

La Côte Anglican Church

Weekly Bulletin

Reflection and prayer for week of 7 to 14 April from Helen Harding

A free bird leaps
on the back of the wind
and floats downstream
till the current ends
and dips his wing
in the orange sun rays
and dares to claim the sky.

(The Caged Bird, Maya Angelou)

Reflecting on the character of Mary of Bethany this week I have been struck by her freedom. For it takes freedom to be able to be completely in the now, either sitting quietly and absorbing the words of our Lord, or extravagantly and unselfconsciously worshiping him. Freedom from the incessant calls on our brains and our thinking. Regrets from the past, worries about the future (both our own and the world's); plans; preparations; emails; the minutiae of daily life – all can take away from our ability to be free in the way Mary is free: To be in the now, concerned only with worshiping our Lord. Brian Draper comments that 'Freedom needs a volunteer' and suggests ways in which we can be a courageous volunteer – allowing freedom into our own life:

“What takes courage for you? Going home from work on time? Then do it. Speaking to a neighbor, and inviting him or her round? Then do it. Walking barefoot? Then do it. Spending time doing nothing for a change, watching clouds? Then do it!” (*Less is More*, Brian Draper 2012)

Thinking of Lent as a time of spiritual spring cleaning, it could be the time when we start to clear the chatter and clutter from our brains and take up practices which lead to freedom to be present in the now, to hear the quiet whisper telling us what is 'our thing'. We are aware through the news of the many problems of the world. Political strife in many countries; natural disasters; climate change; unrest and wars. We cannot singlehandedly address them all, and to feel like we should leads (in my case at least) to total paralysis, to become a caged bird, merely watching as events unfold. In the silence, hearing the still, small voice, can help us find 'our thing', the action we can take to participate in the redemption of our broken world. This, in the words of Brian Draper again, 'is the assured stirring of the soul, which acknowledges: "for this I came."' This is the freedom of Mary of Bethany, serving as an invitation to us all to let silence lead us into action, not of our own making, but as an overflow of God's love for us.

A prayer by Thomas Merton:

Let me rest in your will and be silent. Then the light of your joy will warm my life. Its fire will burn in my heart and shine for your glory. This is what I live for. Amen, amen.

SUNDAY 7 APRIL – Lent 5 Passiontide

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, Evening Prayer (with Sunday Club)

Also on SUNDAY 7 APRIL

10:15 Temple de Nyon (just off of the Rue de Gare on the Rue du Temple), an ecumenical service in partnership with the Festival Visions du Réel

The event is focusing on migration, with video clips from a Visions du Réel documentary on migration.

The organizers are keen to invite friends who are seeking asylum as well as the local community and volunteers interested in migration and refugees.

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SUNDAY 14 APRIL – Palm Sunday

10:00 Divonne, Holy Communion

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

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EASTER SERVICES – please click [here](#) for flyer

FLOWERS FOR EASTER DAY MORNING SERVICE IN CRASSIER:

Would anyone like to help with decorating the church for Easter Day? Or else make a donation towards the cost of flowers in memory of a loved one? Please contact Carolyn ([email](#)).

REFRESHMENTS FOR EASTER DAY MORNING SERVICE IN CRASSIER:

Would anyone like to help with refreshments on Easter Day?

This is a great opportunity to welcome visitors. As it is after the morning service we could offer cold drinks at the entrance to the church, weather permitting.

We also have some Easter eggs for an Easter Egg hunt after the service for children.

Please contact Gillian ([email](#)) if you would like to help with refreshments and / or the Easter egg hunt.

NB No service in Gingins at 16:00 on Easter Day

There are **free Lent reflections from Church of England: *Pilgrim Journeys: 40 days of reflections on The Beatitudes* by Steven Croft**. Sign up for daily emails exploring the reflections, each containing a short Bible reading, an invitation to reflect, a suggestion for prayer and a prompt to act. <https://www.churchofengland.org/pilgrim>

LA COTE YOUTH LEADER ADVERT

Please share this [advert](#) with anybody you think might be interested and suitable.

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PROJECT COMPASSION (ROMANIA), 19-27 APRIL

If you are interested in sending your young people, or providing financial support for others, do contact Calen Gayle ([email](#)).

COMING UP

SUNDAY 7 APRIL

19:00-22:00 Duillier, Musical Drop-In: from the night club to the opera house with Kirsty Griffiths mezzo soprano, Joan Cambitsis piano

For more information, please contact Ted Talbot - [email](#)

TUESDAY 9 APRIL

Coffee from 09:15, starting at 09:30, chez Jacky and Vincent Coo

WEDNESDAY 10 APRIL

19:30-21:30 Parish rooms, Divonne, Lent Seminar: *Palliative care and preparation for the end of life*

Speaker: Dr. Nigel Rollins, Department of Maternal, Newborn, Child and Adolescent Health, WHO, and former Chair, WHO Research Ethics Committee, Geneva

THURSDAY 11 APRIL

“Space” in Nyon at the Prieuré next to the Temple de Nyon from 19:00 for a light shared supper – followed by a Bible study and Evening Prayer. (Contact Chris Potter if you would like to know more: [email](#))

FRIDAY 12 APRIL

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

and

17:30–19:00 at the Prieuré next to the Temple in Nyon, Friday Space

A trilingual Bible Study – English, French and Farsi

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ELSEWHERE

FROM 8 MARCH:

LENT LUNCHEAS AT HOLY TRINITY CHURCH, GENEVA, EVERY FRIDAY IN LENT

More information [here](#)

9 TO 12 MAY, GENEVA , CURSILLO COURSE

More information [here](#)

Information and requests

CLOTHES COLLECTION 2-7 MAY, in aid of Belarus, Moldova & Ukraine. Clean, wearable and in good condition. Please place in black bin bags (max 60 litres) and contact Tyrrian Livesley, to arrange drop-off, at tyrrian48@gmail.com or tel. 022 776 51 16. See attached for more details.

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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>

TEMPLE DE DIVONNE - HEATING

There are problems with the heating system (electrical issues) in Divonne; please do not switch the heating on or off nor touch the radiators. Thank you! Apologies in advance that the church may feel a little cold.

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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.
