

Ste Natters Matters issue 105. 15th December 2017.



15th December 17.00 Carol Service

with Revd. Deacon Charlotte Sullivan.



No services in January and February. The Next service is Prayer & Praise on 18th March 2018.

2018 Alpha starts on Tuesdays 18.00 at the Wilton's.



Dates to be confirmed

Isaiah 61: 1- 3. The Spirit of the Sovereign LORD is on me because the LORD has anointed me to preach good news to the poor. He has sent me to bind up the broken-hearted, to proclaim freedom for the captives and release from darkness for the prisoners, to proclaim the year of the LORD's favour and the day of vengeance of our God, to comfort all who mourn and provide for those who grieve in Zion – to bestow on them a crown of beauty instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning and a garment of praise instead of a spirit of despair. They will be called oaks of righteousness, a planting of the LORD for the display of his splendour.

19th November Prayer & Praise lead by Dave Wilton.

1 Thes 5:1-11'... for God did not appoint us to suffer wrath but to receive salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ. He died for us so that, whether we are awake or asleep, we may live together with him. Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing.' Jesus was rejected so we can be accepted, he died so we can live, he became sin so we can be made righteous. We have eternal life when we believe in Jesus and the Father who sent him.

We can encourage one another by: Praying for each other, privately, in small groups, one to one, to take an interest in the things in our lives that need a supernatural solution; by using our natural and supernatural gifts and to let others use theirs; by listening to God, giving him the time to answer us, respecting that relationship is a two way thing; by taking time to meet together in worship and fellowship because we need each other; by keeping in touch with each other. We can build each other up with our thoughts, words or actions, spur one another to love and good deeds. Then the love to God will leak out from church to the world and be a blessing. The love of God flows through us.



After the service, we went to the restaurant at Rouffillac for a delicious lunch in the upper room! We managed to hold a committee meeting between courses! Well done to Andrew for making sense of the minutes in this novel setting.

Praising God in all circumstances is the key to a victorious life. Praise him through symptoms, grief, despair, poverty, relationships, lack and plenty. He's worth it!

3rd December Communion led by Rev. Liz Morris.

The Rev Liz Morris started off by wishing us a Happy New Year. That seemed somewhat premature as it was only December 3rd so we all looked blank, until she kindly took pity on us and explained that Advent is the beginning of the church year. Ah, the penny dropped! It certainly felt later in the winter season as the church building was already biting cold and mulled communion wine might have been welcome, though not Biblical!



The theme was Keep Alert, not the joke about Britain Needs Lerts, but the simple reminder from Jesus that we need to be vigilant as even he does not know when the end time will arrive and we will be called to account. Are you ready for that day?

In the meantime we need to strive to achieve a balance between rushing around busily doing good and actually being good! Liz illustrated this with a poem called "Wake Up" by All Lewin.

26th November Vide Grenier.

This was very successful thanks to Jeff, Bonnie, Andrew & Rebecca who set up and manned the stall. A huge amount of 408€ will be split between A New Dawn Nepal and Resto de Coeur. Thank you to everyone who donated goods and bought little treasures!



We would probably not pay much attention or pay a huge price for a bit of rock with sparkle. However, after it has been cut and polished - a diamond is of great value. So it is with us, the world may not pay us much attention, we may not stand out from the crowd but God adds value to us, by dying for us and transforming us by his spirit so we reflect his glory.

When we have God's perspective and our eyes on Jesus, God can use our trials in this dark world for good. Read the story of Joseph for example. He was in a bad place but was lifted up for the benefit of many and the glory of God.

A diamond is displayed on a black cloth to accentuate its brightness.

We shine brightly, giving a dark world hope in Christ.

Carol Service Tomorrow 17.00. Wrap up warm and join us to sing of his humble birth. He gave up his deity and became one of us so we could be heirs with him. He made a way where there seemed to be no way, to reconcile us to God. Halleluiah!



Please pray about who you may invite. I think it was Charlotte at the Women's Retreat who said that 'Jesus asks us to come along side people, to know their longings, to pray into their situations, to gain trust and to point them to their Father'.

Pray and ask God who he wants you to invite. Listen, don't dismiss anyone because only God knows their heart. Then underpin this person with prayer. God can speak into their lives and they may well say 'Yes' when you invite them. Offer to give them a lift if you can.

If you are thinking of attending don't wait to be asked, just let someone on the committee know.

It is essential to keep the Alpha course in our prayers, before the course starts, during the 11 meetings and afterwards. For protection, transformed lives and that it will bear much fruit that will last. Please pray for the leaders, guests, hosts and catering.

Isaiah 61:10-11. I delight greatly in the LORD; my soul rejoices in my God. For he has clothed me with garments of salvation and arrayed me in a robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom adorns his head like a priest and a bride adorns herself with her jewels. For as the soil makes the young plant come up and a garden causes seeds to grow, so the Sovereign LORD will make righteousness and praise spring up before all nations.

We are chosen by God.



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Web site: www.churchinaquitaine.org Chaplaincy news and information, including a page for our centre and access to the Chaplaincy monthly magazine 'Spreading the Word'.

Facebook: www.facebook.com/English-Anglican-Church-Chaplaincy-of-Aquitaine-1313733978650837/?hc_ref=SEARCH&fref=nf

Also a fb page for 'Ste Nathalie – Chaplaincy of Aquitaine'.

THE LORD IS CLOSE TO THE BROKEN HEARTED AND SAVES THOSE WHO ARE CRUSHED IN SPIRIT. PSALM 34:18.