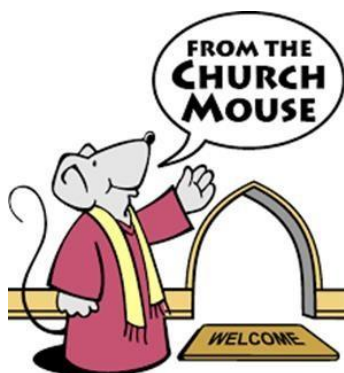




SERVICES AROUND THE CHAPLAINCY October/November 2025



EDITION October/ November 2025

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If you know someone who wants to be added to the list and receive the Church Mouse, please email the Church Mouse. Equally, if you no longer want to be on the list, please click the unsubscribe link [here](#).

If you would like the Church Mouse in large print – font 20 – please let me know. If you would like the Church Mouse printed and sent by post – again, please let me know.

At the present time the Church Mouse is an independent voice speaking for any member of the Church subject to the editor's discretion, and views expressed are not necessarily those of the Chaplaincy, Archdeaconry or Diocese.

All photos have been checked against Tin Eye.

BRENS

Sunday 19th October 11h.00. Holy Communion, Harvest Festival
Rev'd June Hutchinson
Sunday 26th October 11h.00. Zoom Morning Prayer – Robin Johnston

CAHORS

Sunday 26th October 10h.00 Songs of Praise – Morning Prayer
Sunday 1st November 10h.00 All Saints All Souls -Holy Communion
Rev'd June Hutchinson

CARCASSONNE

Sunday 26th October 10h.30 Morning Prayer – Anita & David Phillips
Sunday 1st November 10h.30

CAYLUS

Monday 27th October 10h.30 Holy Communion – Rev'd June Hutchinson
Monday 10th November 10h.30 Morning Prayer - Celia Scott

TOULOUSE

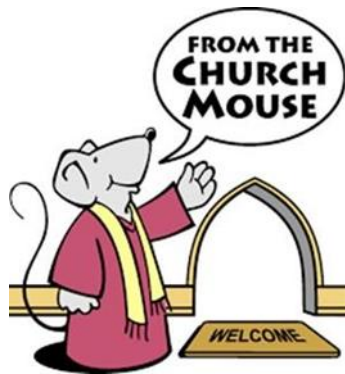
Sunday 19th October 10h.30 Holy Communion – Rev'd Jacqueline Rodwell

VAYRAC

Tuesday 4th November 10h.30 Holy Communion
Tuesday 9th December 10h.30 Holy Communion



Follow us on Facebook! Our page is 'Anglican Chaplaincy of Midi Pyrenees and Aude' (under development). Carcassonne page is at 'Anglican Church in Carcassonne'. Please have a look and follow the pages and like the posts! It all helps to spread the word that we are here and are open to those who are looking to join us.



A SEASON OF INVITATION

As the long summer days fade, we start preparing for our **Season of Invitation** – the months of September, October and November – the months leading up to Advent.

Below is a list of dates and activities for everyone:

October – Harvest Festival – celebrated throughout the Chaplaincy



A lovely thank you letter from Resto du Coeur to Kevin and the Cahors congregation

Bonjour Kevin,

Au nom de toute l'équipe des bénévoles des Restos du cœur de Prayssac, nous tenons à remercier la communauté de ton église pour leur grande générosité, et la régularité de leurs dons.

Comme tu le sais, l'aide alimentaire que nous apportons est d'un grand secours pour une population qui ne cesse de grandir, nous distribuons plus de 500 repas par semaine.

Les besoins sont en perpétuelle augmentation, et les dons par contre ne font que diminuer.

Pour cette raison, nous avons accueilli votre don avec réconfort.

Encore mille mercis.

Bien cordialement.
Pascale et Mireille



26th October – Bible Sunday – Songs of Praise

2nd November – All Saints – Cahors hold a special service to remember members of the church who have died over the last 10 years

9th November – Remembrance Sunday – this service is held throughout the Chaplaincy – poppies and bluet are often available



23rd November – Christ the King

30th November – Advent Sunday

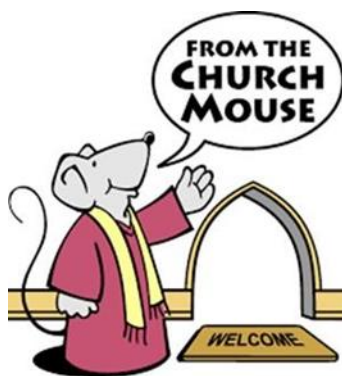
Vayrac News

Last Tuesday we celebrated our Harvest Festival at Morning Prayer for common worship. We were small in number due to holidays, family commitment and sickness however were able to give 5Kg of groceries to the local Restos du Coeur and 30€ to the Secours Populaire.

With recorded music blasting out from an ordinary laptop, it gave us the opportunity of singing some of those lovely traditional harvest hymns and to remind ourselves just how lucky we are!

Bob

Thank you



OUR JUBILEE CELEBRATION EVENT HAS ARRIVED!



Cahors News

A very colourful fundraiser was held at Cahors on 14th September – scarves, hats, bags and ties!

The amazing thing was that it raised 169€ - everyone was really pleased.



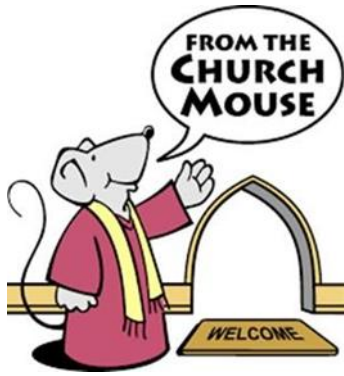
Diamond Jubilee Celebrations at Toulouse

We have been celebrating our 60th Anniversary throughout the year and the pinnacle was our Celebration Service on 21st September. We chose September as that was the month that the church was founded back in 1965 when, prompted by a conversation after the baptism of the son of John and Jenny Prince, the Chaplain from Pau, Rev Walter Barnes, began to celebrate a monthly service in the "Chapelle McCarthy". Fast forward to 2025 and having had 15 Chaplains and 9 Chapels / Churches to workshop in, we met together for a service of Holy Communion and celebration led by Rev Canon Tony Jewiss assisted by Kate du Toit. There was much singing, led by the music group, with some of the congregation's favourite hymns they had chosen for our "Songs of Praise" service. Tony's sermon looked back over 60 years and forward to the future. It was very thought provoking, and the words: "You have faithfully represented the Anglican Way, a beacon of faithfulness and reason in this corner of the world, joining with others, in every other corner of the world of similar mind and purpose. The wider world at this time in history is in desperate need of Matthew's gospel message, to know love and trust in Jesus Christ and to seek peace by following his way" stood out.

We initiated a "Time Capsule" with items from our past / present and hopes and prayers for the future. The capsule will remain open for a short while to enable maximum participation and then will be sealed for 10 years! Roll on 2035!

Towards the end of the service, we lit candles as a sign of us taking Christ's light into our homes and communities.

Our congregation comprised people from 9 nationalities, from our past and present - from near and far (Kudos to Debbie for flying in from the States!). It was great to see Rev Laurie again, and also lovely to receive video and written messages from France, UK, Brussels, USA and New Zealand. Our corner of the world here has expanded somewhat! We



also had representatives from Brens, Cahors and Carcassonne, and the RC church congregation and this added to the family feel of the occasion.

It really was a lovely service, and was followed by one of Zena's celebration cakes (thanks Zena!) and some bubbly (thanks to Steve) to accompany lots of reminiscing, chatting, laughing and watching some videos of a church picnic in the Lot in 1998 and a Holy Communion service on the col d'Ordino, Andorra in 2000 (Thanks to John Passingham). We also looked at some of the photos that congregation members had sent in - what treasures!

Finally, we had a bring and share lunch (what else?) to top off our time together!

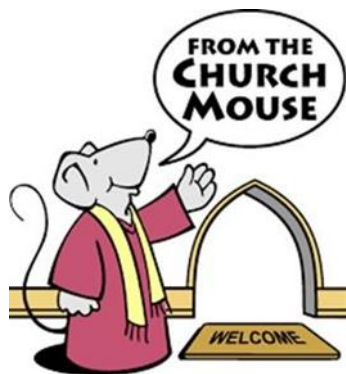
Thanks to all who contributed to make this event so special.

Samantha and Janet.



John & Jenny Prince founder members of the Toulouse congregation



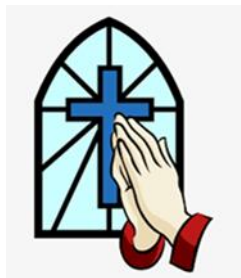


A wonderful, wonderful Day

The Archdeacon of France, Monaco & Switzerland - The Venerable Dr Peter Hooper celebrated the re-licensing of our three Readers, Malcolm Rigley, (Vayrac), Kate du Toit (Cahors) and Peter Gibbs (Brens) in the beautiful church of St. Eugenie in Brens. Our Area Dean, Paul Willis was also in attendance.

The Reason we are all here

O merciful God,
by your grace you have
called us, not as we
deserve but, in your
goodness, and generosity;
guard and protect us in
your calling, that we may
be strong in the faith and
serve you in joy and love;
through Jesus Christ our
Lord, who is alive and
reigns with you and the
Holy Spirit, one God, now
and for ever. Amen



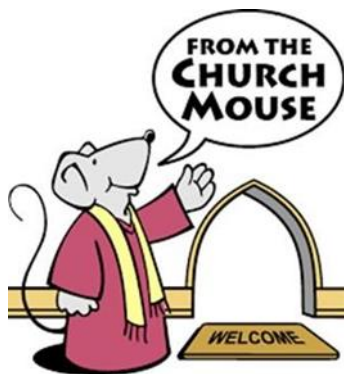


..... And the delicious meal afterwards!

Everyone then assembled at L'Espace SocialCulturel for a meal – every Worship Centre had contributed - a Vin d'Honneur from Brens, the main course from Cahors, cheese from Carcassonne and desserts from Toulouse. Teas & coffees were provided by Vayrac and Caylus. Thank you Pete Burd for the photos and I hope that everyone can find themselves!!



(Permission was received from everyone for their photographs to be included in the Church Mouse)



New Chaplaincy website!

Have a look at our new website! Designed and built by Rebecca Silverthorn, formerly a member of the Toulouse congregation and a graduate in design, it aims to attract more English speakers to worship with us across our six church centres. Much of the useful information found on the old website is there so do have a look. There are many new photos of our worship and other activities, and if you have others, do send them in!

I'd like to thank all those who have been involved in designing, writing text, proofreading, and making decisions about the new site - a fantastic piece of teamwork!

Search on
'churchinmidipa.org'
and you should find us.

If you like what you see, tell your friends; if you don't, tell us! webmaster@churchinmidipa.org



The Great British Breakfast 2025

This was the first time that Cahors has done the Great British Breakfast in October – weekends in September have been rather overtaken by events! We had a full house – 30 people and our stalwart helpers, Diane and James, our friends from Puy L'Eveque. The format is well tested – guests have an hour to enjoy a full 'English' of: orange or grapefruit juice, sausages, bacon, black pudding, beans, tomatoes, mushrooms, fried bread and a fried egg – toast and marmalade and tea or coffee. We then had half an hour to re-lay the tables for the next setting and so it goes on- until 1pm!
We made €500 with €50 of that going to LightBeam



The helpers – coffee station and the cooking station!



The three sessions



A Wonderful Weekend at the Abbaye de Cadouin! The choir Canta Vivace, of which Martin and Fran Milnes, Howard Bould, and several members of the Cahors Occasional Choir at Easter, Harvest, and Nine Lessons and Carols are members, organised a seemingly impossible weekend on 20 and 21 September – singing Rutter’s Requiem from scratch rehearsed and conducted by Sir John Rutter himself just before his 80th birthday. We attracted a total of 97 singers from choirs all over the South West and further afield. Sir John was terrific, including handling a total electrical breakdown in the whole area (which as he pointed out occurred during rehearsal of the movement ‘Lux Aeterna’), and the audience at the closing concert on the Sunday afternoon was about 150-strong – and we turned many away because of a limit on the number permitted in the abbey at one time! As with the Chaplaincy Day at Brens the following Sunday, it was a lot of work, but all made worthwhile by the result. Martin Milnes Cahors



Cahors 60th Anniversary celebrations

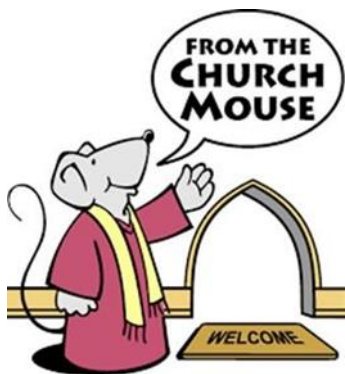
This is part of Cahors 60th Anniversary celebrations – on Sunday we celebrated Harvest with our French and Ecumenical friends at a service in French and English.



Dedication of the new Lectern Fall

“We thank you Lord for all the years we have been able to worship you here in Cahors. We thank you for the gifts you have given us: the gifts of hospitality, friendship, musicianship and craftsmanship. We thank you especially today for the inspiration with which you have blessed Andrea Higginson who has designed and crafted this beautiful lectern fall. Now we dedicate this work of art to your glory in Jesus’ name.”

See the photo below and the handprints of Elisabeth stitched on the back of The Lectern Fall. – “Your hand will guide me and your strength will support me”



Our new Lectern Fall



Elisabeth's 97 birthday
Cake to take home.

The celebration cake for 60
Years of Anglican Worship
In Cahors



Presenting the cake to Elisabeth



A crowded Coffee Room – champagne and cake!



With our wonderful baker, Dorrie

