

THE CHURCH OF ST URSULA BERNE



February - March 2013

St Ursula's Church Jubiläumsplatz 2, 3005 Berne, Switzerland

Chaplain

Ven Peter Potter

031 351 03 43

077 449 37 70 (emergencies only)

Honorary Assistant Chaplain **Youth Coordinator**

Linda Bisig

Paul Holley

Church Office: 031 352 85 67

Marriages, Baptisms and Funerals by arrangement with the Chaplain

Normal pattern of Sunday services:

8.30 Said Eucharist (2nd and 4th Sundays)

10.00 Sung Eucharist with Junior Church and Crèche

Our services follow the Church of England's Common Worship Order One (2000)

On the 2nd Sunday of the month, the 10.00 service is usually less formal.

See Calendar of Services inside for details of the next few weeks.

Services in Thun: see inside.

Services in Neuchâtel: at the Reformed Church at La Coudre (near the Chaumont funicular) See inside for service times.

Information: Mrs Jennifer Veenendaal, 032 841 64 32

ST URSULA'S BERNE

The church is one of the nine Swiss chaplaincies that have a resident chaplain (minister) and together form the Archdeaconry of Switzerland. This is part of the Anglican Diocese of Europe which stretches from the Canary Islands to Ankara, from Moscow to Morocco.

The church was built in 1906 on a site that had been given to the community by the British-Berne Land Co. An American lady, Mrs Castleman from St Louis, provided the bulk of the money for the building as a thank offering for the near miraculous recovery of her adopted daughter, who was treated at the clinic of the famous Professor Kocher.

The hall and the house were added in 1959. An English Missionary Society, the USPG, helped to support the church from its earliest days. Since 1977, however, the chaplaincy has been fully self-supporting, relying solely on its members and well-wishers for its financial support.

St Ursula's has a long tradition of ministry to all English-speaking people in the Canton of Berne and beyond. It also provides a home for Christians from many different denominations and cultural backgrounds. Regular worshippers are encouraged to add their names to the Electoral Roll and so play a full part in the life of the church. Details from the Churchwardens or any member of the Church Council.

See Calendar inside for details of this month's services
St Ursula's Church website: <http://www.anglican.ch/berne>
E-mail: berne@anglican.ch



St Ursula's Church Magazine

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February — March 2013

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COPY DATE

for the April—May
magazine is

17 MARCH 2013

Please send copy to
magazine@stursula.ch

COLLATING DATE

28 MARCH 2013

Chaplain's Message

As well as the beginning of Lent, February also contains St Valentine's Day and National Marriage Week.

The latter has gained in prominence in recent years and aims to promote the value of marriage for society as a whole. A number of countries have changed their law, or are now in the process of doing so, to permit same-sex marriage. Some supporters of the move claim that this is because they see marriage as a good thing and want to make it more inclusive.



I may be missing something here but I cannot see the logic in this. Some Christians advocate these changes in the law, asserting that Jesus argued in favour of loving relationships. I can see their point to some extent. There is also no clear evidence either way in the Bible, since the passages often quoted are open to more than one interpretation.

Obviously no reasonable person would support discrimination or the persecution of gay people.

But I cannot help thinking that such a change in the law is also a change in the definition of marriage. I may be out of touch with today's ideas but for me, marriage means a union between a man and a woman that is intended to be lifelong. Anything else is something different. The law can change the definition of many things (for instance, the distinction between tax avoidance and tax evasion) but not something as fundamental as marriage.

Genesis 2:24 says "Therefore a man leaves his father and his mother and clings to his wife, and they become one flesh". Gender is therefore an essential feature of both marriage and parenthood. Circumstances may oblige a woman to be a father-figure to her children, for instance (and vice-versa for a man), but if the law could make her a father it would have changed the definition.

There are other sorts of relationships, of course, and Christians especially should be open to the possibility that the Holy Spirit is working in them too. Nevertheless that does not make them identical to marriage.

The churches are finding themselves caught up in a complex situation and are trying to do justice to both sides. Please pray that church leaders can act and speak with wisdom and compassion.

Peter

Whited Sepulchres?

“Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you are like whitewashed tombs, which on the outside look beautiful, but inside they are full of the bones of the dead and of all kinds of filth. So you also on the outside look righteous to others, but inside you are full of hypocrisy and lawlessness.” Matt 23:27-28

Jesus did not approve of the Pharisees. Anyone reading Matthew 23 is left in no doubt of that. The Pharisees were ultra-conservatives. They strained whatever they drank, in case a stray gnat should make it ritually unclean. They made elaborate rules about the words that would make an oath binding or not. They prided themselves on giving a tenth of the herbs they grew for their kitchens to the Temple treasury. It was acting justly, showing mercy to others and showing faith towards God where they fell short.

Trying to be holier than one's neighbour is a very human desire, and it is too easy to equate holiness with particular actions – with things that can be measured, like how often one goes to church, how many times one performs a particular ritual, what religious meetings one goes to, how many chapters of the Bible one reads per week. But this way we run the danger of becoming people who “honour God with their lips, yet their hearts are far from me” - another complaint Jesus levelled against the Pharisees.

This complaint was nothing new, even in Jesus' time. Indeed, Jesus was quoting from Isaiah (29:13). And Isaiah was not the first. A long line of prophets had railed against people who claimed to be serving God while they “trample the head of the poor into the dust of the earth, and push the afflicted out of the way” (Amos 2:7).

Even Jesus' earliest followers had difficulty in giving God their whole heart. There was Simon the magician (Acts 8:9-24) who thought he could use money to buy the power he saw the apostles had. There were Ananias and Saphira (Acts 5:1-11), who agreed to share all they possessed, but decided to keep something back for themselves. There were people who insisted on particular rituals or who speculated on their own myths and interpretation – in the words of 1 Timothy 1:6-7, “Some people have ... turned to meaningless talk, desiring to be teachers of the law, without understanding either what they are saying or the things about which they make assertions.”

Throughout the centuries, the church has run the danger of being like the Pharisees – of putting form before substance, of following a set of rules rather

than following God. At times this has been extreme – think of the corrupt and adulterous politician, Rodrigo Borgia, who became Pope Alexander VI in the fifteenth century, or of some of the modern tele-evangelists, who preach total reliance on God while themselves living in luxury.

Common sense tells us that “being religious” is not bad – it is being religious without any substance behind it which is suspect. Adopting a particular posture when we pray or when we sing God's praises is as much a “religious” gesture as the elaborate comings and goings of a Greek Orthodox liturgy. Selectively memorizing texts which someone has picked out in red in a special version of the Bible, bowing when the name of Jesus is mentioned, hanging an image of St Christopher over one's driving mirror, all of these can become superficial formalities if our heart and our understanding are not behind what we are doing.

As Paul said about the Old Testament Law, “the law is holy, and the commandment is holy and just and good” - but only if obedience to it comes from the heart. This is not to say that anything goes, as long as it comes from the heart, but ways of expressing our faith that are not contrary to what God wants from us are useful and good – as long as they are just that: expressions of our faith, and not just actions in themselves.

Paul also described the Old Testament law as a tutor – “our disciplinarian until Christ comes” (Gal 3:24), and for some people, learning prayers or Bible texts by heart, performing simple rituals, singing repetitive hymns and choruses, can lead them to a fuller faith – one that comes from the heart.

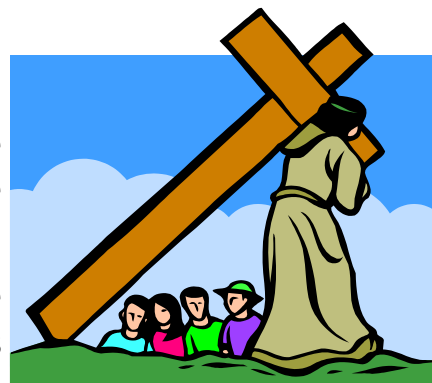
Even in Isaiah's time, the prophets could see and condemn this combination of shallowness and hypocrisy. The verse Jesus quoted above is followed by a criticism – and a promise! “Their worship of me is a human commandment learned by rote; so I will again do amazing things with this people, shocking and amazing.” If we can keep ourselves away from actions which are merely superficial but which lack substance, if we can avoid the hypocrisy of claiming to be religious, but really acting quite differently, then our eyes will perhaps be opened to the amazing things that God can do. Let us be open to this amazement!

- Hector Davie



FAQ: What are the Stations of the Cross?

The Stations of the Cross are a series of pictures, carvings or statues representing the route taken by Jesus on Good Friday, from his trial before Pilate to his entombment. The final station (the fifteenth) shows the Resurrection on Easter Day.



The word “station” means a stopping place. Some of the stations represent places where Jesus himself paused on the way. The series as a whole provides us with opportunities to stop, to meditate and to pray.

How did they begin?

Since the second century, Christians have wanted to retrace the steps Jesus took through the streets of Jerusalem as he carried his cross. The route is often called the *Via Dolorosa* (“painful way”). Crowds of pilgrims still follow this way today, stopping at the places where the events would probably have happened.

For most believers, however, this was an unrealisable dream and so the custom grew up of placing pictures or carvings on the walls of the church. Worshippers were then able to follow Our Lord in their imaginations and hearts.

At first the number of stations varied considerably but it was fixed at 14 in the early 18th century. Most churches also have an additional scene, depicting the Resurrection.

What are they for?

The Stations are to help us remember the sad but triumphant road Jesus took to the cross. They illustrate the words “God so loved the world that he gave his only Son” (John 3:16).

During Lent, people gather for a service, stopping at each Station for a Bible reading, a time of quiet thought, a prayer and perhaps a hymn.

Pictures in Church?

These days even Free Churches have banners and Power Point images in their services. The pictures or statues in the Stations are there to help us in our appreciation of what God has done for us in Jesus Christ – visual aids for our prayers, if you like.

-PMP

A Word for the Month – Temple

The Hindus, the Aztecs and the ancient Romans all worshipped their numerous Gods in temples – some of them still do. Their temples were places where they could get close to their gods – even houses for their gods to live in.



The people of the Old Testament also saw their God as someone they could draw near to – not too near, of course, for God was “a consuming fire” (Deut 4:24). They felt that they were God's special people, and God was with them to guide them – not like the gods their neighbours worshipped, who each controlled little parts of the universe and who needed to be appeased to ensure that their particular bit of nature behaved in the right way.

So it was natural for people to build places where they could be closer to God. An early story about this is the account of Jacob's dream in Genesis 28, of a ladder connecting heaven and earth, and of angels going up and down upon it. For Jacob, the place where he had the dream was itself holy – what some have called “a thin place” – a place where the physical and the spiritual world come close. We are told that Jacob set up the stone he had slept on as a pillar and poured oil over it, and declared that “this shall be God's house” – in Hebrew, Beth El. The sanctuary at Bethel remained a centre of worship throughout Bible times – though since it was in Samaria, it often got unfavourable comments from the southern tribes, eager to stress the importance of Jerusalem.

By the time the narratives in the first half of the Old Testament were assembled, Jerusalem was the centre of the nation, the home of “the house of the Lord”. The building of the temple in Jerusalem marked the change in Jewish society from a predominantly rural nation of small farmers and nomads into a centrally-organized state – a change associated with King David.

But, we are told, although 1 Chronicles 21 tells us that David made preparations to build a temple, the actual building work was carried out under his son, Solomon. 1 Kings 6-7 gives an account of the construction, and some idea of its layout. An outer porch, flanked by two pillars, Jachin and Boaz, led to the holy place, elaborately decorated in gold, with brass or copper lilies and pomegranates. Further in was the holy of holies, entered once a year by the high priest. This was inlaid with gold and panelled with cedar wood and contained

God's throne – a seat carried by two cherubim: bull-like creatures with wings, scholars guess. It also held the box with the law – the Ark of the Covenant, which contained, among other things we can only guess at, the stone tablets bearing the Ten Commandments. In the courtyard outside were altars where sacrifices took place.

According to Exodus, this was nothing new. The dimensions of Solomon's temple, its furnishings and its organization were reflected in the story of the forty years in the wilderness, of God's revelation of the law on Sinai, and God's shepherding Moses and his people through the desert, a cloud of smoke by day, a pillar of fire by night – here Moses is commanded to build an elaborate “tent” to house the box containing the stone tables of the Law, and to be a place where Moses and his brother Aaron can encounter and talk with God.

The Bible is not interested in architectural details, so we may never know what “Solomon's” temple was like – especially since the area where it is supposed to have been is so holy, both to Jews and to Muslims, that it cannot practicably be excavated. But we hear of its being sacked, first by King Shishak of Egypt (1 Kings 14:26) around 920 BC, and later by a whole series of invading armies, culminating in its complete destruction by the Babylonians under Nebuchadnezzar in 587 BC.

Some 52 years later, though, the political situation in the Middle East changed, and the Jewish people, who had been deported wholesale to modern Iraq, were allowed to return and resettle Jerusalem. The ark of the covenant had been lost, and many of the ornaments had been looted, but work began immediately on the rebuilding of the temple, probably on the same site – the books of Ezra and Nehemiah give a rather confused account of the work, and the prophets Haggai and Zechariah provide a commentary on people's hopes for the new building. But again, in 168 BC the temple was despoiled by the king Antiochus IV (“Epiphanes”), a descendant of one of Alexander's generals among whom the Greek empire had been divided. A massive statue of Jupiter was erected in the forecourt, and Jewish religion and practices were forbidden.

This led to a revolt (the Book of Daniel was one of the samizdat texts circulated at the time), and the temple was reconsecrated. Later, it was enlarged by Herod the Great, around 30 BC. and this was the building where Jesus would have been taken by Mary and Joseph, and where he would have gone to celebrate major festivals. And it was the building from which he threw out the traders and the money changers, who were essential to the efficient working of the system.

For worship in the Temple had become a system, a routine, and had outlived its usefulness. The Letter of the Hebrews describes how Jesus had himself fulfilled the task of both High Priest and sacrificial offering, and had led the way through the barrier separating ordinary people from the Holy of Holies (9:1-14). When the Roman army led by the future emperor, Titus, sacked Jerusalem in AD 70, the whole temple complex was burnt to the ground – but by then, it had lost its point. Even the Jews made no further attempt to rebuild it. For Jesus' words to the Samaritan woman recorded in John 4:21-24 had come true. "You will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem.... The hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and in truth." We can meet God in the temple of our own heart.

- Hector Davie

Choir Will Do Anything for a Tenner

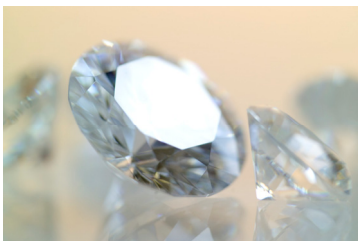
... or soprano or alto or bass.

St Ursula's is fortunate in having a dedicated choir, who help us to experience a wide range of devotional music in our worship. They could do with some more singers, however, particularly men. If you enjoy singing, please come along to one of the practices at 9.30 on Saturday mornings. Can't read music? - No problem. Want some healthy exercise? Singing is better than jogging (and you don't even have to buy the trainers).



See page 12 for information on how to take part in the upcoming choral Evensong and Archdeaconry Choir Festival.

Quotable Quote



A light that has once shone is never quenched.

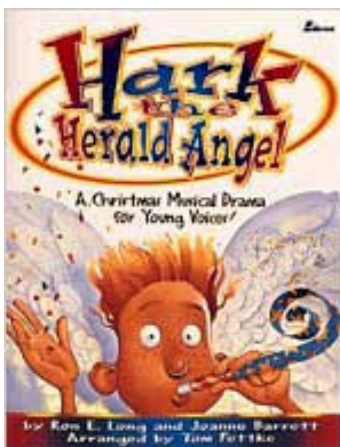
Can a diamond wither?

Harder than precious stones are acts of pity and praise and charity.

George Mackay Brown: "Magnus"

- Dorothy Beriger

Hark the Herald Angel



Remember the inquisitive young angel called Hark. The Archangels preparing for something important. And the choir of angels being trained for a special performance. Something special was happening.

On 9 December a cast of around 50 children, teenagers and adults presented this new look at the Nativity story with some catchy music, humorous dialogue and the important message of the Good News – encouraging us all to go out and tell people about it.

Many thanks to all who took part in our heavenly choir. Thanks to all those who learned a speaking or singing part, to all the musicians and to all those who helped behind the scenes. There are too many people to mention by name – but without you all, this simply would not have been possible.



There are more photos on the church's Picasa site (click on "Pictures" on the main page). If you have photos that we can add please let me know.

- Tricia Carrick



Archdeaconry Choir Festival 2013

The Archdeaconry Choir Festival 2013 will be hosted by the Chaplaincy of St John the Evangelist, **Montreux, on Saturday 1 June and Sunday 2 June**, with a first rehearsal in the evening of Friday 31 May 2013. The music will include traditional and contemporary works for the Liturgy (Choral Evensong on Saturday and sung Communion Service on Sunday).

The Choir of St Ursula's Church will start rehearsing the music from February onwards.

Our regular choir practices are on Saturday mornings from 9.30 to 11.30. Singers who are not regularly singing in our choir, but would like to join us for this event, are welcome at our choir practices. Please contact Elisabeth or Hans-Karl Pfyffer (026 4920 326) for additional information.



- Hans-Karl Pfyffer

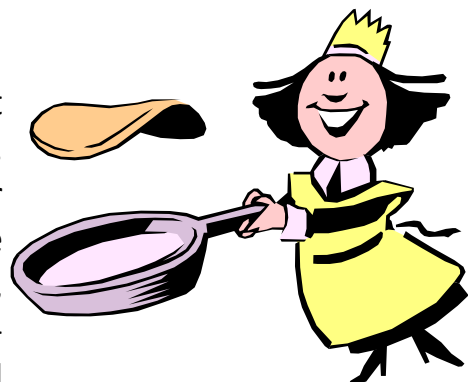
Choral Evensong at St Ursula's Church

On **Saturday 9 March 2013, at 17.30**, there will be a choral Evensong at St Ursula's Church. The choir will be leading the music at this service. Singers are welcome to join the choir for this event; please join us at our choir practices. For details please contact Elisabeth or Hans-Karl Pfyffer (026 4920 326).

- Hans-Karl Pfyffer

Pancakes

Council agreed we should have a repeat of last year's successful Shrove Tuesday get-together. Tricia Carrick has kindly offered to don her chef's hat again and take charge of making the pancakes. It will be on Tuesday 12 February, starting at 19.00. Please come and enjoy yourself. Don't worry about the calories – Lent will take care of that!



AGM Notice

The Annual General Meeting (AGM) will be held on Sunday 28 April at noon so please reserve the date. At the meeting, among other things, we will be electing church wardens and church council members so please start thinking and praying about people you think might be good representatives of St. Ursula's.

In order to vote you need to be a member of the Electoral Roll – see Tricia's article (she's Electoral Roll Officer) in this magazine. The next magazine will contain more information about the AGM including the official invitation and agenda.

- Donna Goepfert (Council Secretary)

Walking Through the Bible



Walk Through the Bible Ministries is a UK based organisation committed to helping people catch the bigger picture of the Bible. They held an event at All Saints, Vevey last year which everyone found helpful both personally and in the roles they play in their local churches.

To build on the Old Testament, WTB will be returning to Vevey this April and lead two further seminars, the first focussing on the Inter Testamental Period and the second on the New Testament. This will take place on Friday evening 19 April (Inter Testamental Seminar) and Saturday morning 20 April both at All Saints.

These seminars promise to benefit all members of our congregations but will especially help those who are involved in teaching the Bible.

Publicity and registration forms will be available from All Saints (www.allsaints.ch). For more information about Walk Through the Bible Ministries, go to www.Bible.org.uk.

Chaplain's Notes

Celebrating Commitment

The Sunday nearest St Valentine's Day is part of Marriage Week. We shall be making this the theme of our 10.00 service again this year on 10 February. It is an occasion to give thanks for the institution of marriage and for marriages that are important to you (your own, that of parents, friends etc). Ladies have been known to wear their posh hats to church that day. Now is your chance to do it again.



Easter is early this year ...

it falls on 31 March, so all the details about our activities for Lent, Holy Week and Easter are in this magazine.



Lent begins with **Ash Wednesday**, on 13 February. There will be a service of Holy Communion with Imposition of Ashes in St Ursula's at 18.30. The ash is made from last year's palm crosses, so please bring yours back to church from the end of January until 10 February.

Our **Friday lunch meetings** will help us to use Lent as a season of prayer and reflection. We start with a simple lunch and then go to the church for Stations of the Cross (see FAQs on page 5). There is no need to register in advance or order booklets – just turn up (and if you can offer to help provide lunch one Friday, so much the better!).

The meetings start on Friday 15 February at 12 noon.

The **Women's World Day of Prayer**, on 1 March, is on the theme "I was a stranger and you welcomed me", an appropriate topic for a diocese like ours. Various churches in Berne will be holding services and you are encouraged to attend one of these.



Sermon topics

Continuing the series of sermons on the first Sunday of the month looking at important Christian doctrines, the theme in February will be “Old Testament prophecy fulfilled in the new?” and in March “Christ died for our sins – what does this mean?”.

Lent is a time to be mindful of our obligations, so I trust we will have a good turnout at these events.



Holy Week (24-31 March) this year will include old and new elements. There will be the special services on Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday and Good Friday as usual and they will include some dramatic interludes – a sort of rolling Passion Play. Look out for the flyers.



Palm Sunday to Easter Sunday

Following on from the success of the Nativity Play, we hope to prepare contributions to the re-telling of the story from Palm Sunday to Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and the climax on Easter Sunday.

Once again, we would like to involve people of all ages – children, teenagers and adults. There will be familiar songs, new songs to learn and speaking parts for all who would like to take part. As for the Nativity Play, rehearsals will take place during coffee time after the Sunday services (11.30 to 12.20). These will start on Sunday 10 February.

Of course, you will get the most benefit if you join in the whole event. But if you can only be with us for one or two of these services we would still love to have you take part.

For more information, please come to the short meeting after the service on 27 January (before the lunch) or contact the church office (031 352 8567, berne@anglican.ch) or Tricia Carrick (031 535 5328).

- *Tricia Carrick*



You are cordially invited to the
Cecily's Fund's
Annual Lenten Soup
at St Ursula's

- Sunday 17 March 2013 -

Homemade soups
with vegetables
harvested from the garden

11.30– 13.30



This event is free to attend but donations towards the Cecily's Fund
are certainly welcome

Save the Date

“Treasure Hunt” in aid of **Cecily's Fund**

Sunday 9 June 2013, in the afternoon

Organised by the Neuchâtel Church

Invitation and details coming soon



Electoral Roll Revision

Notice is hereby given that under the Church Representation Rules a new Electoral Roll is being prepared for St Ursula's. All persons who wish to have their names entered on the new Roll, whether their names are entered on the present Roll or not, are requested to apply for enrolment not later than Sunday 7 April 2013.

The text above is copied (more or less) from the Church Representation Rules. Before our Annual General Meeting (AGM), which will be held on Sunday 28 April 2013, we have to completely renew our Electoral Roll. This process happens every six years, so I'm sure some of you will remember doing it before.

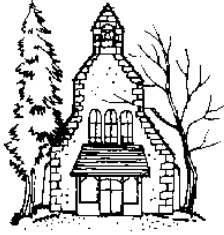
At the AGM representatives to the church council and the churchwardens are elected. In order to vote at those elections you **must** be on the Electoral Roll. You must also be on the Electoral Roll if you want to stand for election or nominate someone else.

Because we have to produce a new Electoral Roll, **everyone** must complete an application form and return it to me. The closing date for applications is **Sunday 7 April**.

There is an application form on the back of this page of the magazine. Application forms are also available in the church hall. Or contact me or the church office if you'd like one sent to you. Please complete the form as soon as possible and return it to me (preferably by putting it in my tray on the piano in the church hall).

If you need more information before completing the application form, please contact me or a member of council. I look forward to receiving your form very soon.

- *Electoral Roll Officer (Tricia Carrick)*



Church of England Diocese in Europe
ST URSULA'S CHURCH, BERNE
APPLICATION FOR ENROLMENT ON THE ELECTORAL ROLL

Full Name.....

Title..... (Mr, Mrs, Miss etc)

Full Address.....

.....

I declare that

1) I am baptised

2) I am aged sixteen or more years

or I shall reach my sixteenth birthday on (being a date before the
AGM)

(delete as appropriate)

3) I am a member of the Church of England or of a Church in full communion with
the Church of England

or I am a communicant member of a Church which subscribes to the doctrine of the
Holy Trinity and am in good standing with that Church

(delete as appropriate)

4) I have habitually attended public worship in this chaplaincy during the last six
months

or My name is on the electoral roll of(parish or chap-
laincy)

(delete as appropriate)

I declare that the above answers are true and I apply for inclusion on the electoral
roll of St Ursula's, Berne

Signed Date

When completed, this form should be returned to:

The Electoral Roll Officer
St Ursula's Church
Jubiläumsplatz
3005 Berne

Calendar of Services

3 February – Presentation of Christ

10.00 - Sung Eucharist
Malachi 3: 1-5
Hebrews 2:14-18
Luke 2:22-40

10 February – Sunday before Lent

8.30 - Said Communion
10.00 - Informal Eucharist with a celebration of marriage
Exodus 34:29-35
2 Corinthians 3:12 – 4:2
Luke 9:28-36

13 February – Ash Wednesday

18.30 - Holy Communion with Imposition of Ashes
Joel 2:1-2, 12-17
John 8:1-11

17 February – Lent 1

10.00 - Sung Eucharist
Deuteronomy 26:1-11
Romans 10:8b-13
Luke 4:1-13

24 February – Lent 2

8.30 - Said Communion
10.00 - Sung Eucharist
Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18
Philippians 3:17-4:1
Luke 13:31-35



3 March – Lent 3

10.00 - Sung Eucharist
Isaiah 55:1-9
1 Corinthians 10:1-13
Luke 13:1-9

10 March – Lent 4, Mothering Sunday

8.30 - Said Communion
10.00 - Informal Eucharist
1 Samuel 1 20-28
2 Corinthians 1:3-7
Luke 2:33-35

17 March – Lent 5

10.00 - Sung Eucharist
Isaiah 43:16-21
Philippians 3:4b-14
John 12:1-8

24 March – Palm Sunday

8.30 - Said Communion
10.00 - Sung Eucharist
readings to be announced

28 March – Maundy Thursday

18.30 - Commemoration of the Last Supper (Informal)
readings to be announced

29 March – Good Friday

10.00 - Family Service
14.00 - Commemoration of the Last Hour
Isaiah 52:13-end of 53
John 18:1 – end of 19

31 March – Easter Day

9.00 - Sung Eucharist with Easter Ceremonies
Isaiah 25:6-9
John 20:1-18
10.30 - Family Eucharist
Acts 10:34-43
Luke 24:1-12

Prayer Diary

February 2013

- 1 Friday Places in the news today
- 2 Saturday The Federal Council
- 3 **Sunday** That we may bring Christ's light to others
- 4 Monday Justin Welby becomes Archbishop of Canterbury
- 5 Tuesday Our Charities Committee
- 6 Wednesday The Church of England's campaign for a world free of hunger
- 7 Thursday Christians in the Middle East
- 8 Friday Ethical banking and investment
- 9 Saturday The Mothers Union
- 10 **Sunday** Thanksgiving for Marriage
- 11 Monday Couples preparing for marriage
- 12 Tuesday People who have lost a spouse
- 13 Wednesday Ash Wednesday
- 14 Thursday A proper spirit of prayer
- 15 Friday Our Lent meetings for fellowship and prayer
- 16 Saturday Marriage counsellors
- 17 **Sunday** God's help to resist temptation
- 18 Monday Carers
- 19 Tuesday The Fair Trade movement
- 20 Wednesday The Bishop's Lent Appeal
- 21 Thursday People with long-term illness
- 22 Friday Vocations to ordained and authorised ministry
- 23 Saturday Restraint in our use of carbon-based energy
- 24 **Sunday** The suffering Church
- 25 Monday Musicians and singers at St Ursula's
- 26 Tuesday People providing health services
- 27 Wednesday People on the fringe of our church
- 28 Thursday Public transport in our area

March 2013

- 1 Friday St David: The people of Wales
- 2 Saturday Today's book and food sale
- 3 **Sunday** True repentance
- 4 Monday The leaders of the countries from which we come
- 5 Tuesday People making their home in Switzerland
- 6 Wednesday God's animal creation
- 7 Thursday AGCK (The Swiss national council of churches)
- 8 Friday Cantonal and local council members
- 9 Saturday The service of Evensong today
- 10 **Sunday** Our Mother the Church and our own mothers
- 11 Monday The Mothers Union (Diocesan President Carol Johnston)
- 12 Tuesday Adoptive and foster parents
- 13 Wednesday Partner Sein
- 14 Thursday Reducing our carbon footprint
- 15 Friday Neighbours and colleagues
- 16 Saturday Cecily's Fund, our charity of the month
- 17 **Sunday** Our giving of time, talents and money
- 18 Monday St Patrick (17 March) The people of Ireland
- 19 Tuesday St Joseph: fair employment conditions
- 20 Wednesday Countries at risk from global warming
- 21 Thursday The installation of Archbishop Justin Welby
- 22 Friday The work of the Salvation Army
- 23 Saturday People travelling this weekend
- 24 **Sunday** Palm Sunday: "Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord"
- 25 Monday Our keeping of Holy Week
- 26 Tuesday All attending our services in Holy Week
- 27 Wednesday People preparing for baptism at Easter
- 28 Thursday Maundy Thursday: "This is my body, given for you"
- 29 Friday Good Friday: "It is finished"
- 30 Saturday "On the seventh day, God rested"
- 31 **Sunday** **Easter Day:** "He is risen"

For Your Diary

February & March 2013

Regular Weekly Events

Mondays	09.30 - 10.00	Morning Prayer
Wednesdays	09.15 - 11.15	Parents and Tots
Fridays	09.30	Patchwork (not 29 March)
Saturdays	09.30 - 11.30	Choir Practice (not 9 March)

Other Events

Tuesday 5 February	19.30	Church Council
Wednesday 6 February	19.30	Ecumenical House Group (External Venue)
Sunday 10 February	11.30-12.20	Easter Services Rehearsal
Tuesday 12 February	19.00	Pancake Evening
Friday 15 February	09.00	Book Sorting
	12.00	Lent Group
Sunday 17 February	11.30-12.20	Easter Services Rehearsal
Wednesday 20 February	19.30	Ecumenical House Group (External Venue)
Friday 22 February	12.00	Lent Group
Sunday 24 February	10.00	Youth Group
	11.30-12.20	Easter Services Rehearsal
Friday 1 March	09.00	Book Sorting
	12.00	Lent Group
Saturday 2 March	10.00 – 14.00	Book & Food Sale
Sunday 3 March	11.30 – 15.00	Junior Church Activity Club
	11.30-12.20	Easter Services Rehearsal
Tuesday 5 March	13.30 – 15.30	House Group in Stettlen
Wednesday 6 March	19.30	Ecumenical House Group (Liebefeld)
Friday 8 March	12.00	Lent Group

Saturday 9 March	17.30	Choral Evensong
Sunday 10 March		Mothering Sunday
	11.30-12.20	Easter Services Rehearsal
Tuesday 12 March	19.30	Church Council
Friday 15 March	12.00	Lent Group
Saturday 16 March	10.00 – 12.30	Children's Toy & Equipment sale
Sunday 17 March		COPY DATE
	11.30-12.20	Easter Services Rehearsal
	12.00	Lenten Soup Lunch
Tuesday 19 March	13.30 – 15.30	House Group in Stettlen
Wednesday 20 March	19.30	Ecumenical House Group (Liebefeld)
Friday 22 March	12.00	Lent Group
Thursday 28 March	09.00 – 11.00	Collating

Future Dates

Sunday 28 April	St Ursula's AGM
Saturday 25 May	Summer Fête
Saturday 1 June – Sunday 2 June	Archdeaconry Choir Festival



Junior Church News



Nativity Play

The main Junior Church event in December 2012 was the Nativity Play. This involved many of the Junior Church members (children, parents and teachers). We had great fun preparing for it, with rehearsals every Sunday, and it was much appreciated by the congregation. There are some photos on page 9 of the magazine and more on the church's web site.

Christmas

Over Christmas there was no Junior Church, but some special services for children and their families: a crib service in the afternoon of Christmas Eve and a family carol service on Christmas Day.

On Sunday 6 January, we celebrated Epiphany when the Magi (or Wise Men or "Kings") visited the baby Jesus. Some of the older children read and all of the children took part in the procession bringing the gifts to the baby and in drawing the gifts they would like to bring to Jesus.

Classes



From January, the Junior Church again has three classes: Sparklers for those aged 3 to 6+, Trailblazers for those aged 7 to 10+ and Pilots for those aged 11 to 14+. We are very thankful for the new people who have volunteered to teach. Also for the increase in the number of children attending, which makes it feasible to have three classes again.

Meeting Times

Junior Church normally meets every Sunday, starting with a time of worship with the whole congregation in church. Then the whole Junior Church meets for a short opening prayer and any notices. Afterwards, the Sparklers meet downstairs and the Trailblazers and Pilots in the Upper Hall. On the 2nd and 4th Sunday of each month, the children return to church at the Peace. On the other Sundays, their teaching continues until coffee time.

On the second Sunday of each month, the members of the Pilots class take part in various aspects of the main worship and so remain in church for the whole service.

Teaching

We are continuing to use the “Seasons” teaching material – you can find out more about this on their website: www.seasonsonline.ca.

The second half of February and almost all of March fall into the season of Lent. Lent is a season of “letting go,” and a season of choices, pilgrimage, and difficult stories en route to the harsh events in Jerusalem. It is a season of challenge and justice, promise and hope as we hold the stories within our stories. This Lent, the focus stories come from the Hebrew Scriptures and the gospels of Luke and John. In the middle of the season, the middle of our journey, we hear in the poetic imagery of Psalm 63 a promise of refreshment when thirst is real and hunger is real. In the story of a prodigal parent and prodigal son there is a story for every phase of life or faith; and the story of the extravagant ministry of Mary of Bethany invites us to reflect on ways we are both recipients and providers of gracious ministries.

Activity Club

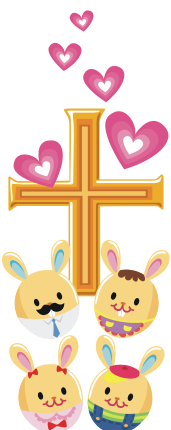
The Junior Church Activity Club (ages 7 – 11) continues to meet approximately once a month for fun activities, some of which are also aimed to serve others. The next two events are:

- Saturday, 26 January: East African Afternoon

Get to know more about Uganda through cooking, songs and games.

- Sunday, 3 March: Ice-skating

Please contact Françoise Hänggi (031 802 10 05) for more information.



Easter

Palm Sunday is 24 March. This will be a special service including the Junior Church children, their parents, teachers and other adults.

We also hope to involve everyone in preparing contributions for services during Holy Week and especially for Easter Sunday. See separate article in this magazine for more information.

- *Tricia Carrick*

Happy Birthday!

Congratulations to the Junior Church Children with birthdays in February and March:

Cara Hofer 7 on 7 February

Andrew King 8 on 14 February

Justin Campbell 7 on 22 February

William Hockley 10 on 4 March

Christopher Shergold 5 on 12 March

Daniel Hänggi 11 on 15 March

Gemma Hockley 8 on 21 March

Georgina Kutesko-Pawsey 16 on 21 March



NEUCHÂTEL CHURCH

Minister in Charge: The Rev. Dianne Cox

We meet in the Swiss Reformed Church at La Coudre, Chemin du Crêt-du-Chêne, nearly opposite the funicular train station to Chaumont

Services are held twice monthly:

**10 am on the FIRST Sunday of the month: Communion service
Junior Church**

5 pm on the THIRD Sunday of the month: All-age Communion service

Contact: Mrs Jennifer Veenendaal
Telephone 032 841 6432

Read the monthly magazine on the website, or, to receive a paper copy, phone Rosemarie Zimmermann, 032 853 2986

www.neuchatel-church.ch

Thun Church

There is a fortnightly service (normally a eucharist) at the Reformed Church Hall in Bubenbergrasse in **Thun**. This is held at 19.30 on the first and third Thursdays of the month, usually combined with a Bible study. (It's best to check with the office first!)

Church Office: 031 352 85 67

St Ursula's Charity and Missions Team

For many years St Ursula's church has set aside 10% of the pledged giving for charitable and missionary work.

The task of the Charity and Mission team is fourfold:

- To draw up a proposal towards the end of each year for council as to how to allocate these funds
- To keep in contact with the organisations we are supporting
- To pass on news to our church family about the organisations through articles in the church magazine, displays in the church hall or by direct contact
- To help our church family pray faithfully for the people we support with our gifts

Our aim is to update you about one of our missions through our bimonthly magazine articles as well as displays on the hall notice board. We very much encourage and appreciate the prayer support of our church family. We also encourage groups or individuals in our church congregation to specifically support one of our church charities or organisations. For example, we have an active Swiss Friends of Cecily's Fund team here at St Ursula's, which organises events such as the Pumpkin Soup Lunch for additional fund raising and information. The Junior Church is actively involved with their TearFund project with cookie bake sales or activity afternoons.

The last few years we have helped plan a Sunday worship service with a focus on our Missions which we invite our charities and organisations to attend. By the time this magazine comes out, we will just have had our Missions Sunday and Pot Luck meal on 27 January with our UK guest speaker Zoe Bunter from Us (USPG) and with Philip Klingler talking to the Junior Church about the TearFund Schweiz Water and Sanitation project they are now supporting in Kabale, Uganda.

If you look on the Charity and Missions notice board in the church hall in March, you can see some of the letters of thanks received from many of our charities and organisation we support. Here are a few excerpts:

From Refuge Egypt: *Thank you for your Christmas greetings and your generous donation of 1,600. It is so encouraging for us at Refuge-Egypt to have partners like you who are praying for us and refugees in Cairo. Merry Christmas to all the members of St. Ursula's!*

From Paul Holley, Anglican Health Network:

On behalf of the Coordinating Board of the Anglican Health Network, I should like to thank the Charity and Mission Team for the recent donation of CHF1000. This is an encouraging vote of confidence in our work, and will help enable us to fulfil our workplan for 2013 – ‘Promoting Healthy Communities’.

From Seev Levy from the Kirchliche Passantenhilfe and Sozialberatung der Heilsarmee:

Grateful thanks for your donation. All donations are used 100% for people in Bern in difficult situations for a short and unbureaucratic financial aid or other necessary help. Many of our clients express their appreciation for our engagement through the Passantenhilfe and we would like to share this gratitude also with you.

From the Zentrum 5, Integrationszentrum for Migrantinnen in Bern:

Please accept our warmest thanks for this very generous gift of 1000 CHF for our centre. With your great help we will be able to continue our cultural and social programs, workshops, language and integration courses, theatre groups, counselling for emigrants who need help in the integration process. Times have become more difficult for many foreigners to find their own place here in Switzerland & therefore we are extremely thankful for your moral and financial help!

If you would like more information about any of our charities or missions please do contact one of the Charity and Mission team members (Peter Potter, Esther Funkhouser-Hutchison, Donna Goepfert, Cecily Klingler, Hector Davie and Pieter Perrett)

Local Charity or Mission Organisations supported at St Ursula’s

- Partners (Partner Sein, Old Catholic Relief Organisation) with whom we work together closely
- AKIB Passantenhilfe, Heilsarmee (Seev Levy) is run on behalf of the Bernese churches by the Salvation Army, offering advice and support to people locally without fixed homes
- Zentrum 5
- Discretionary (to be used locally by Chaplain)

Regional Charity or Mission Organisations

- Family Life Mission: Piotr and Mariola Wołochowicz and their team train men and women in Christian family life in Warsaw, Poland
- Train a Priest Fund
-

International Charity or Mission Organisations

- Church Mission Society
- Us (up till the end of last year known as USPG), whose projects cover everything from wells for villagers to bicycles and books for evangelists
- Refuge Egypt: All Saints Cathedral Cairo, Egypt, the Anglican community in Cairo and their "Helping Program", called Refuge Egypt, work with the refugees there who have fled from persecution in Sudan and elsewhere
- Child Development Centre founded by Professor da Silva in Talagolla, Ragama in Sri Lanka
- Street Children's Mission, Thailand, founded by Erwin Gröbli, OMF
- HLID, Holy Land Institute for the Deaf in Salt, Jordan
- Cecily's Fund, Zambia supports and educates Zambian children who have been orphaned by AIDS;
- Life Skills Project (Sakh'ulutsha), run by Scripture Union, South Africa;
- TearFund Schweiz (Junior church project)
- Anglican Health Network

Charity and Mission prayer focuses for February/March are:

- Prayer for the local charities or missions we support around Bern
- Prayer for the regional charities or missions we support in the UK and Poland
- Prayer for the various international charities and projects we support in Cairo, Jordan, Thailand, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Zambia and globally
- Pray that our church family may provide generous financial support as well as active and regular prayer support

- Cecily Klingler on behalf of the Charity and Missions Team

Notes for the Completion of the Electoral Roll Form

What is an Electoral Roll?

It is the chaplaincy's register of electors, the list of those qualified to vote at the Annual General Meeting (AGM) where elections take place for

- a) the members of the church council
- b) the representatives to the archdeaconry synod
- c) the church wardens

Additionally, any person entitled to vote at the Annual General Meeting may raise any question of local or general church interest.

Who can be a member of the Electoral Roll?

Membership of the Electoral Roll is open to members of the Church of England, members of churches in communion with the Church of England, and members in good standing of another church which subscribes to the doctrine of the Holy Trinity. Members must be aged 16 or over, live in the canton of Berne or the surrounding area, and have worshipped at St Ursula's (or in Thun) for the last three months.

What difference does it make?

By enrolling you become a voting member of the Church of England and so help to ensure that all the Synodical councils of the Church (church council, archdeaconry synod, diocesan synod and general synod) are fully representative of their members. Synodical government gives an opportunity for partnership between bishops, clergy and laity in the life of the Church. It is intended to enable church people at every level to be in touch with the Church as a whole and to play their part in decision making.

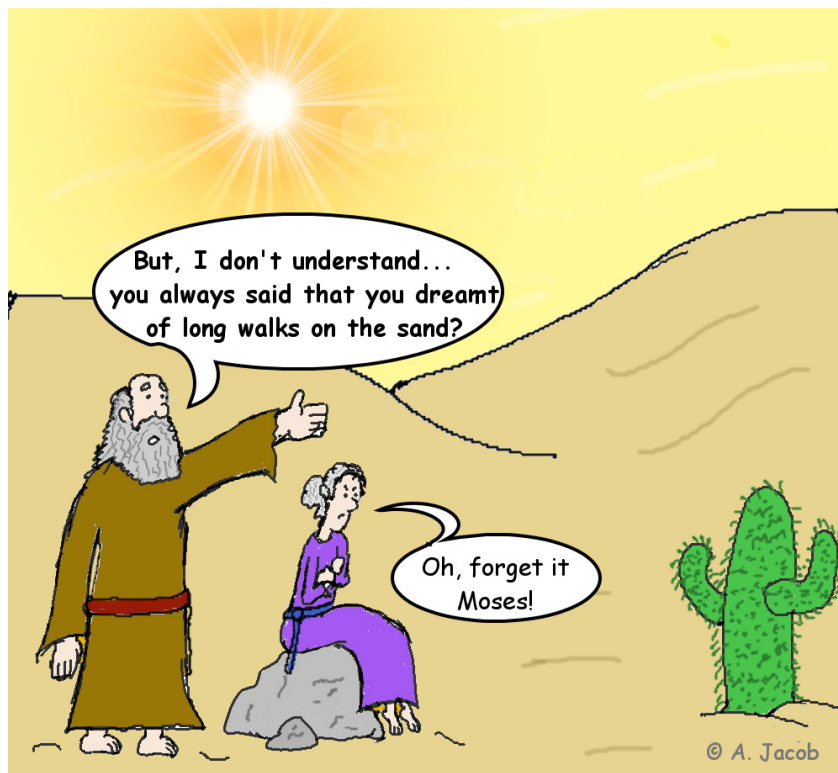
Completing the Electoral Roll Form

The form should be easy to complete, but if you have questions please speak to me or the chaplain. Once you have completed the form, please post it to the address given on the form, or hand it in to the church office or to a council member.

- *Tricia Carrick (Electoral Roll Officer)*

Cartoon

Moses had to face different challenges during the 40 years in the desert



- Archana Jacob



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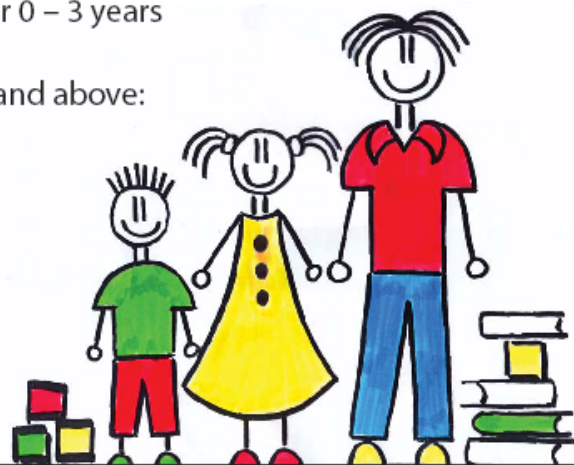


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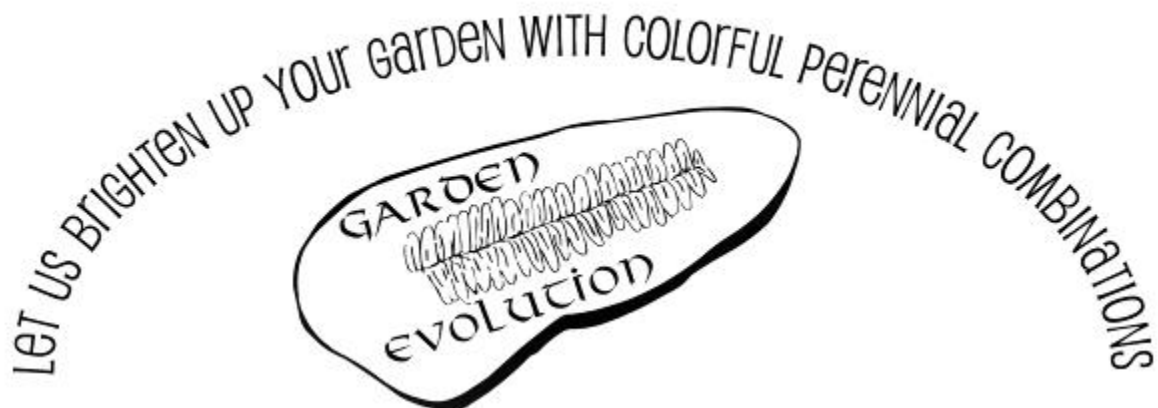
The club was formed in 1991 as a non-political, non-religious organization open to all men, women and their families, interested in meeting for social and cultural activities. Our aim is to facilitate a better understanding of - and integration into - Switzerland, through a variety of services, programmes and joint explorations of this country and its people. We welcome members from all over the world, and currently count nearly 200 members and their families from more than 40 nations. Our common language is English, but among our members many other languages can be heard. We hold a monthly meeting with guest speakers and presentations on a wide range of topics, and publish a monthly Newsletter. We are waiting to welcome you !

Graham Tritt, President, tel. 031 829 34 79, email g.tritt@gmx.net

International Club of Berne, 3000 Berne, [www: icberne.2ya.com](http://www.icberne.2ya.com)

Annual membership: CHF 35 for singles, CHF 45 for families.

For membership enquiries, contact Werner Dettwiler,
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New members are always welcome. Our website hosted by the Federation of Anglo-Swiss Clubs is:
www.angloswissclubs.ch

Share your burden.....

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Rosalind Richards 026 401 14 21

CARETAKER

Rolf Klingler 031 302 48 59

CATERING COORDINATOR

Lynn Morgan 031 971 13 36

CHARITY AND MISSIONS TEAM

Cecily Klingler 031 302 48 59

Church Council

Lay Members:

Jonathan Carrick 031 535 53 28

John Eze 079 489 58 46

Donna Goepfert (*secretary*) 031 931 27 42

James Holden 026 422 13 55

Tony Read 033 243 34 32

Edi Wildhaber 079 460 61 15

Lay Representatives to Archdeaconry Synod:

Hector Davie 031 971 27 71

Donna Goepfert 031 931 27 42

Janet Wenger 031 839 46 53

CHURCH OFFICE 031 352 85 67

Administration: Jana Kutesko

Normally open Tuesdays & Thursdays

Church Hall 031 351 05 76

CHURCHWARDENS

Archana Jacob 031 859 64 12

Maxine Wildhaber 076 349 40 42

CRÈCHE

Maxine Wildhaber 076 349 40 42

ECUMENICAL CONTACT

Esther Hutchison Funkhouser 031 351 73 47

ELECTORAL ROLL OFFICER

Patricia Carrick 031 535 53 28

ENVIRONMENT OFFICER

Walter Bisig 031 932 41 69

FLOWERS

Yojena Chittazhathu 031 859 64 12

JUNIOR CHURCH

Contact the Chaplain 031 351 03 43

Françoise Hänggi 031 802 10 05

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Donna Goepfert 031 931 27 42

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Annemarie Walthert 031 331 03 72

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Organist

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Choir

Elisabeth Pfyffer 026 492 03 26

Music Group

Tony Read 033 243 34 32

MAGAZINE EDITOR

Querida Long 031 331 41 07

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Jenny Veenendaal 032 841 64 32

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Lori Hughes 078 629 92 98

PASTORAL GROUP

Shareene Potter 031 351 03 43

PATCHWORK

Elisabeth Pfyffer 026 492 03 26

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Ruth Freiburghaus 031 992 56 15

Chalice Bearers:

Ruth Freiburghaus 031 992 56 15

Intercessions:

Esther Hutchison Funkhouser 031 351 73 47

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Allison Masciadri 031 829 18 69

Servers:

Ruth Freiburghaus 031 992 56 15

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Shareene Potter 031 351 03 43

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Mary Mead 031 982 00 37

THUN CONTACT

Rachel Huguenin 033 336 29 54

TREASURER

Hector Davie 031 971 27 71

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Accredited by the Council of International Schools and
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"Lead us not into temptation" – A hymn for Lent

Christian, dost thou see them
on the holy ground,
how the powers of darkness
prowl and prowl around?
Christian, up and smite them,
counting gain but loss,
smite them by the merit
of the holy cross.

Christian, dost thou feel them,
how they work within,
striving, tempting, luring,
goaded into sin?
Christian, never tremble;
never be downcast;
gird thee for the battle,
watch and pray and fast.

Christian, dost thou hear them,
how they speak thee fair?
"Always fast and vigil?
Always watch and prayer?"
Christian, answer boldly:
"While I breathe I pray!"
Peace shall follow battle,
night shall end in day.

"Well I know thy trouble,
O my servant true;
thou art very weary,
I was weary, too;
But that toil shall make thee
some day all mine own,
and the end of sorrow
shall be near my throne."

Words: Greek, seventh century;
trans. John Mason Neale, 1862

