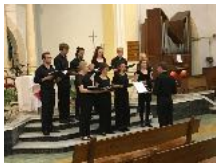
No. 10
Lent/Easter 2018

FOR THE EXTENDED COMMUNITY OF SANTA MARGARITA

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MENORCA ANGLICAN

This newsletter is offered to help regular and intermittent members of the Anglican community in Menorca to keep in touch.
This issue also serves as a review of the past year for the annual meeting of the chaplaincy.

A Year In The Life Of Santa Margarita

The annual meeting of the chaplaincy this year is once again taking place before Easter. This means that we meet during the Lenten season of preparation for Easter: as I said last year, our faith is rooted in the resurrection of Jesus, the Christ, but we cannot reach resurrection without crucifixion and death.

The church has a life beyond its use for worship on Wednesday, Friday and Sunday. What follows is a summary of chaplaincy life during the past year.

April

Palm Sunday was celebrated with the customary procession, with palms, around the Esplanada of Es Castell. During Holy Week we walked through the stations of the cross in Santa Margarita, and were invited to participate in the *Via Crucis*, or Way of the Cross in Es Castell - a privilege: both chaplain and lay representatives were invited. Easter was celebrated, starting with the Great Vigil, after sunset on the eve of Easter - a service that is one of the hidden treasures of the church year. Easter continued with the sunrise service at Punta Prima and a gloriously decorated church of Santa Margarita during the morning.

Easter was also one of the occasions when the chaplaincy was able to distribute food parcels to families designated as being in need by the social services department of Es Castell.

The Gwent Touring Brass Band appeared, as it has for a number of years, on the Thursday after Easter, for a rousing performance. The chaplain had to absent himself from proceedings to participate in the "Eurovision Style Song Contest," in Sant Climent, at the same time, with the rather surprising, if not shocking, result of emerging as a very unlikely winner.

Saint George's day fell on a Sunday in 2017. We chose to mark the event with a lunch at LaFosse in Es Castell, followed by Evening Prayer, in the traditional style of the Book of Common Prayer, on the Isla del Rey.

May

The Ayuntamiento of Mahón organised another British fair at the beginning of May. The people of Santa Margarita offered their services to host a table with information about the church and its

activities on a day with all sorts of weather.

The Ayuntamiento of Es Castell organised the annual flower festival, and thanks to the efforts of Margaret Ellis and helpers, Santa Margarita was decorated so that we could be a part of this community celebration.

On Sunday, 14 May, we were delighted to be able to baptise Brier Self, whose family, now living near Favaritx, has roots in California. Brier, at the age of 8, made the choice herself to be baptised, and her grandparents, who live in the USA, and are members of the Episcopal Church of the USA, were able to be present.

At the end of May, our monthly services of Holy Communion in Ciutadella moved to an outdoor chapel at Cala'n Bosch. There is something quite splendid about being able to worship amongst the trees in the open air.

June

The clergy of the surrounding chaplaincies gather twice each year, from Costa Brava, Mallorca (Palma and Puerto Pollença), Ibiza, Barcelona (also serving Andorra) and Madrid. The group came to Menorca and were impressed both with the island and the church that we are blessed to be able to occupy.

Also in June, the annual Santa Margarita golf tournament took place in wonderful weather. This is a major generator of

funds for the chaplaincy, as well as an opportunity for our church and its work to be known more widely.

July

The choir of Gonville & Caius College, Cambridge has been to Menorca before, thanks to the connection of the college with the Very Rev. Michael Higgins. A group of ten choristers, under the direction of Geoffrey Webber came to Menorca to offer four concerts around the island, and to enrich the worship of the church; the Sunday Eucharist was splendid and uplifting!

The patronal feast of Santa Margarita was again celebrated with a procession, this year with a horse-drawn carriage for the effigy of our patron saint. Choral evensong was supplied by the Gonville & Caius choir - exceptional!

An evening of wine and cheese at the home of Richard Lewartowski was enjoyed by all - and proved to be profitable for the church funds!

The Fiesta of Es Castell falls in July, and the congregation of Santa Margarita participated both by decoration of the church and through the chaplain's invitation to participate in the evening Vespers. It says much about Es Castell that its people and leadership are pleased to invite the British community to participate in the life of the community.

August

Something new: a service of betrothal for a couple anticipating marriage later in the year. Robert and Hannah, dressed in style for the occasion, went to La Mola by water taxi and enjoyed pledging their commitment to one another in quite spectacular surroundings.

September

Sponsored Songs of Praise proved again to be a popular event, made possible primarily through the talent of Richard and Alison Sharpe. The top three hymns in 2017: *Great Is Thy Faithfulness*; *Spirit Of God, Unseen As The Wind*; and *O Lord My God, When I In Awesome Wonder (How Great Thou Art)*. We are hoping to repeat this in 2018, subject to the availability of Richard and Alison, but perhaps with a slightly different format.

A chaplaincy lunch in Son Parc, hosted by Penny and Keith Hargrave, was an occasion of good companionship, with neighbours as well as members of the congregation, and made a healthy contribution to church funds.

Another first: a baby born to a couple whose wedding blessing took place in Saint George's chapel on the Isla del Rey brought their newly born son, Rollo, for a service of thanksgiving for the birth of a child - also on the Isla del Rey.

October

Harvest Festival was celebrated on the first Sunday in October, with a wonderfully decorated church and a very enjoyable lunch at Samoa in Cala en Porter.

Again, we distributed food bags to the needy of Es Castell, in conjunction with the social services department.

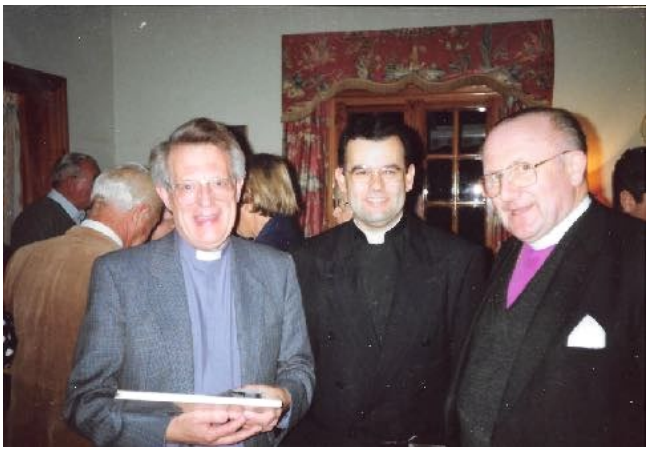
Joyce and Ben Clarke-Jones offered to host a social event at their home in Santa Ana, at which the food was more than generously provided, and those present seemed to enjoy a quiz night.

November

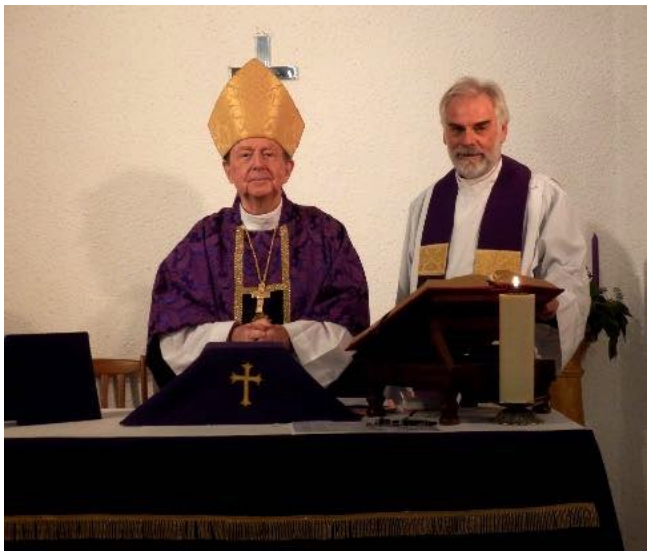
The annual service of Remembrance took place at Santa Margarita, and was customarily well attended.

Another chaplaincy lunch, this time at Scandals in Es Castell, added to the social calendar.

December



On the first Sunday of Advent, 1992, the first permanent, full-time chaplain for Menorca was installed at Santa Margarita, and on the first Sunday of Advent, 2018, we chose to commemorate this achievement. Greetings were sent to all the clergy who have served the chaplaincy during this time by our PCC secretary, Margaret Jones.



The Rev Stanley Underhill, who is now in his 90s, sent a message of goodwill, and our Bishop, David Hamid, sent a message of congratulations. The Rt Rev Michael Marshall, a friend of Santa Margarita, and brother of our own Rita Foxon was invited to come to highlight our celebrations, and did not disappoint us with a well-chosen message of encouragement. After the worship, the celebration continued with a lunch at LaFosse in Es Castell.

The Ayuntamiento of Es Castell organised a Christmas Fair again in 2017, in which the chaplaincy planned to participate. Unfortunately on the designated Saturday, the weather was atrocious, and the authorities decided to postpone the event until the following Wednesday. For baked goods, the principal item which generates sales for Santa Margarita, this was rather a disaster. However, the resourceful members of the congregation found various ways to deal with the situation, and in the end, on a much more pleasant day, the Fair was quite successful, although our congregation is

beginning to find it a strain to provide goods for sale.

A Christmas Fair in Mahón a few days later provided an opportunity for Saint Nicholas to make a visit - actually, a couple of visits - and distribute (chocolate) gold coins, together with the story of Saint Nicholas, to young people (and some not-so-young people).

The final social event of 2017 was the Advent lunch to which those over 80 were invited as guests. This took place at the Bar España in Es Castell, and was well attended. Enjoyment of the occasion was enhanced by Liz Astley's distribution of small gifts.

The annual service of Lessons and Carols took place on 10 December, followed by mulled wine and mince pies and the drawing of the Christmas raffle. Some very attractive prizes were distributed. The winner of the grand prize, of a weekend for two in London, was won by Jane Sadler's son, Simon (who donated it to his mother!).

On the Friday before Christmas, we distributed food and confectionary to the families recommended by the Social Services department of Es Castell. As in 2017, this was a joint venture with the Roman Catholic parish.

Christmas was celebrated with Christingles at both Ciutadella and Santa Margarita, a "midnight" service on Christmas Eve that is becoming increasingly well-attended, and a service of Holy Communion on Christmas morning.

Some of the most spiritually meaningful forms of worship at Santa Margarita are the quiet, simple, sparsely attended services. One of these is the service to celebrate the new year: in the calendar of the church, the eve of the naming of Jesus, but in the secular world, New Year's Eve.

January

One of our responsibilities as a congregation is to take care of the building which we rent for a very nominal amount from the Roman Catholic church, and to exercise good stewardship both of our resources and

the environment. Last year I said: "The one remaining challenge is going to be the church roof, which is beginning to show its age and succumb to the excesses of the more severe storms and wind by leaking." Given the increasingly precarious state of the roof, the PCC decided to go ahead with replacement of the roof, drawing upon funds from our reserves. Including IVA, the cost was more than €26,000 - which we will need to return to our reserves through diligent fund-raising, during 2018.

Notwithstanding the challenges of the roof, we were able to celebrate our ecumenical partnership with the Roman Catholic church in Menorca, with a service of prayer for Christian Unity attended by Bishop Frances who addressed the congregation in both Spanish and English.

February

The new roof stood the test of some dramatic weather during the month.

The annual archdeaconry synod in Torrevieja was attended by the chaplain, delegates, Margaret and Trevor Jones, and Kate Strudwick. This is an intensive week of learning and sharing. There is a separate report by Margaret and Trevor.

Shrove Tuesday, and pancakes cooked by Penny Hargrave and served by an enthusiastic team preceded Ash Wednesday and the beginning of Lent. And this is where we now find ourselves, taking a journey towards Easter.

The annual Women's World Day of Prayer was organised this year by the women of Suriname (whose location, in the northeast part of South America was a revelation to some!). Once again, Dianne Carter took the service and implemented a very moving form of worship: "The best ever," said one who came.

These are some of the highlights of a year in the life of Santa Margarita's community of faith.

In addition, during 2017, there were 16 wedding blessings and 2 renewals of marriage vows. Including ceremonies of committal and memorial services, there were seven funerals.

We have said goodbye to some good friends, who will be missed. Moira Martin, who succumbed to a succession of health challenges in June, has been a faithful

and generous supporter of Santa Margarita. Liz Chapman, well known to many of the congregation of Santa Margarita, died at the end of December. Julie Upton, of Can Dulce in Sant Climent died after a year of cancer treatment in February.

Andrew and Christine Jackson, who have been regular, and energetic members of the congregation, sold their villa in Binibequer and will be with us less frequently.

Let us be thankful for God's abundant generosity that we are blessed to share our lives on this island. Let us also be thankful for those among us who give of themselves to support and nurture our community of faith based at Santa Margarita.

Paul +

News From Santa Margarita

Penny Hargrave

If you are receiving this via e-mail, you have shown an interest in the church by giving us your e mail address.

We are planning to provide a new e-mail service which would include all our social events, as well as any special services we put on during the year and any church news we consider of interest. This will replace the previous newsletters, and will be both simpler in format, and more frequent.

It might help you to choose when you visit our lovely Island, and inform you of events planned during your visit.

We are doing this because our Swallows and regular visitors to our Island and church are important to us. As we are the only English speaking Church on the Island now, we want to make visitors from all Christian Faiths welcome and feel included in our church life.

Your feedback and ideas are also very welcome.

We do however require you to give your consent for this service, by replying to us please, using the e-mail address below.

On receiving your consent, we will send you our first newsletter.

From all your friends in Menorca, we wish you a Very Happy and Blessed 2018.

Contact: friends@anglicanchurchmenorca.com to be included in this distribution (which will be separate from the main chaplaincy e-mail list).

Young Families in Church

Dianne Carter

JaFfA (Jesus a Friend for All) **CLUB**

In January 2018, JaFfA celebrated its fifth birthday; with some families loyally supporting us since the early days in 2013. Attendance numbers during the year has ranged from four to 23; the ages of the children being from two to 12 years; the adults are not required to give their ages. There were 12 meetings of JaFfA during 2017.

THEMES COVERED IN 2017

During January and February, we looked at some of the names that are used to describe Jesus, and some of his "I am" sayings: learning ways that we may try to walk in his footsteps.

In March we prepared for Lent by revisiting the Creation narrative; extending the story to hear about the temptation by the serpent.

In April, a larger than normal group sat down together to enjoy a Seder Meal.

May found the group exploring the story of Ezekiel in the context of the Valley of the Dry Bones. Card skeletons were constructed and given hearts; and then we quite wonderfully used our creative skills to put flesh on those bones.

In the summer we looked at some of Jesus' parables: in detail the Parables of the Sower, and the Mustard Seed. And while we could enjoy the patio and garden outside the church building, we had a mini treasure hunt, based on Bible Reading Fellowship material "Super Cool Jesus."

Linking back to the Seder Meal earlier in the year, in September we heard about the Exodus story.

This led in October to us learning more about how God would like us to live our lives - the 10 Best Ways - the Commandments.

In November: the Bee-Attitudes - changing the world by one attitude at a time.

Of course, the year ended with a Christingle Celebration and the retelling of the Nativity story complete with our finger puppets.

Many of the stories (at JaFfA, Small Saints and at Junior Church) have been told using the Godly Play method, that encourages the listeners (young and old) to personally reflect on the stories.

Cupcake decorating; birthday cakes, cards and prayers; and the JaFfA grace are standard fare for each meeting.

JUNIOR CHURCH AT SANTA MARGARITA

Junior Church is offered every Sunday at Sª Margarita, during the 11:00 am Eucharist. Several families who holiday regularly in Menorca swell our numbers. There were 20 sessions of Junior Church during the year, when the themes wherever possible were linked to the church lectionary.

SMALL SAINTS IN CIUTADELLA

Small Saints meets on Saturday morning once a month. We now have three families who are loyally attending. It is a time for learning and craft, following by a simple family Eucharist. Topics during the year included: Creation, the Great Flood, Abram/Abraham and Sarai/ Sarah; Moses and the Law; and marking the seasons of the church year as appropriate. We continue to be grateful to the Carmelite sisters for allowing us to use their beautiful chapel.

To receive copies of this newsletter via e-mail, please complete one of the yellow cards in church, or send a message to info@anglicanchurchmenorca.com.

Worship for Holy Week and Easter in Menorca

Sunday, 25 March
09:00 Holy Communion
11:00 Blessing of palms, procession, Passion narrative, Holy Communion
13:00 Seder/Passover meal: learning by eating, following the Jewish ritual
17:00 Holy Communion in Ciutadella

Monday, 26 March
11:00 Morning Prayer
17:30 Evening Prayer – reflections on Stations of the Cross (1-5)

Tuesday, 27 March
11:00 Morning Prayer
17:30 Evening Prayer – reflections on Stations of the Cross (6-10)
20:00 Procession, *Via Crucis*, the Way of the Cross, in Es Castell
(this is part of the celebration of Holy Week by the Roman Catholic *Parroquia* of El Roser).

Wednesday, 28 March
11:00 Holy Communion (BCP)
17:30 Evening Prayer – reflections on Stations of the Cross (11-14)

Thursday, 29 March
11:00 Family worship for Maundy Thursday and Holy Week
17:30 Tenebrae service with Holy Communion followed by stripping of the altar

Friday, 30 March
12:00-15:00 Good Friday vigil of reading, hymns and silence:
Words from the Cross - come when you can, leave when you must.

Saturday, 31 March
20:00 The Great Vigil of Easter and service of light

Sunday, 1 April
07:30 Sunrise Communion at Punta Prima beach
09:00 Holy Communion at Santa Margarita
11:00 Holy Communion at Santa Margarita (with Junior Church)

Regular Worship in Menorca

At Santa Margarita
Sunday (Holy Communion): 09:00 & 11:00; Wednesday (BCP): 11:00;
Friday (Communion & Healing): 11:00
Worship in Sant Francesc church, Ciutadella, last Sunday of each month: 17:00

Details of events taking place at Santa Margarita can always be found on the church web site: http://anglicanchurchmenorca.com, where there is a “News” section (top, right-hand corner). You can also follow us on Twitter: @anglicanmenorca.