

ICS News and Prayer Update

April 2019



Dates for prayer/information

- 3 St. Paul's, Tervuren** First Wednesday—our monthly prayer gathering.
- 6 Holy Trinity, Cannes** 'Christianity Explored' study day.
- 7 Holy Trinity Corfu, St. Michael's Paris and Holy Trinity Cannes** all hold their AGMs, please pray for the right balance of old and new on our Councils and that as we look to the future, may our excitement and enthusiasm increase our desire to witness and serve.
Aquitaine fundraising concert at Monteton church, 'From Darkness into Light' by the 'Becket Consort', a group of twelve professional singers affiliated with Norwich and Canterbury Cathedrals.
- 10 Holy Trinity, Cannes** 'Talking Jesus' Lent course concludes this evening. May we all be encouraged to share our faith more boldly.
- 13 St. Clement's, Prague** hold a Messy Church, please pray for the organisers, arrangements and good participation.
- 14 St. Clement's, Prague and Holy Trinity, Brussels** hold their AGMs.
St. Nicolas, Ankara: Please pray for our Confirmation Service and Bishop Robert's visit to us.
- 16 Holy Trinity, Brussels** Chrism Eucharist with Bishop Robert. **Poitou Charentes Chaplaincy** AGM, for God's choice of new wardens and council members.
- 18 St. Paul's, Tervuren:** Please pray for our Maundy Thursday Agape, a meal and communion that lead us into the passion of Christ.
- 18-21** For special Easter Week services in all chaplaincies.
- 19 St. Matthews** Passion at **Holy Trinity, Brussels**.
- 20 St. James, Voorschoten** holds its next Messy Church event this afternoon. In previous years, this Easter one has drawn a big turnout. Pray, especially for non-church families to come along. There is also a Messy Church today at **St. Paul's, Tervuren**, called instead a 'Messy Easter', pray that it would continue to push beyond our normal church attendance boundaries.
- 21 Holy Trinity, Brussels** Easter Service with Bishop Robert presiding.
St. Paul's, Tervuren Sunrise Service at 6am in Tervuren Park and our 'Be our Guest' Service at 10.30am for Easter Day, pray that our congregation members would invite their friends.
Ibiza and Formentera: Our Easter Sunrise Service on the rocks at Es Cana is always a brilliant start to a very special day and it's followed by a warming breakfast!
- 24 At St. Nicolas, Ankara** we will baptise six of our members and we will celebrate the Persian New Year (Norouz) on the same day. Please pray for the protection of our Lord on the candidates and God to guide them in this new season of their life.
- 27-28 HT Corfu:** Greek Orthodox Easter celebrations have gone on all week with thousands of visitors to the island, reaching their height at midnight: The Resurrection! Amidst the crowds and fireworks may the true Joy of Jesus be experienced. Pray for Jules as he joins in the processions and midnight platform with Greek Orthodox Archbishop Nectarios, other priests and dignitaries.
- 29 ICS Chaplains and Families' Conference** starts (until 3 May) in the Old Abbey of Drogen, Belgium.



Last year's conference at High Leigh, UK

ICS Resort Mission: *Wengen* Edward Keene (26 Mar-9 Apr), Roger Scoones (9-23 April) *Zermatt* Mike and Liz Neville (26 Mar-9 Apr), Paul and Katriona Richardson (9-23 April).

Please Pray/Give Thanks

St. John and St. Philip, The Hague: On his birthday (27), we ask God's blessing on King Willem-Alexander and his family. We pray for the city of The Hague and the surrounding towns, and the country of the Netherlands where we live and where we hope to show God's love tangibly to those around us.

St. Clement's, Prague: For our ongoing Lent Bible Study and for good participation in our Passion Week and Easter Services.

Holy Trinity, Corfu: We give thanks for the wonderful time of fellowship and friendships during the ecumenical weekend of World Day of Prayer—thirty-eight women, thirteen nationalities and thirteen various churches (*John 17!*). Pray for Jackie and her ministry on the island of **Lefkada**, may she be refreshed and inspired as she meets with others at the Readers' course on 'Discipleship' at the end of the month. We give thanks for the Alpha course and pray for 'What's Next?'. There is a desperate need to a peaceful solution to the waste disposal of the island.

Christ Church, Brittany: Prayer for the new Church Council elected on 31 March that they may prayerfully seek the Lord's leading in planning the future outreach for Christ Church and the growth in numbers of those attending current church centres.

St. Michael's, Paris: For plans to put in a lift to our downstairs sanctuary, to move forward. We want to provide safe access for people who find stairs difficult. Pray for an increase in giving/funds for our six mission partners, as we've had to cut back contributions. Give thanks for a new sound system that has now been installed. Give thanks that we now have two Sunday morning services, with a traditional liturgical service at 9.00 am and a good team to run it!

St. Marc's, Grenoble: Please pray for locum Bishop Peter Lee and his wife Canon Gill Lee (from South Africa), with us throughout April. We give thanks for the Diocesan Grant to the Ecumenical Centre of St. Marc's for enlargement and refurbishment of the kitchen (which we use frequently) to serve L'Escale, a new drop-in facility for the *quartier*. This will be staffed by all three churches in the Centre, so we're hoping that some of our members will be involved in this outreach.

St. Mark's, Versailles: Pray for the outcome of our 'Real Change' course running through Lent, that we would indeed see God's Word in the power of God's Spirit at work changing us.

St. Nicolas, Ankara:

- Thanking our Lord for providing our ID cards so that we would be able to buy a car. Please pray for the Lord to provide a suitable vehicle too.
- Please continue to pray for our Youth Club. We have received donations towards the cost but this not enough to run the club until the end of the year. Please continue to pray for our Lord's blessing on this project. Our youth really enjoy these sessions and have been a blessing to the church too.
- Some new expat members have been added into our congregation. Please pray for our Lord to guide more new members to come to our church especially from the expat community.

St. Paul's, Valparaiso recently started a daily service of Evensong prayer for visitors to the Cathedral. Pray that many will come to these services.

Bush Church Aid: We give thanks for the wonderful service of Dr Mark Short, the outgoing National Director of the BCAS. Mark and his wife Monica have been faithful servants of the BCA for seven and a half years and will be greatly missed. Pray for them as they move to Canberra, where Mark will take up the role of Bishop of the Canberra and Goulburn Diocese. Pray for the BCA Executive as they recruit a new National Director and as we plan for the BCA's upcoming Centenary Celebrations taking place this May.

ICS Family News

We are sad to announce the death of the Revd Canon Richard Thomson, former Chaplain at Vevey from 1973-1978. The funeral has taken place.

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