

# La Côte Anglican Church

## Weekly Bulletin

**Reflection and prayer for week of 25 November to 2 December from Carolyn**

This week, the Americans among us will be celebrating Thanksgiving, sharing in festive food and prayers of thanks for many rich blessings. There will be thousands this week for whom thanksgiving will be a bitter reminder of what has been lost in the devastating Californian wildfires – in terms of loved ones, homes and livelihoods.

We so easily take for granted all that we have until it is suddenly snatched away. I encourage us to take time this week to stop and simply give thanks to God for all that we cherish in our daily lives – the ordinary which is actually so precious.

Here is a prayer for all those who are victims of the wildfires – that they will know God's comfort and strength in their grief and loss.

**Loving God,**

**We ask you to draw near to every victim of the Californian wildfires. Draw near to soothe the agony of those suffering with burns. Strengthen all those working to relieve their pain and treat their injuries. Thank you for the bravery of the firefighters across this region, some who even sacrificed their lives saving others.**

**We pray for all who have lost loved ones in the fires, that you would contain them in their shock and bring the consolation of your love into their grief.**

**We pray for all who have lost their homes and land and who are now wondering how to rebuild their lives. Grant wisdom and mercy to those in authority to provide for them and to guide and support them in their recovery.**

**We pray that you would strengthen the bonds of compassion and kindness as people share in one another's suffering and together seek ways of beginning again. May this thanksgiving time bring people together to care for one another in the midst of their tragedy.**

**We ask all this in the name of your Son, Jesus Christ, who shared our humanity, and draws near to us now by his Spirit,**

**Amen.**

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**SUNDAY 25 NOVEMBER – Christ the King**

**10:00 Divonne, Holy Communion with anointing**

**16:00 Gingins, Evening Prayer (with Sunday Club)**

**NB** There will be bake sales after the services in both Divonne and Gingins this Sunday to raise funds for the Project Compassion 2019 trip and our local youth programme in general.

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## **SUNDAY 2 DECEMBER – CELEBRATING ADVENT SUNDAY**

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

Everyone is welcome both for our worship and then afterwards in the local village café.

**16:00 Gingins, Holy Communion** (with Sunday Club)

### **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. Here are some options:

**The Divonne Christmas lunch on 9 December** at 12:00 after the morning nativity service. Please contact Susan Passmore for offers to help. ([email](#))

**Gingins Christingle service on 16 December** at 16:00 – offering mulled wine and Christmas snacks after the service. Please contact Gillian Bolingbroke for offers to help. ([email](#))

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### **Savouring the Advent Season**

May I encourage you to have a look at resources such as books or online daily readings as a guide on your Advent journey. Taking time to reflect and pray may seem a ridiculous idea at such a busy time, but if you can carve out even five minutes each day, I am confident that you will appreciate the spiritual richness of this season and also rejoice at the birth of Christ with fresh insight.

**Here are several places to look:**

**Church House Bookshop** <https://chbookshop.hymnsam.co.uk/features/what-to-read-this-advent>

**An online contemplative journey in Advent** <http://briandraper.org/engage>

**Other titles that do not feature in the Church House Bookshop include:**

*Haphazard by Starlight*, Janet Morley

*Living with Hope*, John Polkinghorne

*The Meaning is in the Waiting*, Paula Gooder

*Advent with Evelyn Underhill*, author and editor Christopher Webber

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**COMING UP**

## **TUESDAY 27 NOVEMBER**

**09:15–10:30** chez J&P Tracey, Coinsins, [Prayer Group](#)

Please contact Peta if you would like to join us or have prayer requests (in confidence).  
([email](#))

## **FRIDAY 30 NOVEMBER**

**09:30-11:30** Church Hall, Gingins, CCC Fridays

**Coffee Cake and Catch up** will be continuing the book: J. Orterg, *If you want to walk on water, you've got to get out of the boat.*

## **SUNDAY 2 DECEMBER**

**Musical Drop-In** chez Ted Talbot with BARBER SHOP QUAR/QUIN/SEX - TET

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## **ELSEWHERE**

### **SATURDAY 24 NOVEMBER**

**09:30-16:00** Holy Trinity Church, Geneva, [Christmas Fair](#)

**ALSO ON SATURDAY 24 NOVEMBER**

**10:00-15:30**, Christ Church, Lausanne, [Christmas Market](#)

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## **WEDNESDAY 5 DECEMBER - PILGRIMAGE TODAY**

**19:30 – 21:00**, St. John XXIII Parish, 57 rue de Montbrillant, 1202 Geneva

Increasingly, Christians are going on pilgrimages to “sacred places.” This evening will provide an opportunity to share understandings and experiences of pilgrimage among many believers.

Canon Alan Amos and Dr Clare Amos will open up themes of pilgrimage, followed by an hour's open discussion and sharing of our experiences. The themes covered will include...

- Why undertake a pilgrimage?
- Why undertake a pilgrimage to a particular place?
- How to go on pilgrimage? With what attitudes and expectations?
- What's next? How might a pilgrimage impact our lives after our return?

Parking available. Light supper provided after the meeting

Sponsored by the Geneva Ecumenical Cursillo Community

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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.**

Another information flyer will follow, but for now Pastor Kevin Bonzon is looking for French-speaking story-tellers and musicians / singers happy to play Christmas music and carols who could offer a 20 minute slot on the stall over the ten days leading up to Christmas. If you think you can help, or know someone who can, please contact **Carolyn Cooke** ([email](#)) or **Kevin Bonzon**, Pastor for the Eglise Evangelique Reformée du Canton de Vaud, in Nyon ([email](#)).

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### 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.

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#### 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>

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#### 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.

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