent, especially our weekly prayer service, study and sermon series, and the World Day of Prayer. We are trying some new formats for worship services in Holy Week, and pray that they would be challenging and inspiring as we head into Easter.

St. James, Voorschoten: Please pray for those taking part in our small groups following the Church of England #LiveLent course, and for individuals using the accompanying daily study materials.

St. John and St. Philip, The Hague: We pray for all those following the #LiveLent readings and studies. For home groups, for our sermons and for our individual study and reflection. For preparations being made for the interregnum here that begins at the end of April; for our services during Holy Week.

EU Institutions Brussels: Please pray for the various events in and around Lent, Holy Week and Easter. Pray particularly for the outreach events like 'Theology on Tap' and 'the Passion' on Good Friday.

Freiburg Anglican Church: For our upcoming AGM, especially for those planning the meeting, those who God is calling into leadership positions and a thankful spirit for those who have decided to step down.

HT Corfu: We give thanks for the encouragement of our regular summer holiday visitors, especially for Ron Rerry and the Redlynch Players coming to perform a 'Passion Play' as gospel outreach (31). We will start a monthly Ecumenical Prayer meeting in English at 9am on a Friday morning.

St. George's, Barcelona: We are coming to the end of another Alpha course—attended mainly by young adults. Pray for its effect in peoples' lives.

Aquitaine: For the Alpha course and numerous study and fellowship groups meeting this month, seeking to grow closer to Christ through the Lenten journey.

Christ Church, Brittany: Continued prayer for our new Chaplain Robin Adams and his wife Donna as they settle into their leadership roles.

HT, Maisons Laffitte: As we spend time in personal and group reflection during Lent, ask God to give us a fresh sense of His will, an outpouring of His Holy Spirit and to rekindle our love for His Son, Jesus Christ.

St. Michael's, Paris: Congregations are digesting the recent news that we face significant financial challenges in relation to our building. Pray for good relations with our co-owners and conversations with ICS regarding our position in the heart of Paris. Pray too for God's provision for our finances.

All Saints Cathedral, Cairo: For the refugees who suffer from the traumas of war, displacement, insecurity and deprivation and for those from other religious backgrounds who have many pressures to deny their faith. Pray for strength to stand steadfastly and that they will have great peace and comfort.

Falkland Islands: For those preparing for Confirmation; for the seafarers heading off for the Ilex Squid fishing over the coming months; for the Falkland Island Community School.

Bush Church Aid: Thank God for the appointments as Field Staff of Revd Jamie and Mrs Claire Bester to a church planting ministry in the Southern Beaches area of Tasmania and for the appointment of Mr George and Mrs Carmel Ferguson, with George as Aboriginal Ministry Trainee in rural New South Wales.

Pray for ICS Seasonal Mission at: **St. Bernard's, Wengen:** The Revd John and Mary Gulland (27 Feb-27 Mar) and The Revd David and Yvonne Wilson (27 Mar-10 Apr).

St. Peter's, Zermatt: The Revd Nigel and Sarah Knights-Johnson (27 Feb-13 Mar), The Revd Stuart and Monica Penny (13-27 Mar) and Dr Fiona and Jens Schneider (27 Mar-10 Apr).

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