

# SERVICES AROUND THE CHAPLAINCY



**September/October 2025**

**EDITION**  
**September/  
October**  
**2025**

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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, 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

**NO SERVICE AT BRENS ON 21/09 – CONGREGATION GOING TO TOULOUSE**  
Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> September 11h.00 at Brens by the Venerable Dr Peter Hooper, Archdeacon of France, Switzerland & Monaco

## CAHORS

Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> September – Morning Prayer – Kevin Megarry

Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> September 11h.00 at Brens by the Venerable Dr Peter Hooper, Archdeacon of France, Switzerland & Monaco

Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> October 10h.00 Harvest Service Holy Communion – Rev'd June Hutchinson

## CARCASSONNE

Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> September 11h.00 at Brens by the Venerable Dr Peter Hooper, Archdeacon of France, Switzerland & Monaco

Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> October Morning Prayer – Peter Snow

## CAYLUS

Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> September 10h.30 Holy Communion – Rev'd June Hutchinson

Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> September 11h.00 at Brens by the Venerable Dr Peter Hooper, Archdeacon of France, Switzerland & Monaco

Monday 13<sup>th</sup> October 10h.30 Morning Prayer – Celai Scott

## TOULOUSE

Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> September 10h.30 Diamond Jubilee Celebration Service

Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> September 11h.00 at Brens by the Venerable Dr Peter Hooper, Archdeacon of France, Switzerland & Monaco

Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> October 10h.30 Service of the Word

## VAYRAC

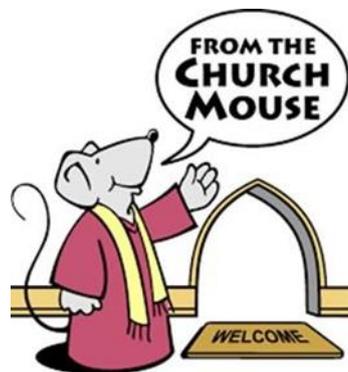
Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> September 11h.00 at Brens by the Venerable Dr Peter Hooper, Archdeacon of France, Switzerland & Monaco

Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> October 10.30 Holy Communion by Extension Malcolm Rigley



**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



## The Reason we are all here.

In the deepest corners of my heart, I carry disappointment. The dreams unfulfilled, the hopes dashed, and the expectations unmet have left me feeling deflated, disillusioned, and disheartened. I am hurt, and sometimes, I find it hard to make sense of these feelings. The bitterness of disappointment lingers, and I yearn for relief.

The shadows of disappointment have clouded my vision and, in these times, it's hard to see the light. It's as if I am in a storm, seeking refuge and finding none. Amid these tumultuous emotions, my heart seeks solace, understanding, and ultimately, peace.

**Psalm 28:7** *The Lord is my strength and my shield; my heart trusted in Him, and I am helped; therefore my heart greatly rejoices, and with my song I will praise Him.*

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 for everyone.

**21<sup>st</sup> September** – Toulouse celebrate their 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary – further details in the article on page 6.

National **Back to Church Sunday** is also on **21<sup>st</sup> September** - a nationwide movement designed to help churches reconnect with those who've drifted away, as well as reach new families and visitors in their communities.

**28<sup>th</sup> September** – **Chaplaincy Day with the re-licensing of Readers – Kate du Toit, Peter Gibbs and Malcolm Rigley at 11am at the beautiful church in Brens followed by a reception at L'Espce Sociocultural in Brens**

11<sup>th</sup> October – the Great British Breakfast – a Cahors fundraiser for Chaplaincy funds

12<sup>th</sup> October – Harvest Festival – celebrated throughout the Chaplaincy



12<sup>th</sup> October – Cahors celebrate their 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary

26<sup>th</sup> October – Bible Sunday – Songs of Praise

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

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



23<sup>rd</sup> November – Christ the King

30<sup>th</sup> November – Advent Sunday



## OUR JUBILEE CELEBRATION EVENT HAS ARRIVED!



A last reminder for everyone - and we hope there will be some wonderful photos for the next edition of the Church Mouse.

Chaplaincy of  
Midi Pyrenees &  
Aude

[www.churchinmidipa.org](http://www.churchinmidipa.org)



The Anglican  
Church of  
Toulouse

## INVITATION

To our  
Diamond Jubilee Celebration Service  
followed by lunch

On Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> September 2025  
at 10h30  
Notre Dame de l'Assomption, 23 rue Larade Toulouse

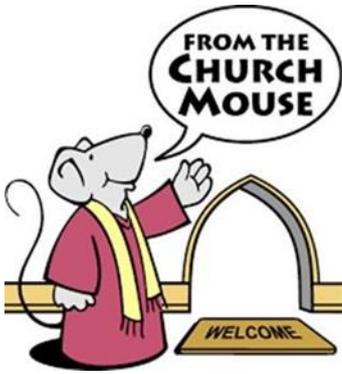
RSVP to [silversam317@gmail.com](mailto:silversam317@gmail.com) or [matkinjanet@gmail.com](mailto:matkinjanet@gmail.com)

We are looking forward to 21<sup>st</sup> September to commemorate the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the founding of the Anglican Church in Toulouse.

All are welcome, from all over the Chaplaincy. We are inviting past and present members of the congregation, and some special guests.

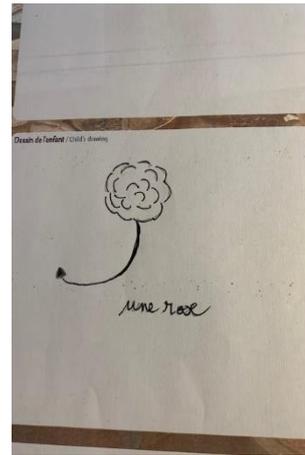
We have a "memory book" where we are collecting people's memories of church in the SW of France. Please feel free to add your memories – e.g. your first service, who you met, social activities, a service that was special to you. Please send any memories to Sam at [silversam317@gmail.com](mailto:silversam317@gmail.com) or Janet at [matkinjanet@gmail.com](mailto:matkinjanet@gmail.com)

We are also compiling a history through photos. So, if you have any, please upload each photo to the Dropbox, with a label of what it is and when it relates to.



would like you to pray for my studies and for my family. Goodbye.

Drawing: a rose.



Here is a copy of the latest letter from Dourata, the young lady (16 years old now!) from Burkina Faso who the chaplaincy (not just Brens) supports via Compassion UK. We have been supporting Dourata for about 5 years.

It was her 16<sup>th</sup> birthday in March, and she received a gift from us that paid for far more than one would think possible!

So, if you can, please include her letter in the Church Mouse so that your readers can take some pleasure in knowing that good things do happen by our actions.

*Ross Jenkins*

Hello, dear Anglican Chaplaincy of Midi-Pyre, I am so happy to write to you to let you hear from me through this letter. How are you and your family doing? Here, everyone is doing well.

Thank you so much for your letter and gift. I bought a nice dress, a pair of shoes and some soap. May God shower you with His grace and bless you abundantly. I pray for you and your family. I

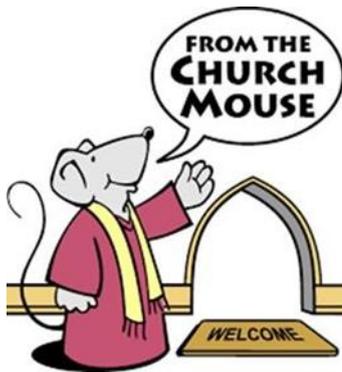


Poverty is complex. It's more than a lack of material resources, and it looks different in every community. That's why our holistic approach helps children develop in all aspects of their lives—economic, physical, social, emotional, and spiritual.

Through locally led initiatives run by our church partners, activities are tailored to the specific needs of children and their wider environment and cultural context.

For more than 70 years, we've been working to amplify the work local churches are already doing to transform the lives of children in poverty. The impact is undeniable. More than 2.3 million children are part of life-changing Compassion programmes, run by 8,900 local church partners in 29 countries.

As children receive practical support and learn about Jesus' love, lives are changed, families are strengthened, and communities are transformed. And it all starts when we follow Jesus' lead and move with compassion.



This month's Church Mouse has been really difficult to write, because every time I have started something has changed! As you all know our new Chaplain is not now coming. At our Chaplaincy Council Meeting on Monday there was a very positive feeling that, despite the disappointment, we should start again and the sooner the better.

The Licensing Event has become the Chaplaincy Day and all the arrangements are the same.

Please remember to bring your covers – plates, glasses and cutlery etc.

Thank you to **Vayrac and Caylus** who are providing teas, coffee and biscuits.

**Cahors** who are providing the main course.

**Carcassonne and Toulouse** the cheese and the desserts.

**Brens** who are providing the wine and all the back-up services, opening, closing, keys, welcomers and all the housekeeping duties, A very special thank you.



## **Invitation to Chaplaincy Day on Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> September at Eglise Saint-Eugène, 81600 Brens**

Following the recent announcement that our new Chaplain was no longer coming, the programme has slightly changed but we still need to gather and celebrate:

**10.00 Morning refreshments at the Centre Socioculturel**

**11.00 Eucharist Service led by Archdeacon Peter with the relicensing of our three Lay Readers at Eglise Saint-Eugène**

**12.30 Vin d'honneur followed by Buffet lunch at the Centre Socioculturel**

And, as our Archdeacon Peter said, “We will be celebrating everyone’s collective ministry that shapes, forms and empowers our work as a Christian Community in this part of France”. So, let us come together and celebrate! It is important that you reconfirm your participation by writing to our chaplaincy secretary: [georgina.hodgson@orange.fr](mailto:georgina.hodgson@orange.fr)

**“For we brought nothing into the world, and we can take nothing out of it.” (1 Timothy 6:7)**

## Summary of the Chaplaincy Council Meeting on

15<sup>th</sup> September 2025 on Zoom



### New Chaplaincy website to be launched!

Watch out for our new website, which will go live around the start of October. 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 current website will be 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! Search on [www.churchinmidipa.org](http://www.churchinmidipa.org) and you should find us, although the site may take a few days to become live.

If you like what you see, tell your friends; if you don't, tell us!



1. Archdeacon Peter wanted to gauge the feeling from the Chaplaincy Council **after Nils decision not to take up the post as our Chaplain.**

**Cahors** said the feeling had been one of disappointment but also of the need to move forward as soon as possible with the recruitment process.

**Brens** said the numbers at their Zoom service had been small and again there was a great feeling of disappointment - but a need to move on.

**Toulouse** said they hadn't met but probably next week – their Diamond Jubilee Service. By then it would be “old” news!

**Caylus** had not met, but again the three members present felt the need to move on.

**Vayrac** had not met, but everyone had heard.

**Carcassonne** – said, after the initial shock, it was decided the best way to cope is to move forward.

There was then a wide-ranging discussion with questions. Archdeacon Peter assured us that there was nothing we had done wrong, and that Nils had not really given a reason, so there was NO real reason. What Peter knew was what everyone else knew. The other candidate had already secured another post, so there was no chance of going back to him.

Peter was very glad that we were all so positive and ready to start again as soon as was possible. The Policy document, job description and role description were all the same. The advert would just need small changes. Peter was meeting with Bishop Robert on Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> September so that he could work with Bishop Robert's diary.

2. 28<sup>th</sup> September had become Chaplaincy Day and was going full steam ahead! There would be 60 people there and the 3 Readers would be re-licensed. Peter would also reflect on the way forward for the CWLs.

3. The announcement on the website would stay until the 25<sup>th</sup> September when it would be taken down.

4. The next Chaplaincy Meeting would be on 15<sup>th</sup> October on Zoom.

Gill Heyworth 17/9/25