

Diary dates for April and May 2011

2 nd April	10.30 Council Meeting
7 th April	11.00 Lent Bible Study 3
14 th April	11.00 Lent Bible Study 4
17 th April	12.00 AGM
20 th April	11.00 Julian Meeting – George Dobinson
21 st April	10.30 Maundy Thursday
	11.00 Lent Bible Study 5
22 nd April	11.00 Good Friday
24 th April	11.00 Easter Day
12 th May	10.30 Council Meeting
18 th May	11.00 Julian Meeting – George Dobinson

Prayer of the month

Whoever truly loves you, good Lord,
walks in safety down a royal road, far from the dangerous abyss;
and if he so much as stumbles, you, O Lord, stretch out your hand.
Not one fall, or many, will cause you to abandon him if he loves you
and does not love the things of this world
because he walks in the vale of humility.

St Teresa of Avila (1515 – 1582)

Prayer focus

To reflect on what Easter really means to us.
To ask ourselves to whom do we owe a debt of gratitude
and whether we still have the opportunity to say thank you
for what we have received.

The Newsletter

St Bartholomew's, Dinard



Easter, 2011

Services

Sunday 11.00 Holy Communion (with hymns)

Thursday 10.00 Holy Communion (said)

A warm welcome to all who worship with us.
During the service there is a Sunday School.
After the service coffee is served.

Priest-in-charge: The Revd Gareth Randall

For further information concerning baptisms,
marriages or funerals:

☎ 02 99 46 77 00

e-mail : gareth.randall@nordnet.fr

Website : www.stbarts-dinard.org.uk



April, 2011

Notices

Dear Friends,

Thank you

Do you ever wish you'd said thank you? Is there someone whom you'd like to have thanked for having made a difference in your life but you didn't? I'd like to have said thank you to Frank Stack, my moral tutor at the University of Southampton. Frank was an English Lecturer whose specialism was the 18th Century: Richardson, Fielding and Jane Austen. Frank's gift to me was his enthusiasm: his delight in the authors of whom he spoke was infectious. Thereafter, Frank has been a model to me of what constitutes a good teacher: someone who could bring his subject alive to the delight of his hearers.

And the gift of life is precisely what Easter is all about. We know that the Word of God has brought life into being by pronouncing the creative word of power: 'Fiat Lux'. We know that in becoming flesh, the Word brought life to us by what he taught and by what he did. Now at Easter, he is most clearly demonstrating the nature of God's love for us in that God is willing to die for us in the person of his Son, Jesus Christ. According to St John, Jesus affirms this truth in saying, 'Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends.' (15 v13)

And so this Easter, shouldn't we to say thank you for the gift of life, not only for our being but also for our potential, through grace, to be sons of God by adoption?

Of the ten lepers healed, sadly only one returned to say thanks.

Father Gareth



- **Easter Flowers** If you would like to contribute to the cost of the flowers in church this Easter at the same time remembering the name of a deceased loved one, then please give 3€ per person remembered together with their names to Fr Gareth.
- **Lent Appeal 2011** is in aid of work among sick children in Madagascar.
- **Banque Alimentaire** Thanks to everyone who supports this increasingly vital local charity. Helen Morgan will collect items each week to be passed on.
- **Tournebride Monthly Lunch 2nd April** at the Relais de Tournebride - a good opportunity for British and French folk to meet. 14€ includes an aperitif, a four course meal, wine and coffee. **Mike Baber** 02 99 73 56 06/annebabber5050@aol.com
- A collection at the Tournebride Lunch in March to help defray the cost of the gerbes at the war memorial services in Dinard raised **150€**.
- **St Bartholomew's Book of Cakes:** Closing date for recipes is April 30th. To Doreen Collier doreen.collier@wanadoo.fr
- **For Sale: (1) Trailer** 1m x 1.3m completely enclosed with 2 rear doors; very secure 200€ o.n.o. **(2) English Caravan 1995,** gas fire, cooker etc: not been used for many years. Offers? **Andy Wallis** 02 99 58 15 08 or **Bill Hughes** 02 96 83 30 19
- **For Sale: Ice cream freezer** 30€ **Bill Hughes** 02 96 83 30 19
- **Soup Lunch** at Diana Wilson's on 26th February raised **450€** in aid of the SPA and church funds.
- **Deadline** for submission of material for the May Newsletter is **midday on Thursday 28th April**
- **Church Finances for February**
Income: 2579€ Expenditure: 4350€

Readings in church

April 3 Mothering Sunday

1 Samuel 1 v20 – end Psalm 127 v1 - 4 p1267
Colossians 3 v12 – 17 Luke 2 v33 – 35

April 10 Passion Sunday

Ezekiel 37 v1 - 14 Psalm 130 p1269
Romans 8 v6 - 11 John 11 v1 – 45

April 17 Palm Sunday

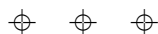
Isaiah 50 v4 – 9a Psalm 31 v9 - 16 p1129
Philippians 2 v5 - 11 Matthew 26 v14 – 27 end

April 24 Easter Day

Acts 10 v34 - end Psalm 118 v14 - 24 p1250
Colossians 3 v1 – 4 Matthew 28 v1 – 10

Envelopes ???

Each Sunday, there are buff envelopes in the collection plate. They contain the weekly/monthly pledges from our members who have chosen this way to make a regular contribution to church funds. Annually a receipt is then issued which can be submitted as part of your French Tax return. If you're interested in this way of giving, then please contact Doreen Collier.



Kids see things differently

*This is the 4th of a seven month series kindly sent to me by my former vicar,
Father Peter Bevan*

Nudity 2 - A little boy got lost at the YMCA and found himself in the women's changing room. When he was spotted, the room burst into shrieks, with ladies grabbing towels and running for cover. The little boy was amazed, "What's the matter, haven't you seen a little boy before?"

Words from the King James Bible (2)

*For thy loving kindness is before mine eyes
Psalm 26 v3*

In this second article focussing on the language of the Authorised Version of our Bible, we turn our attention to 'loving kindness' which is a translation of the Hebrew word 'hesed', covenant love. There are several covenants made between God and Man in the Old Testament, perhaps the best known being the Mosaic Covenant between God and Moses in which the relationship between YHWH and his Chosen People is expressed in the formula, 'I will take you to me for a people and I will be to you a God' (Exodus 6 v7).

'Hesed' as 'loving kindness' appears 23 times in the Book of Psalms and six times in Isaiah, Jeremiah and Hosea combined. 'Loving kindness' describes something of the character of our God – that he is benevolent, beneficent, all-loving; that he is a God who loves what he has created and who cherishes us as a Father might cherish his son. By linking love and kindness together, the idea of family is implied i.e. kind is derived from kindred, that the ideal family is one where brothers live 'together in unity' (Psalm 133 v1). From the account of creation in Genesis, we know that we have been created in God's image (1 v27) and here we see that God loves us because we are part of the family of God.

This notion of God the Father will be developed by his Son Jesus Christ in the New Testament when he refers to God as Father and even by the familiar Aramaic word 'Abba' meaning 'daddy'. If God then shows us loving kindness, are we not encouraged to show the same in how we love our neighbours as ourselves?

Father Gareth

Visiting Sybil and recalling happier times

Having recently returned to our home in Surrey after a brief visit to France, the primary purpose of which was to travel down to Rennes in order to see dear Sybil in St Grégoire CHP, we started to recall some happier times with Sybil over the past 20 years or so, and when and how we first met her.

At the time, Stafford was working for Citibank in London, and following a car trip to Brittany we had decided to purchase a holiday apartment in St Cast le Guildo situated just 20 miles along the coast to the west of St Malo. Speaking to a lady colleague in Citibank and telling her of our plans, she offered to introduce us to an Auntie who was working for the owners of a chateau near Dol de Bretagne, who could undoubtedly be helpful to us in getting established in our new French holiday home.

As a result of this introduction, we met Sybil for the first time by inviting her to have lunch with us in St Cast, and so began our long friendship with this delightful and well informed lady. Apart from the practical help that Sybil was able to give us she also, and most importantly, introduced us to St Bartholomew's and we very much appreciated the opportunity to continue our church life whenever we were on holiday in the area, usually 3 or 4 times each year.

We had some very pleasant times meeting up with Sybil and being introduced to many people in the church, a number of whom have also become good friends over the years. Through Sybil we met various people from the chateau, and on occasions enjoyed having lunch with her and friends in the charming little cottage where she lived or down at the golf club in the Les Ormes complex.

As many of us know, Sybil was a frequent traveller and often over in

Recipe of the Month Gammon and Apple Hash

{My improved version of a different Hash, other than Corn Beef}

- ✓ 1 Tablespoon of Olive Oil
- ✓ 1 Red Onion - peeled and chopped
- ✓ 1 lb potatoes - peeled and cut into cubes
- ✓ 1 Large clove of Garlic
- ✓ 4 ozs unsmoked gammon chopped
- ✓ 1 Red Apple (cored and chopped)
- ✓ 6 ozs broccoli cut into small florets

⊕ ⊕ ⊕

- Heat the oil in a frying pan,
- Add the onion, potatoes and garlic
- Cover and fry for 15 mins over a low heat until softened.
- Stir in the gammon, apple and broccoli
- Cook for a further 10 mins.

- Serve Hot

Victor Pumfrett

⊕ ⊕ ⊕

Personal Column

Sybil is now in the Maison de Retraite, 61 rue de Dinan, 35120 Dol.

Latest news on Mary Pierpont is that the femur had healed nicely and she no longer has to wear the brace and is able to put full weight on the leg.

Saint of the Month
St Méen – 21st June

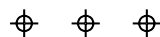
To pronounce the name Saint Méen can be a challenge to the tongue of a native English-speaker! To the south of Dinan on the road past the Saxton-Howes, present-day St Méen boasts a substantial convent which, thanks to John Marvell, now hosts our Brittany Clergy Chapter retreats.

Like Malo, Méen had Welsh parents, but unlike Malo he was born in 540AD in Wales, in Monmouth (where Bishop Clifford, a former chaplain at St Barts once was Diocesan Bishop). Méen's maternal uncle was St Sansom (not to be confused with Saint Sansom le Jeune, Bishop of Dol!) who took the boy under his wing as his spiritual guide.

With his uncle's support and encouragement, Méen crossed the Channel to Armorica to bring the light of the gospel to those who still 'dwelt in darkness'. He joined the monastery at Dol where he spent many years enthused by the corporate life of the community. He then felt the call to go south towards Vannes. On his journey, he encountered the Count Caduon, a pious, hospitable noble who was much impressed by Méen's conversation. He decided to grant the saint a gift of land on which to establish a monastery of which Méen would be its first Abbot.

The rule of life Méen established there was admired and attracted many to join him, the most famous of whom was Judicaël, Prince of Brittany. Aware he was on the point of death, he was able to give individual advice and counsel to his monks before dying in the peace of Christ on 21st June 617.

Gareth Randall



the UK visiting friends and clergy in different parts of the country. She usually travelled by car and ferry and the rigours of our motorways seemed to hold no fears for her as she made her way swiftly to various points of the compass. We, the Cranes, were often incorporated into her travel itineraries with Sybil staying with us for a few days either at the beginning of her trip or at the end of her journeys before the final leg to Portsmouth, taking a Brittany Ferry back to St Malo.

It has always been a joy to see Sybil although somewhat sad for us on our recent visit to St Grégoire, as we know it has been for many others. Nevertheless, when we walked into her room her eyes lit up and while we were very conscious of her disabilities we thought that she seemed to look reasonably well considering all the circumstances. Sybil obviously had a lot of things that she wanted to convey to us but this happened with only occasional success and not without a great deal of tiring effort on her part. However, she appeared to very much enjoy seeing us and took some pleasure in looking at photographs of family and friends taken in better times. In any event we felt that our special journey to see her had been very worthwhile and we continue to pray for an improvement in her overall situation and general wellbeing.

In an earlier church magazine, Sybil is described as a Lay Preacher and Member of the Council. However, she has been much more than that. During the time of the 'chaplancies' at St.Bartholomew's, she was instrumental, with others, in helping to keep the church running smoothly, especially in those times when services were temporarily suspended during winter periods. She and other senior members of the church are part of the history of St Barts. and we take pride and pleasure in their achievements each time we enter the church and witness the substantial congregations that are often evident today.

Marjorie & Stafford Crane

Hatfield Millennium Window

Last year when the stained glass window in St Bartholomew's was vandalised, I was reminded of our time living in Hatfield South Yorkshire very close to the beautiful 13th century church, where sadly windows were smashed on several occasions. They were all repaired and protected, (it took a lot longer than the repairs and protection in Dinard).

To celebrate the new millennium, it was decided to create and install a new window in the North Transept where before there had been plain glass. The project involved the whole community in raising funds - a huge £60,000 - and to submit ideas for its design based on people, events and discoveries relevant to the parish over the past 1,000 years. Among the people included are John Wesley who was born nearby at Epworth. The depiction of a toilet (very small!) brought interest from all over the world, it illustrated the promotion of hygiene and a water-waste-preventing cistern by a certain Thomas Crapper who lived in Thorne, the next village. Examples of world events included are the discovery of America, the ascent of Everest and the exploration of Africa. Aspects of artistic achievements are portrayed in a symbolic way by the artist, including drama, opera, ballet and music.

The central figure which reaches out to every part of the window is Christ in Majesty. The whole effect is inspiring and thought provoking.

If you happen to be travelling in the area, St Lawrence's Church Hatfield with its beautiful stained glass window is well worth a visit. There is a booklet about it at the back of church if you are interested to find out more.

Judy Richeux

Desert Island Books (4)

Robinson Crusoe is now standing at number three, the Concise Oxford Dictionary at number two, and an animal Encyclopaedia at number one. But now they all slip down one step, making way for the new number one: a book entitled Star Names. It runs to a quarter of a million words and gives a comprehensive list of the titles, origins and the pedigrees of most of those stars which have names in any language. Just as a dictionary is a closely-woven mass of information, such that it is possible to lose oneself in the complexity of it all, so is the roster of Astronomical names, facts and figures literally infinite.

The dictionary contains hundreds of thousands of words: an animal encyclopaedia contains millions of individual items, each and every one contributing to the total picture of life on one planet: a review of the named stars distributed among the eighty-eight constellations in the sky encompasses countless items, near and far, large and small, at every stage of development from birth to an age of thirteen thousand million years, which constitute the visible universe. The naked eye can see about three thousand stars in each of the two hemispheres visible from earth. How many millions more are there, below the limit of visibility, within the two thousand sextillion miles of space of which the earth is the centre?

Star lore encompasses the history and the mythology of nations, the growing awareness of the world around us as man's eyes begin to discover and to understand the marvels of the universe. To read and ponder the thoughts and speculations of men and women down the ages as they tried, as we are still trying, to understand it all, can be a most uplifting experience. Is it possible to take this process any further? I remember an epigram uttered by a writer on research and scientific enquiry. I read it as a child at school and it has always resonated in my mind: 'The more we increase the area of the known, the more we increase the area of contact with the unknown.'

Donald Pankhurst.

Film Review of the month
'Hereafter' – Clint Eastwood, 2010

The biggest surprise in the film for me was when the credits began to roll and I discovered that I had just watched another thoroughly enjoyable film directed by Clint Eastwood. Great it's not but it is great entertainment.

The film is on the subject of the possibility of the survival of the soul in the life of the world to come – the hereafter of the title. It opens with Marie Lelay (Cécile de France), a French tele-journalist, being swept away in a Tsunami in which she has a Near-Death-Experience. George Lonagan (Matt Damon) is a genuine psychic living in San Francisco who finds his gift a curse. Marcus (George McLaren) is a 12-year-old whose twin, Jason (Freddie McLaren), is knocked down and killed when he is running away from being mugged by older boys in a busy East London street.

The film offers no answers to the perennial question what the hereafter might truly be like. There are fascinating clues but essentially 'Hereafter' affirms the Christian truth that there is such a thing. What we feel is our real need to believe there is something after we die. What we sense is our real longing to be in touch with those we love but see no more. The problem of a host of charlatans preying on such real hunger is uncomfortably comic.

Of course there is a happy ending but you'll have to see the film to discover just how 'boy' meets 'girl' with the aid of a boy who has had to come to terms with his loss.

Gareth Randall



The Big Bang did a really good job

I am a little annoyed every time close friends or members of family ask me whether I am 'still going' to the 'temple' to see my 'pasteur'. I reply I am a Christian and yes, I see the 'prêtre' at St Barts often.

Then I am a little surprised when some people I like and respect insist on telling me that 'there is no God' or that 'they do not need religion'. I then inevitably take on the challenge to tell them that recognizing the existence of God is to me a matter of logic while the recognition of a 'revealed' religion is a matter of faith.

Looking at a wonderful landscape from the top of a mountain, I said to my friend next to me who had been advocating atheism, 'The Big Bang really did a good job.'

Another friend told me I could not consider myself a 'Catholic' because I did not really believe in transubstantiation, in the real presence of Christ in the Eucharist. A lot has been written about the word 'substance' and frankly, this is all beyond me. It is like the divinity of Christ: 'Was He God Himself, part of the Holy Trinity, or just the greatest prophet of all times, inspired by God to pass on the Good News to us?

Frankly, I do not know for sure, but I know two things: that what He said is so amazing and unique that He is the 'living word' for me; that when I take communion, it does something to me, more than sipping port among friends. Yes, I do it 'in remembrance of Him' but I keep in mind that He did let humans torture and kill Him and that life does not belong to me really. He lends it to me and my job is to try to live up to that amazing gift, loving my neighbour and even my enemies, appreciating life and praising Him, and that I should be ready and accept as He did to endure pain, physical and moral, as part of life . . . easier said than done!

Claude François

An eye for eye, a tooth for a tooth' - Matthew 5 v38
a sermon preached at St Bartholomew's
by the Revd Gilbert Beaume
20th February, 2011

I've brought you something this morning, now my peace-loving children have left home ages ago, I've felt free to buy, a US Army Jeep. This vehicle was born in my home town, Detroit, Michigan (Motown), two years after me. 600,000 of these jeeps were produced in the following years. My father was French-born but a US citizen and played cello for the Detroit Symphony. After the evening concerts, he would take a bus to a Vickers factory where he would work night shifts verifying the equipment that brought the huge navy shells to the guns on the destroyers. As a wounded veteran who had lost his elder brother in the War, he was President in Detroit of the French World War I veterans. He had served as a stretcher bearer. His brother, a promising artist, drew maps of the frontline!

In Detroit, my father would bring young Free French trainee pilots to our home for meals.

'An eye for eye, a tooth for a tooth'

In our cellar, I remember the shelter with shelves stacked with tinned foods since the Germans were going to invade us! In those days my mother would often say, 'Remember we are three quarter English and only one German.' This June, my first cousin Joan in Detroit reminded me that our ancestors from Missouri were Confederates. Just recently, she traced our ancestors to Pocahontas adding, 'My mother, your aunt, would have been shocked to discover we had Indian blood!' My childhood songs were, 'Anchors away!' (The Naval Hymn), 'The Battle Hymn of the Republic' 'The Star-spangled banner'. I cried for Bambi when he lost his mother but the newsreels of the war were a regular part of my life !

Phrases in French

A nine part bi-lingual series
to highlight some of the curiosities of the language.

'Queue de poisson' Quand un automobiliste dépasse une voiture et se rabat trop rapidement, on dit qu'il fait une 'queue de poisson' allusion au mouvement ondulant de la queue du poisson.

When a motorist overtakes and cuts in too sharply, we say 'une queue de poisson' alluding to the way a fish swims wiggling its tail.



Call Centre Conversations (1/4)

Ron Frankel sent me the following:

Customer I've been ringing 0800 2100 for 2 days but can't get an answer. Can you help?

Operator Where did you get the number from, sir?

Customer It was on the door of the Travel Agent

Operator I think you'll find they're the opening hours.



Church Bulletins

The 4th of a 12 part series from Pam and Chris Rowland

- For those who have children and don't know it, we have a nursery downstairs.
- Next Thursday there will be try-outs for the choir. They need all the help they can get.



The following was sent to me by Gloria Travers:

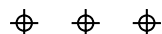
My husband and I divorced because of a serious religious disagreement - he thought he was god and I didn't.

On a personal level, the fact that our eldest son is a senior civil servant of the European Union serving in Africa, in Zambia, serving a pacified, unified united Europe is an answer to the dreams and suffering of his grandfather, to the sacrifice of his great uncle!

I wouldn't trade these years. I feel like saying, 'Mine eyes have seen the coming of the Lord' as He has led us in the Ways of Peace and Justice. He is calling you, today, where he has placed you, to be co-workers in his ministry of peace and reconciliation!

But I tell you Love your enemies and pray for them who persecute you.'

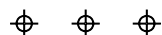
Gilbert Beaume



Imperial Male Voice Choir

At St Bart's, Saturday 28th May. Complementary Pimms and nibbles on the lawn from 17:15. Concert starts at 18:00. Internationally renowned London choir, performing songs from folk to classics, via music from the Shows. 15€ per reservation, 10€ for pensioners and 12-18s, children free. Contact Lynette Jarvis at lijnfrance22@yahoo.com or 02 96 41 29 65.

Also performing at L'Abbaye de Léhon, Dinan, on Sunday 29th May at 18:00, where they will be joined by the Dinan School of Music and Sue Hardiman's l'Orchestre d'Harmonie. Reductions available if attending both concerts.



My toys were tanks and guns, our favourite radio programme was 'Have gun will travel', a serial Western !

As I grew up, the front pages of our newspapers had maps of the collapsing Nationalist forces in China, the Korean War, Indochina and Dien Bien Phu, the Berlin Wall. War was the background of our loves, all kinds of wars.

But I tell you, do not resist an evil person. If anyone slaps you on the right cheek, turn to them your other cheek (5 v39)

The words that Jesus spoke, unnatural words. How can Christians deal with these words?

And first a family heritage. I discovered soon enough that my mother was wrong about her ancestors! 'Mother, your German ancestors are the ones you should be proud of! They left Prussia because they felt, as Mennonites, that their Christian faith constrained them to refuse to live in a society bent on war and conquest by force. They accepted to leave their loved ones, their beloved land to cross the seas. I have been graced to discover the strength of their convictions through a number of experiences!

1959 – my third year of theology in Austin Texas, Presbyterian Seminary.

'Eye for eye' If you are white you climb on the buses through the front door, if not use the rear door. If you are not the right colour, you will not be served in the university cafés. So a couple of us, different races, we would hold sit-ins for a few hours, knowing that no one would come to our table. Months later, I realised that our modest efforts were in the much wider context of the movement that Martin Luther King came to symbolise. I will never forget meeting him in Lyon and translating his words at the reception at the Civic Centre.

'If anyone slaps you on the right cheek, turn to them your other cheek!' (5 v39)

Martin Luther King! If you reply with violence, you increase your enemy's violence. If you resist in a non-violent manner, you can win him over. You can lead to a decrease in violence.

In Austin, a visiting German theologian, Dietrich Ritschl, (grandson of the famous theologian, Albrecht Ritschl) a cousin of Dietrich Bonhoeffer, led a seminar on Bonhoeffer's theology. In particular the writings from prison where he was awaiting his sentencing as part of the plot against Hitler. Bonhoeffer, in the spirit of 18th century Mennonites, called for a radical submission to Jesus' call for non-violent resistance. But then confronted by the ultimate evil of Hitler's system, he decided to oppose by all means the forces of destruction.

From Texas to Brazil for a student seminar organized just before the World Presbyterian Alliance meeting to discover the first talk of Latin American Christian involvement in the struggle of many for economic and social justice, the call for solidarity of the Churches with the downtrodden! One of the participants, who became a friend, Paulo Wright, was later arrested and murdered by security forces after the Brazil Military takeover. In the course of the seminar, Professor Hromadka from Czechoslovakia came to meet us and help us reflect on how a Christian Peace movement could function in the context of the eastern European Communist states. This became the subject of a lot of controversy but played a great parting the deep changes in Eastern Germany as the Wall came tumbling down!

'You have heard that it was said, 'Love your neighbour and hate your enemy. But I tell you Love your enemies and pray for them who persecute you.' (5 v43)

1962-63 as a graduate theological student, I served in Algeria as an Assistant Chaplain for two years. How can one end a colonial war? How can armed forces be used to stand between two warring factions

in a civil war? The end of the conflict was a failure since the minority fled the country on the eve of independence. As a Chaplain, I spent nights for a couple of weeks heating baby bottles with a coffee machine in the airport cafeteria the staff had abandoned. Night after night, thousands slept in the buildings and on the lawn awaiting daily evacuations.

After eight years of training and a pastoral ministry in the Rhone valley in January 1971, our family travelled to Zambia by ship and overland for a four year ministry in Trinity, United Church of Zambia. On our way, the discovery of the reality of apartheid and colonial remnants in South Africa and Rhodesia! Strife, tensions, the stand of courageous men such as Desmond Tutu in the struggle for change. Good men torn, between the choices of non-violent or violent means of resisting oppression.

In 1975, the enthusiasm of serving as head of language services for the All Africa Conference of Churches in Nairobi. As translator for the World Council of Churches Assemblies in Nairobi, Vancouver, Canberra and Harare over 25 years, I have seen the Church's involvement in a changing world, in a determined struggle for peace, justice and the integrity of the creation. What always struck me was the fact that these Assemblies were never out of this world. The great themes were woven into the daily lives of our congregations, peace building us a very basic, humble, caring, loving task – a caring community a teaching community, a worshipping community.

The last outstanding dates in my ministry relating to Peace were the Services we organised when I was a minister in Caen in 1994 for the 50th Anniversary of the Normandy Landing. On June 5th in Bayeux Cathedral, we held a truly ecumenical and international bilingual Vigil with the participation of Prince Andrew and the highest Church authorities. I had the English and French material available from the previous World Council services.