

The Sad Tale of the Troubles of our Treasurer

This year is certainly a strange one! for all of us. At the beginning of March the accounts for the Chaplaincy were all ready, complete, brushed up, polished, and they had been audited by Ian Desoer – and I was feeling very pleased with myself (serves me right). The draft budget for the ACM was done and ready for presentation to you all at our Annual Chaplaincy Meeting

And then the Coronavirus arrived in Brittany. The ACM was postponed.

But trying to prepare a budget for this year has become something of a nightmare. An important part of my role is to try to guess what state the accounts of Christ Church Brittany will be at the end of each year and that means trying to predict how much money we will bring in. Who can predict what is going to happen at this present time?

As a result of 'Lock Down' and no church based services, we have lost a fair amount of our income. At the moment it would appear that we will lose about 45% of our expected income from Envelopes and Offertories. I hope I am being pessimistic in this prediction.

A lot of our income comes from the collections in our four churches at the weekly services. This year there are no second home owners, visitors, friends, family or guests coming to our churches for the Easter holidays, or early summer. And who knows for how much longer? Not even those of you, our 'regulars', who generally give to the collection or in envelopes, are able to do that. So we have lost a very large source of our Chaplaincy income, but at the same time the church expenses are almost the same.

It means that we are very much more in the red than had been hoped for.

I'm hoping that some of you would like to continue to give but have felt unable to or don't know how. So this seemed to be the right time to remind you that there are alternative ways to give to and help support our Chaplaincy. You can either donate by virement or by sending me a cheque or transferring Sterling to our UK account.

For our French account the details are as follows:

Banque: Cr dit Mutuel de Bretagne
Titulaire du compte : L'EGLISE ANGLICANE DE BRETAGNE
Domiciliation : CCM PLOERMEL
Devise : EUR
RIB: Banque Guichet No de compte Cl 
15589 56915 04899438840 11
IBAN: FR76 1558 9569 1504 8994 3884 011
BIC: CMBRFR2BXXX

For those people subject to French income tax the French tax authorities will refund you 66% of your donations to the church by way of reducing your income tax bill by that amount. Therefore for every 100 Euros you donate you will have 66 Euros deducted from your income tax bill. This means that it only costs 34 Euros to give the Church 100 Euros. As long as I can put a name to a Euro donation I will issue a 'Re u Fiscal' to that person at the end of each year.

Our Sterling account is held by the Diocese in Europe and the details are as follows:

Bank: Barclays Bank
Account Name: The Diocese in Europe Fund
Account Number: 40317039
Sort Code: 20-06-13
Please put in Reference: Christ Church Brittany

For those people who are subject to UK tax, they can complete a Gift Aid form which allows the Church to reclaim tax on donations to our English account, normally by standing order. To be eligible for Gift tax you have to be paying tax in the UK. For more information and the relevant forms see the section under Finance and Giving on the Diocese in Europe website (<https://europe.anglican.org/resources/downloadable-forms>).

And if all of that is just a bit intimidating but you would like to give or in fact have any questions please do email me

Alternatively of course you could put aside your gift to God each week to bring in once normal service is resumed.

Until we are able to meet in person again keep busy, happy and healthy.

Lena Linton

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