

La Côte Anglican Church

Christmas Bulletin

Reflection and prayer from Carolyn

A thread prayer for Advent is “Maranatha”. This stems from the Aramaic (the language of Jesus) and can mean both “Come, Lord!” and “the Lord is here”. It beautifully reflects the tension between the God who has come in Jesus Christ – “The Lord is here,” and the God whom we call to break into our lives and our world anew – “Come, Lord!” Advent is a reminder that we live in the “now and not yet” reign of God.

Christian author, Brian Draper, encourages this one-word ancient prayer to accompany us through each day of Advent. Quoting another contemplative, John Maine, he writes: “In sitting quietly and chanting the word or simply breathing it (*Ma* on the inhale, *Ra* on the exhale, *Na* on the inhale, *Tha* on the exhale) our focus can begin to shift from saying it to hearing it: we end up “listening to God’s word in us”.”

He suggests: “try whispering or breathing it wherever you find yourself today:

At the back of the supermarket queue: *Maranatha*;

as you wonder at, or wait for, the stars: *Maranatha*;

as you sit in solitude, or with someone who’s suffering: *Maranatha*;

when the traffic lights are red: *Maranatha*;

within the memories you hold of a loved one you’ve lost: *Maranatha*;

as you listen for the heartbeat of God, within the rhythms of the day: *Maranatha*;

as you unleash your creativity on the world: *Maranatha*;

as you pause at a gate or doorway for a few moments of reflection: *Maranatha*;

as you battle through your rush-hours: *Maranatha*;

as you practise doing one small thing with great love: *Maranatha*;

as you welcome God in the face of the person at the door: *Maranatha*.

Amen.

Advent 2018 // Day 12 (briandraperuk@gmail.com)

May I take this opportunity to wish all our La Côte Church friends and family God’s blessing, grace and peace over the coming days. May you know “Maranatha,” the Lord who comes, afresh in your lives. Carolyn

Please see [here](#) Bishop Robert’s Christmas newsletter. I invite you to pray for him and for the church everywhere at this season of Good News and of welcome into our churches.

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SUNDAY 16 DECEMBER – 3rd Sunday of Advent

16:00 Gingins, Christingle Service (no Sunday Club)

Please see [flyer](#) for Christmas services in Gingins and Divonne.

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Services from end December:

SUNDAY 30 DECEMBER – 1st Sunday of Christmas

16:00 Gingins, Holy Communion (no Sunday Club)

SUNDAY 6 JANUARY – Epiphany

08:45-09:15 Chapelle de Signy, Said Eucharist

16:00 Gingins, Holy Communion – children welcome (no Sunday Club)

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NB Rev Carolyn Cooke will be on annual leave from 27 to 28 December 2018 and from 2 to 4 January 2019.

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Next bulletin on 11 January

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Christmas services

We are looking forward to our Advent journey and to our Christmas celebrations. We hope you will be able to join us in worship and fellowship during this season. This is also a good time to invite friends and family along to share in our celebrations and to find comfort in the midst of our community. Do forward the [flyer](#) as an invitation to others to come along. There will be flyers at both our services this Sunday to hand out as invitations too.

We are always grateful for offers to help with refreshments over the busy Christmas period, especially as we welcome visitors:

Gingins Christingle service on 16 December at 16:00 – offering mulled wine and Christmas snacks after the service. Please contact Christine Carey for offers to help with set up, making mulled wine and soft punch or bringing snacks – and helping with clear up. ([email](#))

COMING UP

SATURDAY 15 DECEMBER

19:00 for apéritif/19:30 for performance, Temple de Nyon, La Cote Jazz Carols

For the 8th consecutive year, this ever-popular evening will offer some creative interpretations of well-known Christmas carols interspersed with a dramatised reading adapted from the renowned Dorothy Sayers script, “The Man born to be King”.

Entry is free (with a retiring collection) but please book your place(s) [here](#).

Seats are not numbered.

TUESDAY 18 DECEMBER

The Bible Study group will be meeting to celebrate Christmas and for a revue of the past study chez Dorothy and Trevor Davies. Please email if you would like to go along. ([email](#))

THURSDAY 20 DECEMBER

19:00 onwards at the Prieuré next to the Temple de Nyon, La Côte Blokes' Dinner

The agenda will be "light": no attempt to rescue our planet, relationships, or masculinity. We may have the opportunity to reflect on the "highs and lows" of 2018.

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ELSEWHERE

FRIDAY 14 DECEMBER

17:30 Mollens, Vaud: A **carol concert** in English and French, followed by light Christmas refreshments, in the spacious, cosy home of Michael and Antonia Bruce. Contact Pastor Etienne Guilloud if you would like to attend: [email](#)

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“SAPIN SOLIDAIRE” IN THE NYON CHRISTMAS MARKET

There will be a designated stall and Christmas Tree at the Nyon Christmas Market this year representing the local churches and other partner organisations who want to reach out to local families who are in most need. See flyer for more details about the vision for this project and how you might be involved.

Please do turn up to the stall in the market and let them know you are from La Côte Church – and you can maybe opt to buy a present for one of the names on the tree. This could be a group buying a present together – or a family activity.

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Christmas Crackers for sale!

If you didn't make it to Holy Trinity's Christmas Fair and would still like to buy Christmas crackers, please contact Sonia Gunton: [email](#).

[Information and requests](#)

concerning our 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 ([email](#)).

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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. ([email](#))

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 ([email](#)) who will be able to match you up with one of our refugee friends in the community.

LA COTE ANGLICAN CHURCH IS ON TWITTER!

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

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

PARKING OUTSIDE THE TEMPLE IN GINGINS

We have been asked very clearly to park ONLY in the four places to the right of the church as you approach it. This will thus be reserved for those setting up in church and needing to drop off equipment. Please ensure that you park either behind the Auberge de la Poste, in the village itself – or down by the Post Office and playing fields at the entrance to Gingins. We apologise for any inconvenience this will cause you, but we are keen to work with the commune and to continue enjoying good relations with the local people of Gingins.
