

Dear La Côte Church family and friends,

We are richly blessed in our community with young people and children with whom we share the journey of faith. This weekend some of them are contributing to our All Age Celebration for Pentecost in the pre-recorded service that will be sent out on Saturday.

Continuing our series of stories about life during COVID-19 from our church community:

This week we hear from Eoin Rollins, a student at Bristol University, UK, called suddenly home to rejoin his family in Divonne. How is he coping? What does he miss? What has he learned? What keeps him motivated and hopeful? Watch and listen here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6aeRHdaQar8>

Thank you Eoin for taking the time to talk to us in this way.

In the light of this video, we pray for our children and youth

Our Pentecost reading this Sunday:

“In the last days it will be, God declares,
that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh,
and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy,
and your young men shall see visions,
and your old men shall dream dreams.” Acts 2

Loving God,

We thank you for all the children and youth connected to our church family. We thank you for the way our younger folk have been caring for older people who are at risk from this virus. Thank you for those who have offered to help in practical ways such as shopping and running errands, and for those who have been tutoring children online during confinement. While it has not always been easy we thank you for extra time in our families to support each other and to strengthen our relationships.

We take a moment now to remember those especially known to us, asking for God to guide and steady them through these uncertain times. We pray for those who are worried about their future, missing their friends and struggling with issues of mental health.

May our lives bear the fruits of your Spirit – of patience, kindness and self-control - when tensions are running high amidst our families. Grant us the humility and courage to give and receive forgiveness.

Holy Spirit, help us see the potential and giftings of each young person known to us and to encourage them to flourish even in times of struggle. May we never to give up hoping for them and entrusting them to you in prayer.

Lord, help those of us in the older generations to be always open to learn and to be challenged by our children and young people. In this Pentecost season, we pray for your Holy Spirit to breathe fresh understanding and love for one another – whatever our age and maturity.

Come Holy Spirit, breathe unity, creativity, compassion and hope into our lives. Inspire us to love one another with your steadfast love.

In the name of Jesus Christ who knew what it was like to grow up in a family, Amen.

WORSHIP THIS SUNDAY 31 May

PENTECOST SUNDAY

You have two options:

- 1. Our pre-recorded All-Age service to do in your own time.** We would like to encourage families with youth and children to watch this service together. It will be sent out tomorrow - Saturday 30 May. If you are “crafty” you might like to have at the ready materials for making a paper pinwheel. (You will need: Scissors, Craft paper in squares, 1 straw or wooden stick per pinwheel, 1 pushpin per pinwheel. You may like to look up fractals. There will also be a moment to light a candle in the service.

2. Live Worship

You are also welcome to join us on Sunday Morning at 9.00 for some live worship on Zoom and a chance to connect with one another. This will be in a different format to the pre-recorded worship. We will also share in an Act of Spiritual Communion. Do come with a candle at the ready.

Here is the zoom invitation for 8.45 – 9.00am start.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81426483781?pwd=aE9aTHBTWTN1ZkdoZHVRaCtUR1p1QT09>

ID: 814 2648 3781

Password: 347714

THERE IS NO SUNDAY CLUB ZOOM SESSION THIS SUNDAY – as we would like to encourage our children and youth to watch the pre-recorded service with their families.

For any queries please contact [Johan Crocoll](#)

A Message from Church Council on the potential to re-open La Côte Church for physical services

We are aware that the re-opening of workplaces, schools and churches is underway around us. We also recognize that ensuring people are safe in Church is an obligation of the Council. Please know that we are actively engaged in discussing when it could be appropriate to start again with in-church services in France and Switzerland.

We realize that there are those in our congregations who would like to start now and others who are not yet comfortable with that. At our meeting this week, after a detailed review of the latest Diocesan guidelines, as well as the current situation in both Switzerland (Geneva and Vaud Cantons) and France (the Department of Ain), the Council decided that, for the time being, services will remain online and recorded only. (Several other churches have arrived at the same conclusion).

The Council will continue to observe the situation closely by meeting every two weeks. We will actively review the latest evidence available to

us from the WHO and the scientific community to support our decisions. The next Council meeting will be Tuesday 9 June.

We are also examining the possibilities for micro-services, or outdoor services, and we are pleased to confirm that when we do decide to return to holding services in church, we will continue to provide virtual services.

A note from Julia

It was wonderful to help prepare and lead the pre-recorded service for the Sunday after Ascension, and to offer a sermon too. Thank you so much to all those who have sent me words of encouragement.

It is a joy and privilege to serve La Côte, as always, and I hope to be able to contribute more as long as we continue to provide these virtual worship services. Sadly my health problems have not improved. I have come full circle, back to the point at which I stepped back from ministry, having explored all prism lense options over the last two and a half years. Some seemed to offer hope initially but most made me feel pretty ill.

It is ironic that, although of course this pandemic is ghastly and has had tragic consequences, the changes it forced us to make in our church life have enabled me to offer myself in some small way to God and our community. A note of gratitude in the midst of all the uncertainty and anxiety many of us feel.

Take care everyone and God bless.

COMING UP (DIGITALLY) THIS WEEK

TUESDAY 2 June

09.15-10.30 Prayer Group by Zoom. All welcome to join on this link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/696253325?pwd=U2RycHZkTElhMTdyQTN1RmttY0drdz09>

If you are unable to join, but would like prayer, please contact Peta at tracey.p@bluewin.ch

FRIDAY 5 June

10:00-11:30 Coffee, cake and catch up will be taking place by zoom

<https://zoom.us/j/339979804>

MONDAY to SATURDAY

7.30 – 8.00 Morning Prayer by zoom

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/245448666>.

FOR THE LATEST NEWS

Please click on these links

Gingins: <https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/8570/>

Divonne: <https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/19960/>

CARING FOR ONE ANOTHER & FOR THE WIDER COMMUNITY

As a church community we are continuing to look out for one another even if we cannot be physically in contact, so this is just to remind you that we have two points of contact who are coordinating shopping and care during this lockdown:

Juana Willumsen on the French side of the border:

+33450415003

or Whatsapp on +33682925300

[Juana Willumsen](#)

Diantha Terry on the Swiss side of the border:

[Diantha Terry](#)

079 363 2153

ALSO – PLEASE do pass on the message to friends in the Vaud and Divonne area who may need help.

A PHONE CALL: Do contact them or Carolyn if you would simply like a chat by phone. Isolation can be challenging for all sorts of reasons and talking with someone can often help to alleviate the stress and we can pray together on the phone.

SUPPORT FOR THE WIDER COMMUNITY – there are food collection points in Nyon for people to donate non-perishable provisions for those especially hard-hit by the pandemic. These are taking place every week.

The flyer is attached with contact details for more information. Here's the link for the Facebook page for this food distribution :

<https://www.facebook.com/Distribution-alimentaire-Nyon-104984657888790/>

CHURCH FINANCES

AN ONGOING WORD OF THANKS FROM OUR TREASURER (Geoff Senogles)

Thank you to everyone who has been making direct payments into the church bank account, in lieu of church service collections.

All are very gratefully received.

If you would like to give an online donation, here are the bank details for our church:

IBAN

CH42 0022 8228 5504 9740 H

Holder

The La Côte Anglican Church

Development Association

1267 Coinsins

BIC UBSWCHZH80A

FURTHER USEFUL RESOURCES

If you haven't already come across it, you may like to look at Clare Amos's blog: <https://faithineurope.net/> which includes some beautiful prayers, poems and reflections.

LA COTE ANGLICAN CHURCH IS ON TWITTER!

Please let [Peta Tracey](#) know if you would like info about a church event to be 'tweeted' or tweet to @lacoteanglican

Follow us on <https://mobile.twitter.com/lacoteanglican>

WORK WITH ASYLUM SEEKERS

Mentorship opportunity. Would you like to mentor an asylum seeker or refugee? The only requirement is that you speak English or French, and if possible both languages. Mentoring can be deeply satisfying, a win-win relationship for both mentor and mentee. Just give it a try! *For more information (no commitment), contact [Andrea Goovaerts](#).*

- **Accommodation.** There is a need to help these people find a welcome and integrate in our local society – even though they are far from home. Please do prayerfully consider if you can help or know someone who can. *Please speak to [Diantha Terry](#) with any thoughts you have.*

Do you have jobs that need doing?

If you would like help with odd jobs - for example, gardening, moving furniture, paint work – likewise do get in touch with [Diantha Terry](#) who will be able to match you up with one of our refugee friends in the community.
