A watercolor illustration of autumn pumpkins and vines. The scene is set against a light, textured background. In the foreground, several pumpkins in shades of orange, yellow, and pink are scattered. A large, light-colored tree trunk is on the left. A small hedgehog is visible near the pumpkins. Green vines with large leaves and small pumpkins are draped across the top and sides of the scene. The text is centered in the upper half of the image.

Trinity Times

Autumn 2023

Holy Trinity Church

Maisons Laffitte

3 euros donation

# Who Does What

<b>Chaplain</b>	Charlotte Sullivan 06 83 08 59 67
<b>Reader</b>	Richard Medcalf
<b>Youth Worker</b>	Joy Van Staalduinen

<b>Church Wardens</b>	Christine Salisbury David Bean
<b>Church Council Secretary</b>	Didier Trufanow
<b>Chaplaincy Assistant</b>	Jenni Gibson

<b>Activity</b>	<b>Contact person</b>
Address List	Jenni Gibson
Book Stall	Sarah Masset
Buildings/ Grounds	Adrian Parr
Charitable Giving	Hesry Marshall
Choir	Rachel Meuriot
Coffee Rota	tinyurl.com/ TeaCoffeeHTCML
Ecumenical Group	Christine Salisbury
Electoral Roll	Elizabeth Bean
Flower Rota	Fiona Dabas
Guiding	Christine Salisbury
Intercessions & Lesson Readers	Elizabeth Bean
Little Fishes	office@htcml.com Coffee morning every Tuesday at 9.30 am for pre-school children.
Organist	Joan Bauman
Planned Giving	Robert Manterfield

<b>Activity</b>	<b>Contact person</b>
Prayer Net	Edith Briard
Safeguarding	Alice Auperin
Scouting	contact@maisons-
Sidesmen	Patrick Gautier-Lynham
Sunday Groups	LJ Desmeulles
Treasurer	Bob Hughes
Trinity English School (TES)	trinityenglishml@gmail.com
Trinity Times	Nancy Huguet
Web Site	office@htcml.com
Youth Group	Joy Van Staalduinen & Johanna Devlin
<b>Bible Study</b>	
For women: Monday evening by Zoom	Jenni Gibson
Tuesday a.m.	Nancy Huguet
Wednesday evening by Zoom	8.00 pm: Bible study 9.15 pm: Compline

# Chaplain's Corner



I hope you had a restful summer and that your holidays were times of joy and respite.

I've always imagined holidays as a time of complete rest and subscribed to the following equation:

Rest + Relaxation = Peace.

At the end of July, I took my summer pilgrimage to my house in the Dordogne, affectionately referred to by my sons and me as “Bleak House” This year, we met with one sole purpose: “to clear the outbuildings and barns of years of accumulated rubbish” in the hope that we can place the property on the market.

So, no, I can't describe it as a restful holiday. We have a pool there, but it wasn't opened this year, as we all understood that lying by the pool was not our objective. Instead, we were all up at the crack of dawn, mainly because the déchèterie opened at 7:30 am!

As the days passed, relentlessly we sorted; “rubbish,” “charity,” or “keep,” slowly but steadily the floor emerged. The heat was relentless and my car became dustier and smellier, but one day it occurred to me that I felt an amazing sense of peace. The sort of peace that transcends all understanding, the kind of peace that makes no sense. It made me ponder the meaning of peace in our lives.

While rest undoubtedly holds its place in giving us peace, we must recognise that peace is not bound to our physical state. It's not a destination reached only when our bodies are at ease, or our surroundings are quiet. True peace has a remarkable ability to flourish amid activity or even chaos!

In the Gospel of John, Jesus speaks of the peace He gives, which is unlike the world's. His peace, He assures us, is not dependent on circumstances. It's a peace that originates in Him and can sustain us even when life is far from restful. This peace is not just a feeling; it's a state of being anchored in the assurance that we are held by a loving Creator who has overcome the world.

Of course, I knew this, but sometimes I need head and heart knowledge!

So, I'm grateful for the lesson I received this summer. I learned that peace can be found on my busiest of days or during the most demanding of challenges that test my endurance.

As we come back together as a church family, as we approach the year's final months, and as our church prepares for Christmas, I pray that we will remember that peace is ours. It's ours to claim and a constant companion that will walk us through all of life's demands.

**Rev. Charlotte Sullivan**

Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you.  
I do not give to you as the world gives.  
Do not let your hearts be troubled  
and do not be afraid.

**John 14:27**



\*\*\*\*\*

*The editorial committee would like to apologise for any typos that might have escaped our attention in this issue. We are very much looking forward to the return of our meticulous proof-reader, Edith!*

## Highlights of Recent Council Meetings

Since the last issue of Trinity Times, the Chaplaincy Council met once via Zoom on 5 June 2023.

*Reminder: all Council meetings have regular updates about spiritual development matters, Eco-Church initiatives, safeguarding and our financial situation.*

Different matters were raised during the meeting in June, including the following:

In its continuing reflection on spiritual development, Council members discussed the organisation of the Youth Group trip to Taizé this year from 29 October to 5 November (<https://www.taize.fr/en>). The trip will be led by Joy Van Staalduinen and Johanna Devlin. It is intended for young people between the ages of 14 and 18, but exceptions can be made. In addition to the Taizé programme, the group will also have its own activities, prayer time, workshops and Bible study. It was also noted that Youth group members from other Paris area churches might be invited to attend the trip to Taizé. It was stressed by the Chaplain and several Council members that a such a trip could be a transformational experience for Youth members.

An update was provided on our Bible study home groups:

- (i) Jenni Gibson has kindly offered to be the facilitator for a Monday evening women's Bible Study via Zoom,
- (ii) occasional group sessions will be held in the home of one of our congregation families and
- (iii) Richard Medcalf (our Licensed Lay Minister) and the Chaplain are currently reflecting on other spiritual development initiatives.

Nigel Bartram (our former Environmental Officer) had provided the Council with an updated analysis of our carbon emissions. It was noted that our CO<sub>2</sub> level had slightly declined in 2022. Following a discussion, Council members agreed to continue making a financial contribution to a reputable and effective carbon offset programme. On a related note - please remember that the position of Environmental Officer in our church is still vacant. If you would like to help our church contribute to protecting God's creation and improving our practices regarding the environment, please speak to the Chaplain or to a Council member. Thank you!

Council members then had a very long and detailed discussion about recent changes in French law regarding religious organisations. Due to these legal changes, Holy Trinity Church is required to revise its existing statutes and organise an Extraordinary General Meeting (EGM) to adopt the proposed changes.

In addition to the different possible changes to our statutes, the Archdeaconry of France (<https://anglicanfrance.fr>) had proposed the creation of a National Union of Anglican churches in France.

Considerable time had been spent (by the Standing Committee):

- (i) examining the Archdeaconry proposals,
- (ii) consulting Actes 6 (our long-time legal experts specialised in Association law in France) and
- (iii) communicating with other Anglican Chaplaincies in France.

Following the discussion, and on legal advice from Actes 6, Council members decided to:

- (i) make small changes to our statutes to comply with French law
- (ii) to join the “Union Nationale” of Anglican churches in France to give the Church better legal and political representation.

It was then agreed to hold the EGM on 18 June.

As you probably know, the revised statutes were presented to Electoral Roll members on this date and were unanimously adopted. Afterwards, the many legally required documents were submitted to the Préfecture.

**Date of next Chaplaincy Council meeting:**

Monday 11 September

***D.T.***

*When we arrive at the end of our lives, what remains?  
Nathalie Tolchard has embarked on an exciting new (but  
demanding) career which involves transmission of the life story  
of those nearing life's end.*

## **“Traces de Vie”**

‘Traces de Vies’, a French dedicated nationwide charity, has been training care biographers since 2021. The course includes safeguarding, deontology, ethics, psychology, writing techniques and a practical work experience with a vulnerable person. A final assessment conducted by health care professionals working in palliative departments completes the training leading to a professional qualification. There are currently less than forty care biographers practising professionally in France.

### **How do care biographers work ?**

They intervene at the request of care teams (doctors, nurses, psychologists, hospitals, nursing homes), when a seriously ill person is in need to transmit their history or express their feelings at a threatening time of their life. Storytellers can be adults, teenagers, or children. For some of them, it might be their first and last opportunity to share their story. A professional care biographer works around potential treatments or fatigue, at home, in hospital or in care homes. He is part of a team.

### **How does a story become a book ?**

Some people might talk more easily than others, but it usually takes up to 10 sessions of one hour to collect someone’s story. Each session is recorded by the biographer who works simultaneously on a computer and then transcribes the recording at home. The text is then read back to the storyteller when they next meet. Once the story is finalised, it is professionally proofread, then sent for printing and binding. The book is not publicly published as it is only given to close family and friends.

### **A sensitive process**

A care biographer is a non-judgmental listener, not an interviewer. However, he/she must ensure the final text doesn’t include slanderous or denigratory content. A professionally trained care biographer can transcribe a story in the storyteller’s own words, while establishing a relation of trust.

A care biography is not a legacy document. It is not just a distraction either, but a message presented in a person’s voice who reflects on his/her life and values when most vulnerable. It is a long and emotional process which cannot be improvised. For palliative care patients, getting involved in a care biography project can help them re-connect with their identity, at a time when their world has been reduced to doctors, medicine, interventions, lack of autonomy and sometimes loss of dignity.

If you want to find out more about Traces de Vies and care biography  
[www.tracesdevies.fr](http://www.tracesdevies.fr)

**N.T.**

*Let's meet Vivian Sockett, the new curate at HTC.*

## Introducing Vivian Sockett

Summer is gone and with it my first two months at Holy Trinity. It's been wonderful to slowly start to get to know everyone, and I can't wait to get to know more people! To give everyone a little head-start on getting to know me, Nancy's helpfully asked some questions which I'll do my best to answer. Anything else you'd like to know, just come see me ☺



### **Where were you born and brought up?**

I was born in Cambridge (Massachusetts) and lived most of my first 12 years in the Boston area, except for a brief stint in Oklahoma where my dad is from. Then my teenage years were spent down in the Annapolis area near Washington D.C. before I moved back to the Boston area for four years of university.

### **What brought you to France?**

When I was in my final year of studies, I realised that even though I could do the Economics and Political Science I'd majored in, I didn't actually want to do it for the rest of my life. So I prayed one of those really risky prayers, 'Lord, there must be something in the world that I can do for you: I'm healthy, educated and unattached. Please show me something interesting and worthwhile.' Well, the way that all worked out is a story in itself, but it did mean I was on a plane in January 1990 heading for France and this has been my home ever since.

### **When/how were you called to the ministry?**

I suppose in some ways I was called when I was about 14, if that doesn't seem too strange to imagine. It was a Christian summer camp and after the evening talk, I went out on to the baseball field by myself and just got lost in the night sky. And as I was pondering the speaker's message, I felt like God was saying to me 'You know this isn't a one-way street: I gave my life for you, will You give your life for me?'

Ministry has taken so many forms since then, but about five years ago people around me began saying, 'You'd make a really good priest, why don't you look into it?' And so I did. It's been a long journey which is yet another story, but a wonderful one and I'm thrilled to be here at Maisons-Laffitte for my curacy.

### **Would you like to tell us a little about your family, interests?**

My husband and I have been married for 32 years, but he isn't able to come to Holy Trinity often because he is churchwarden at St. Mark's Versailles. We have a daughter who is currently at university in the UK, and we just enjoyed being on holiday with her in Devon. I don't feel like I've had much time for hobbies, but I do like anything to do with the seaside and am immensely grateful to have a garden which I hope to tend to slightly better now that I'm doing ministry that doesn't require much travel.



### **What is the part of ministry that you most enjoy?**

I've enjoyed many parts of church ministry over the years and the focus of my work has changed over time as I've been in different life stages and developed different gifts. At this point, I really enjoy coming alongside others in whatever it is that God has put on their hearts to do, and I also find myself gravitating towards teaching, training and strategic planning for many aspects of ministry.

### **What is your favorite book of the Bible/Bible verse?**

There are too many to choose from! Philippians has remained a constant, though, and the small phrase in 3:20 'But our citizenship is in heaven' captured my imagination when I was a teen and continues to ground my identity today.

**V.S.**



*Vivian's ordination in Brussels on 1st July*



## A Tribute to Christine Mary Hart

**15<sup>th</sup> April 1940 – 15<sup>th</sup> June 2023**

Christine and her husband, George, were long-standing members of the congregation of Holy Trinity Church. They decided to leave France several years ago, settling in Rickmansworth near to their daughter, Julia, and her three children. By a happy twist of fate, Christine and George attended services at St Peters Church, Mill End. The vicar of St Peters is none other than the Revd Simon Cutmore who, prior to being ordained, was a youth worker at Holy Trinity. At that time Christine and George lived in a house on rue de la Republique, in the garden of which there was a detached garage which incorporated a studio apartment. A succession of youth workers, including the young Simon Cutmore, occupied this apartment.

Christine died on 15 June and her funeral took place on 12 July at St Peters. A veritable contingent of Holy Trinitarians were there to say farewell to this dear lady. Hesry drove Marguerite and Nancy. Edith should have also been with them, but unfortunately she had been taken ill and was in hospital. When Hesry's party arrived in Rickmansworth David and I were already installed at the Premier Inn having arrived the day beforehand. We had dined there with George and the following day we were joined by Stephen Hopkins who came from his home in Wales. He stayed at George's home but we were all together for a meal at the hotel. The following morning Christine Salisbury arrived at breakfast time, having driven from her daughter's home in Winchester.

The cremation took place at Watford the following morning. In the afternoon we arrived at St Peters for the service at the same time as Revd Trevor Whitfield and his wife, Karen! They had driven down from the Midlands where they now live in retirement. We were warmly welcomed at the Church by Father Simon who we hadn't previously known. He then conducted a very loving service of farewell to Christine. It was indeed a celebration of the beautiful person she was. Understandably the Church was full of family and friends. We heard a number of tributes to Christine, beginning with one by George who described how she and he had met. We then heard from the mutual friend through whom they had first encountered each other. Poems written by David Hawkins and Clare Harmer were read by grandchildren and their mother, Julia, also spoke.

Our dear Edith had prepared her tribute before she was taken ill. In her place David spoke on behalf of Holy Trinity's congregation. He mentioned many of the Church's activities in which Christine had played a significant part. When he set out to list all that she had been involved in, it was astounding to realize just how long the list was. After the service we were offered a delicious high tea of sandwiches and cakes in the Church Hall, the size of which rivals the generous facilities we have available to us here.

After the service George asked to be given copies of all the tributes that had been offered, his intention being to gather them all together in a memory book. We also sent him screenshots of the many tributes to Christine that were written on the WhatsApp Angels page, following the announcement of her passing.

David's tribute was based in part on a letter to Christine that I had been writing in my head for two or three weeks before she died. Unfortunately the words didn't ever get put down on paper but I had had no problem recalling them. I mention this as recently I read a poem (written for National Friendship Day) by Alexander McCall Smith. I hope it won't be breaching copyright laws by having a part of the poem reproduced here. It's a beautiful eulogy to our dear, dear friend, Christine.

Dear friend, since you went away  
I've written twice, failed to post the letter,  
Fearing you might not find the time  
To bother with my thoughts;  
Friendship is something that is hard to paint  
In words, in ink, on something so insubstantial  
As a piece writing paper; an orchestra,  
Complete with chorus, is what friendship deserves,  
But very rarely gets; love requires that too,  
Although I have never quite understood  
The distinction between the two,  
Perhaps I shall on that dreadful day  
When we say a real goodbye,  
And I shall cry buckets, as I know I shall,  
In my ordinary conviction that we always  
Had something particular to say to one another.

Alexander McCall Smith.

My tribute to Christine is in the form of a letter that my wife, Elizabeth, began composing whilst you, Christine, were still with us.

I very much regret that we didn't send it to her but I've kept Elizabeth's words and we've added more and even some of mine.

The letter began.....

Dearest Christine,

David and I are devastated at the news of your illness.

When you visited us in Maisons-Laffitte late last year you were the kind, warm, generous Christine that we have known for so many years. Then, just a very few months later we heard the sad news from George which was so very hard to process.

George asked for us to pray for your recovery which we had no hesitation in doing. We prayed also for him as we realised he was finding it even more difficult than we were to come to terms with what was happening to you.

We began regularly attending services at Holy Trinity Church, Maisons-Laffitte, in 2001 and we quickly learnt just how much you and George were an integral part of the Church.

Both of you had been at Holy Trinity for many years.

Our Chaplain at the time was the late Rev Ben Eaton, a charismatic man who needed firm anchoring. Always in the background, never pushing for recognition, you and George quietly and firmly contained and channelled Ben's energy and enthusiasm.

Holy Trinity Church is an integral part of the lives of many people and your dedication to God and your commitment to fulfilling the many tasks that are needed to ensure that worship is well-organised and meaningful for everyone was amazing and humbling.

Christine, you helped to ensure that our church met the many obligations and expectations involved in creating, maintaining and growing a very diverse, ex-pat congregation.

Just one small example of your quiet modesty was that during an Interregnum you quietly took on responsibility for the care and organisation of the Church's hangings and altar cloths, a task you continued doing for many years.

In addition to providing lodging and other support for a succession of Youth Workers, including a future vicar called Simon Cutmore, you Christine, sang in the Choir, you organised the annual mincemeat and Christmas pudding making, you participated in our Summer and Christmas Fêtes, you helped clean the Church, you were involved with the preparation of our Church magazine, you, Christine, took part in Bible Studies and even the Easter walks and you did much, much more for our church.

I know also that you did a weekly stint helping out in the Library of the International Lycée and that on Tuesday afternoons you led a group of elderly ladies who wished to practise their English.

Just how many more tasks you did I cannot recall but I'm sure there were many!

When you and George left Holy Trinity to return to England you left behind you a large Hart-shaped hole. We all missed you both so very much, especially you Christine, with your warm friendly smile and sparkling eyes.

So ends the letter but I just want to add that personally I miss the regular chats I had with George on the telephone and working with him on various church maintenance jobs – remembering that every time I offered him a lift to the church George just said, “Don't worry, I'll walk” !

Christine, please know that our love and support for him is ongoing and we ask that when you get to Heaven please say hello to the members of our congregation who have preceded you.

They too loved you as much as we do now, and we will always remember you and love you.

David and Elizabeth.





**Tree of Life** installation  
at Sainte-Chapelle,  
Vincennes



*Constance Déhé tells us about her trip to see the head of the Catholic church*

## **My trip to Lisbon to see Pope Francis**

The summer holiday was very interesting this year because I went to the world youth day for Catholic Christians to see the head of the Catholic Church - Pope Francis.

To go to Lisbon we took the coach from a Catholic church in Paris called L'église St Lambert de Vaugirard at 2 rue Gerbert in Paris in the 75015.

It was a very long drive by coach to Lisbon and it took 24 hours to get there.

I had a very nice time in Lisbon because we did lots of fun activities every day at the JMJ club run by l'Arche in Lisbon. In the afternoon we celebrated mass every day during the days in Lisbon. Also every evening we did a vigil of evening prayer with worship songs before going to bed and it was great fun. Also lots of people from the JMJ volunteered to do lots of different readings during mass every day. I volunteered to read a prayer:

*1 - Seigneur, nous te prions pour les personnes malades psychiques. Qu'elles reçoivent de toi force et courage et qu'elles trouvent des lieux pour les accueillir.*

*2 - Seigneur, nous te prions pour les victimes de la guerre en Ukraine. Qu'elles reçoivent la paix du Christ et qu'elles trouvent des chemins de réconciliation.*

*3 - Seigneur, nous te prions pour les pompiers et ceux qui luttent contre les feux de forêt. Que notre respect de la création les encourage.*

*4 - Seigneur, nous te prions pour les jeunes qui vivent au contact de croyants d'une autre religion. Qu'ils aient un esprit de respect mutuel et d'exemplarité .*

*5 – Seigneur, nous te prions pour les minorités chrétiennes et les chrétiens de toute confession. Que notre amour du Christ fasse notre unité et notre joie.*

*6 – Seigneur, nous te prions pour les jeunes que sont ici à Lisbonne. Mène - les sur les chemins de la vérité et afferme leur capacité missionnaire.*

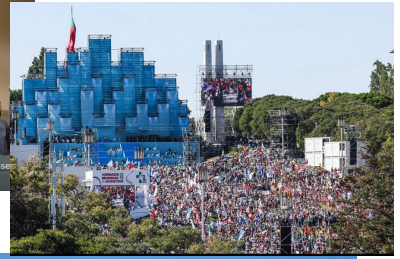
During the arrival of Pope Francis we stayed in a big stadium in Lisbon and we slept outside under the stars and also we listened to what Pope Francis was saying to other people during the church religious ceremony in the big stadium in Lisbon.







Most Holy Sacrament exposed on the Vigil | The Blessed Sacrament exposed at the Vigil



C.D.

*Adrian Parr gives us an update on our church garden as it evolves.*

## What is happening with the church garden?



If you have had the chance to come to church in the evening or early morning, you may have seen some evening primroses in flower. This is one of the newly introduced flowering species, along with a red-flowered oleander, a blue-flowered *Veronica* (or *Hebe*) from York, *Buddlejas* and others. The goal is to embellish the surroundings of the church, to make the best of our fantastic corner plot, and to respond to environmental goals of improving biodiversity and attracting pollinating species.

At first I thought that beautifying the church grounds was a complete luxury while there were still significant unresolved structural issues with the buildings. However, I was persuaded by the very useful John Truscott website ([john-truscott.co.uk](http://john-truscott.co.uk)) that attractive surroundings encourage people to come to a church.

Nonetheless, this means that there is a lot for us to try to do all at once. Covid and other illness have not helped. I would like to publicly thank those who have already been helping with transplanting, watering, pruning, weeding, nest boxes, composting and other activities. Thank you too to those who have offered new plants.

I hope the reader may pardon some personal context. My parents both had a keen interest in, and practical knowledge of, gardening. Indeed, my Dad's father was a Head Gardener at two British country estates, both with pleasure grounds and kitchen gardens. Thus, as he grew up, my Dad (†) saw how gardening was done professionally; among other activities, he worked on the land during part of the war. Much later, he bought a house with a garden. From a very young age, I thus witnessed, on a suburban scale, the cycles of sowing, planting and harvesting; transplanting, pruning, digging, composting, fertilising and so on. My mother is an experienced plant pathologist. Perhaps I didn't have much chance to escape! I have been watching and learning gardening for more than 50 years.

Part of my own studies included the protection of plants from pests, diseases and weeds, which, besides useful practical knowledge, led to many years' work in one of the more esoteric parts of the UK Scientific Civil Service. A divisional relocation to Yorkshire in the 1990s allowed me to acquire my own garden. It needed a lot of reworking and landscaping. Some colleagues launched a workplace Horticultural Society, and there was a fierce annual competition for the best fruits, flowers, vegetables, and so on. After a few years of learning on my own plot, transplanting, layering, pruning and even jam-making became less of a mystery. Eventually I won some prizes. Meanwhile my day job saw increasing

regulation at European Union level; that, plus improving my rusty French “A”-level at evening classes, eventually brought me to France. For a time I worked explicitly on Sustainable Development (SD), a secular extrapolation perhaps of the instruction in Genesis to “take care” of the garden of Eden. The United Nations’ SD goals (<https://sdgs.un.org/fr/goals>) give a framework to current environmental, social and economic objectives. “Think global, act local”, Archbishop Rowan Williams once reminded us.

So, what next for our own corner of Eden? Unfortunately, some of the ground is as desiccated and infertile as the valley of dry bones. After the recent sermon on the parable of the sower, I was able to show my daughter the four different soil types! In the immediate, after four years of talking in Chaplaincy Council about replacing the disparate hedging along avenue Edouard VII, this autumn, with professional help, we will move to action, planting new trees and shrubs. I know that some people have been discomfited by the changing aesthetic. However, the goal is to have something much prettier, reduced leaf- and seed-fall into roof gutters (less maintenance) and a more-effective “screen”. However, this will be dependent on being watered in dry weather!

We have several types of fruiting tree on site: an apple tree, some kind of crab apple, some kind of cherry and (Biblical species) walnuts, olives and a grapevine. I have tried to prune the first three to improve plant hygiene and fruit yield. In 2022 we were rewarded with some 7 kg of crab apples, which I made into juice. It would be helpful if experienced jam-makers could now take over, please!

I believe the walnuts are victim of codling moth: unhappily, we seem to have 100 % yield-loss every year. Can anyone with walnut trees at home help or advise?

The four kindly donated olive trees have been successfully transplanted on to the eminence, to give our own version of the Mount of Olives. I have grown some Mediterranean cypresses from the seed of street trees; these are deliberately planted in proximity to the olives to echo the painting in the church apse.

One of the benefits of confinement in 2020 was to build a sawing-horse (US: sawbuck) from old pallets. The church has also bought a shredder. Logs are now sawn, bagged, and taken off site for fuel; shredded twigs are used as mulch around the bushes (weed suppression, less evaporation). Lawn mowings can be composted. We are also trying to make leaf mould and there is a bird table made from recycled materials. We have now planted shrubs on site with HTCML-produced compost, a virtuous circle.

As well as the square herb garden next to the church hall steps, similar wooden squares in the triangular part of the garden are an Eagle Scout project, introducing more Biblical plants. Given the restrictions in parts of the Yvelines this summer on irrigation of every kind, we urgently need to look at rainwater capture. Any sources of fertiliser (horse manure, used cat litter, wood ash from stoves or barbecues) would also be most welcome.

The new concrete path laid as part of the Access Project may have unwittingly created an “urban heat island” on the wall below the rose window, and our 118-year-old Mutin organ is on the inside. Volunteers to carry buckets of water

up to the organ loft in hot weather are always appreciated. There are objections to hiding the church building behind tall, dense, tree foliage, so a logical solution seems to be to erect a pergola for grapevines to grow over, and to train a fig tree on wires across and up the west wall, to shield the stonework and concrete path from the Sun. My brother-in-law gave us a fig tree last year; having now successfully layered it, the parent tree will soon be growing on site.

Finally, in the next few weeks there will hopefully be a visiting speaker from A Rocha France (<https://france.arocha.org/fr/>), an organisation which seeks to bring a Biblical perspective to climate change and kindred subjects. More information to follow.

Extra assistance with the church grounds (and buildings...) would be really great. It is a learning opportunity for all of us.

[famille.parr@zoho.eu](mailto:famille.parr@zoho.eu)

**A.P.**



# Notices

## Do you enjoy taking photos?

We are looking for a volunteer to take on updating the photo board of HT congregation. Please contact the church office if you are interested.

We are low on adult helpers **for Sunday Groups and Youth Group!**

**Any offers of help would be greatly appreciated.**

Please email the church if you can help even one Sunday per term.

## Please keep your old t-shirts — the more colourful the better!

There is going to be a collection for the local association Les drôles de Zines who transform t-shirts into headscarves for patients undergoing chemotherapy: #MonBonnetRose and #lesdrôlesdezines Contact: nancy78600@gmail.com

**Watch this space!**



Visit the church of Saint-Louis en l'île in Paris with an English –speaking guide: on Saturday 16 or Sunday 17 September at 3.30 pm (Journées du Patrimoine), or on Saturday 18 November at 3pm.

Contact: 01 46 34 11 60 / [secretariat@saintlouisenile.fr](mailto:secretariat@saintlouisenile.fr)



# Dates for your Diary



<b>Sunday 17 September</b>	<b>12.30 pm</b>	<b>Welcome Barbecue</b>
<b>Sunday 1 October</b>	<b>9.15 am &amp; 11 am</b>	<b>Harvest Festival with food bank collection</b>
<b>Followed by</b>		<b>Messy Church</b>
<b>Saturday 7 October</b>	<b>9 am</b>	<b>Men's Breakfast</b>
<b>Saturday 14 October</b>	<b>tbc</b>	<b>Women's Retreat</b>
<b>29 October - 5 November</b>		<b>Youth Group trip to Taizé Calling all 14-17 year olds!</b>
<b>Saturday 25 November</b>	<b>10.30 am</b>	<b>Christmas Fête</b>
<b>Sunday 3 December</b>	<b>11 am</b>	<b>Nativity Service</b>
<b>Saturday 9 December</b>	<b>5.30 pm</b>	<b>Service of Nine Lessons and Carols</b>

**Sunday services are at 9.15 am and 11 am**

**Please keep an eye on our website for events  
and any changes to service times:  
<https://html.com/>**

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*The policy of this magazine is to publish articles of interest provided they are neither illegal nor immoral. The content of the magazine does not necessarily reflect the opinion of the editorial committee.*



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