



# Association Cultuelle de L'Église Anglicane du Pas-de-Calais CHAPLAINCY NEWSLETTER September 2019

## Raise the song of harvest home!

### *All is safely gathered in, ere the winter storms begin...*

I can still feel the excitement of singing that line, surrounded by Devonian farming families for whom the words captured an enormous practical truth as they prepared to feed their livestock, and themselves, throughout the coming winter.

When we'd all shared in a good harvest, the singing was a celebration of God's provision for us. By contrast, when our harvest festival services coincided with flattened crops still in the fields and potatoes starting to rot in the ground, it was a much harder hymn to sing with any conviction. In such seasons, the phrase 'all is safely gathered in' became more a statement of faith than of experience.



Reflecting on the prospect of our own chaplaincy harvest services in September, I asked Roddy Hutchison from the Hesdin congregation about his best and worst harvest experiences, based on his farming days in Scotland. "The best harvest is one that's finished," he said. "Harvest is never over until everything's safely stored in the barn.

"As for our worst harvests, I'd have to

select 1984 and '86, when many farmers in Scotland had to use two tractors, working together, to pull so-called self-propelled potato harvesters across their fields. Definitely not a great year."

Farmers will always talk about the weather, of course, but when harvest is approaching, they tend to talk about little else. Whether or not it might rain tomorrow concentrates the mind when you have a field of hay which is 90% ready to bale and the dark clouds are beginning to gather.

My father was a devout Christian and always took the view that baling his hay on a Sunday wasn't an option, no matter what the weather might release on us before Monday morning.

As a young man, I often stood with him in our hay fields late on a Saturday afternoon as he kicked the crop around with his foot to see if it was dry enough to bale. When he decided it needed more time, we'd leave the field and not return until Monday 'come what may'.

"And you know," he told me much later in his life, "I never lost a field of hay due to not baling on a Sunday."

## A harvest to celebrate

Adrian farms a small plot of land in Northern Tanzania and recently took part in a training programme run by the UK-based Livingstone Tanzania Trust. The programme was designed to help him learn essential production and business skills, so he could improve his income and better provide for his young family.

Inspired by learning how to produce organic vegetables, Adrian established a small garden, growing produce in former cement bags to reduce water loss. As a result, his family is now eating home-grown vegetables, saving the household budget approximately 15,000 Tanzanian Shillings (Tsh) a week. That's equivalent to about €5.75 which, although it may not seem much to us, is essential cash they can now put towards other family priorities.

The story doesn't end there, however. Boosted by his own success, Adrian and a friend set up a market garden to produce tomatoes, using organic pest control methods to maximise their yields. At their recent first harvest, they generated an income of 1,755,000Tsh (€675). Truly a crop to celebrate!

***All is safely gathered in, ere the winter storms begin. God, our Maker, doth provide for our wants to be supplied; Come to God's own temple, come; Raise the song of harvest home!***



## Forthcoming Sunday services in the Chaplaincy

*Monastère du Carmel, rue du Denacre, Saint-Martin-Boulogne*

**1 Sept. - 15h00 – Lay-led**

**15 Sept. - 10h30 - Eucharist**

**29 Sept. - 11h00 – Harvest Festival with Eucharist (joint service)**

*Oratoire Notre Dame de la Misericorde, rue Gaillard, Calais*

**8 Sept. - 10.30 - Eucharist**

**22 Sept. - 10.30 - Eucharist**

*Salle de l'Arsenal, Rue de l'Arsenal, Hesdin*

**1 Sept. - 10h30 – Lay-led**

**15 Sept. - 17h00 - Eucharist**

### Readings

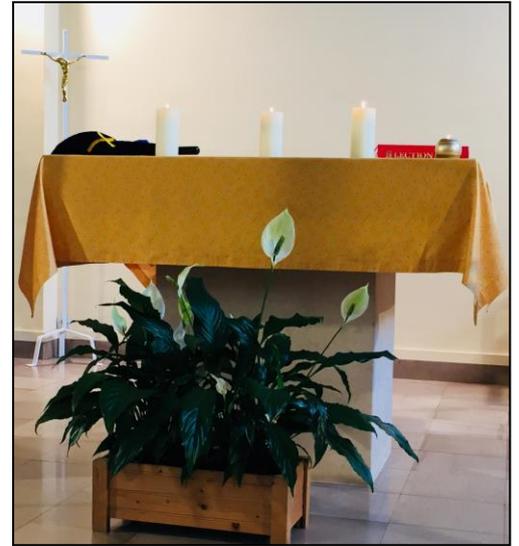
**1 Sept.** - Prov. 25:6-7; Psalm 112; Hebrews 13:1-8; 15-16; Luke 14:1, 7-14

**8 Sept.** - Deut. 30:15-end; Psalm 1; Philemon 1-21; Luke 4: 25-33

**15 Sept.** - Exodus 32: 7-14; Psalm 51: 1-11; 1 Tim. 1: 12-17; Luke 15: 1-10

**22 Sept.** - Amos 8: 4-7; Psalm 113; 1 Tim. 2: 1-7; Luke 16: 1-13

**29 Sept.** – To be announced – see website



### ***Daphne Power (Hesdin congregation) sheds light on a familiar feature in the Boulogne congregation's place of worship.***

On our first visit to the Carmelite Chapel in Boulogne, I was intrigued by the picture of a fresh-faced young woman that hangs on the back of the door beside the altar. I did some research and found it portrayed Saint Thérèse of Lisieux, a French Catholic who became a Carmelite nun at the age of 15 and died in obscurity at the age of 24. Her autobiography, 'Story of a Soul' subsequently became a worldwide best-seller.

Thérèse Martin was the last of nine children born to Louis and Zélie Martin on January 2, 1873, in Alençon, France. Only five of these children lived to adulthood. Zélie Martin died in 1877 and 4-year-old Thérèse and her family moved to Lisieux. Taught by Benedictine nuns, Thérèse was miraculously healed from serious illness during the feast of Pentecost in 1883. A year later she received the Sacrament of Confirmation, fully aware of accepting the gift of the Holy Spirit as a personal participation in the grace of Pentecost.

However, she was considered too young to embrace the contemplative life, until in 1887, she was granted an audience with Pope Leo XIII in Rome who agreed to her request to enter the Carmel at the age of 15. She received the habit the following year and made her religious profession on 8 September 1890 on the Feast of the Birth of the Blessed Virgin Mary. In Carmel she embraced the way of perfection outlined by the Foundress, Saint Thérèse of Jesus, fulfilling with genuine fervour and fidelity the various community responsibilities entrusted to her.

On 03 April 1897, nine years after entering the convent, in the night between Holy Thursday and Good Friday, she suffered a haemoptysis, the first sign of the illness which led to her death from tuberculosis on 30 September 1897.

In 1925, she was canonised by Pope Pius XI who proclaimed her Universal Patron of the Missions, alongside St Francis Xavier, on 14 December 1927. The construction of the Lisieux Basilica in her honour began in 1929.

Her story prompted me to make my own pilgrimage to Lisieux in 2016.



**Contact details for our Chaplain:** Rev Kirrilee Reid, 23 rue Claude Debussy, 62930 Wimereux

☎: 0983428753 or Port: 0766883484 email: kirrilee.reid@gmail.com If anyone needs any form of help or assistance or if you are aware of someone who is ill, either in hospital or at home and would appreciate a visit, or alternatively if you know of anyone who you feel may benefit from prayer, please contact our chaplain.



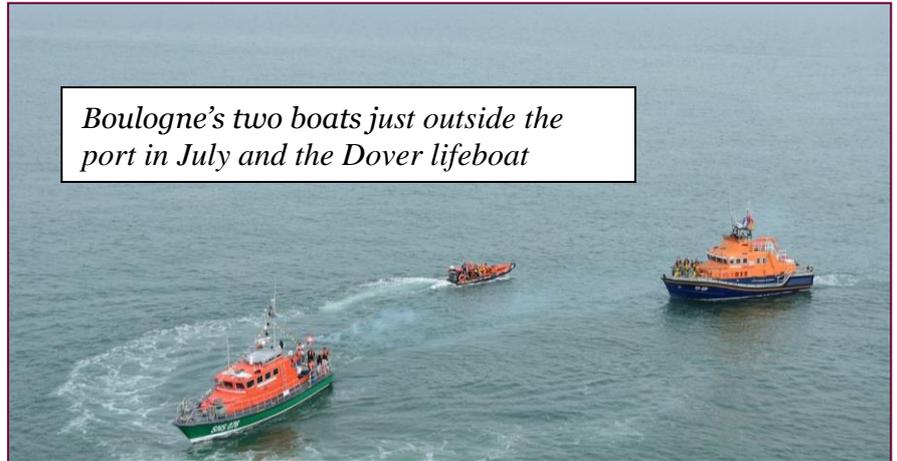
## Charity focus: Boulogne Lifeboat

*The Pas-de-Calais Chaplaincy is supporting three charities this year, through a 1901 'Association Solidarité Anglicane: L'Arche, Maria Skobstova House and the Boulogne Lifeboat.*

*Following a sad loss of life in July, including members of the Boulogne lifeboat crew, we received the following personal report from Gérard Barron MBE, President de la Société Humaine et des Naufrages.*

After the tragic loss of four lives, including three members of the lifeboat crew, off the beach at the Sables d'Olonne, all lifeboat stations around France took part in the national homage decreed by President Macron. Boulogne was no exception, a ceremony having been organised by us at the Calvaire du Marin at 11am on 13th June which attracted a large number of participants including the Sous Préfet, the Mairie, the Pompiers and police and representatives of the military.

The Préfet had already visited us to convey the government's condolences as we had used the lost lifeboat during repairs to our own in 2017.



*Boulogne's two boats just outside the port in July and the Dover lifeboat*



We have had a busy summer so far with a number of shouts being responded to for assistance and tows for yachts, pleasure craft and fishing vessels.

We have saved one fisherman off the Digue Nord but regret that another was lost from the Digue Carnot a few days later.

Our beach lifeguards (locally the SNSM provides lifeguards at Wimereux, Boulogne and Equihen) have also been active saving at least one life in July.

Over the summer, we have already participated in the Fête du Crabe in Audresselles and the Fête de la Mer in Boulogne, and the public have been very generous with donations as a result of heightened awareness of what we do and the risks lifeboatmen take.



## New Congregational Worship Leaders

*Update from Marilyn (Hesdin) - see July/August newsletter*

Shortly after attending the Congregational Worship Leaders' training, given by our chaplain, Rev. Kirrilee Reid, I got the chance to put theory into practice for the first time by organising a service of evening prayer for the Hesdin congregation. In some trepidation, my top priority was prayer for guidance. I chose to use the 'Service of the Word' which Kirrilee used at the training session, adjusting it for an evening service. After a couple of tweaks, I printed off copies for the congregation. A special folder proved invaluable in organising all the paperwork. I added the appropriate Collect, which doesn't appear in the standard service sheet, and printed that off to add to my folder along with my other readings and the service sheet.

Music is such an important part of a worship service and I found a useful guide for choosing hymns at the back of the Hymn Book. Having chosen three, I selected some reflective music to start and finish our service. I made careful note of Hymn numbers and CD details etc to save technical hitches and last-minute flaps.

Time for the congregation to arrive! I remembered to welcome them smile, keep calm and not rush. (All sound Kirrilee advice!) For my talk, I gave some personal reflections on one of the readings and shared a little of my own testimony. I was less nervous than expected, partly due to the support I received from Daphne who played the music and led the intercessions, and Trish who covered other practicalities and did a reading.

Worship leading is definitely a team effort, and the sense of the Holy Spirit leading the service through me, proved rich blessing indeed. MCD



## Make a Joyful Noise to the LORD

*We have three 'resident' Pas-de-Calais organists/pianists: Clare Page, Peter Smith and Vaughan Johnson. In addition, we've also invested in a 'fall-back' set of music CDs to keep us singing when our real live music makers are otherwise engaged.*

The question we asked Clare, Peter and Vaughan was simple enough: So, what's your favourite hymn and why?

**Clare:** 'Be still, for the presence of the Lord'. The first thing which made me like it was the tune, but the words are far more important: they remind us that we should take time to be quiet and remember how great God is, not just through power and glory, but simply with his presence among us. Also, since it is a quiet hymn, it is appropriate to play it as an instrumental to calm the congregation down at the start of the service, even though singing it is even better.

**Peter:** 'How great thou art' which was also my mother's favourite hymn.

Then sings my soul, my Saviour God, to Thee  
How great Thou art, how great Thou art  
Then sings my soul, my Saviour God, to Thee  
How great Thou art, how great Thou art

*(Editor: My personal memory of this hymn is my father singing it at full volume as we stood together as a family looking at the Cuillins, the stunning mountain range on the Isle of Skye in Scotland.)*



**Vaughan:** Choosing one favourite hymn when you love so many, is really hard! However, 'Lord for the Years' has it all, very powerful words and important sentiments: 'souls set ablaze... prayer for our land, commonwealth and nation... when spirits oppressed... or we are lost and comfortless...'

The tune is easily memorable: it starts low with gentle pauses, lifts through a couple of simple key changes, and builds progressively to a manageable, but very satisfying final climax. I first got to know it well when accompanying a small music group in the architecturally and acoustically magnificent chapel at Scargill House.

The worship leader on guitar, and I on grand piano, played and sang it with occasional indulgent part and instrumental variations, as community and guests gathered for the main Communion Service. Singing or playing, since then I have always been moved by its messages and memories.



## New hymn books and CDs

And finally, our new hymn books and CDs have arrived (pictured left), giving us a welcome addition to our range of music options.

*Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth;  
break forth into joyous song and sing praises!*



**Newsletter contributions:** Please send any items of chaplaincy news, meetings or forthcoming events to Jackie Ley on [jackieley@aol.com](mailto:jackieley@aol.com)

*This newsletter, together with contact details for our Church Wardens, is also on our website at: <http://www.anglicanspdc.com>*

