



ECHO

6TH AUGUST 2021

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE
ECUMENICAL CHURCH OF OCCITANIE
www.ourchurch.fr

IS THERE A PSYCHOPATH IN MY PARISH ?

You may think that this is a very odd question to put on the front page of a Church publication, but it is, in fact, the title of a new research documentary film which has just been released on YouTube and is presented by ECO's own Clive Billenness, who was a Senior Research Fellow at a UK University before he retired.

The documentary has been compiled and released by the Leonidas Project—a project which undertakes research into bullying and conflict in worship communities. (www.leonidasproject.com)

This film brings together research from multiple psychologists, lawyers and priests around the World and highlights the signs of a worship organisation that is being targeted by one or more people with a psychopathic personality type.

An American minister with a great deal of experience of churches which are riven with conflict has commented that in every case where he has been invited to intervene, he has found at least one person with an Antisocial Personality Disorder at the heart of the trouble.

It provides a guide on how to detect the indicators of their presence and involvement, as well as the most common traits of a psychopathic personality type. The film then recommends the steps to be taken to prevent them from inflicting permanent damage on a Faith Community.

About 1 person in 100 exhibits psychopathic tendencies, but almost 30% of people imprisoned for serious crimes have a psychopathic personality type. Many psychopaths are entirely non-violent, however, but will still resort to bullying in order to get their own way.

Psychopathy is a result of how a person's brain is 'wired' and is not an untreatable condition if the sufferer wishes to receive treatment, but if they are unwilling to recognise the symptoms, they can present a very clear danger to the stability of a church.

Sadly, people suffering from Alzheimer's Disease can also sometimes exhibit the symptoms of psychopathy and these are not treatable.

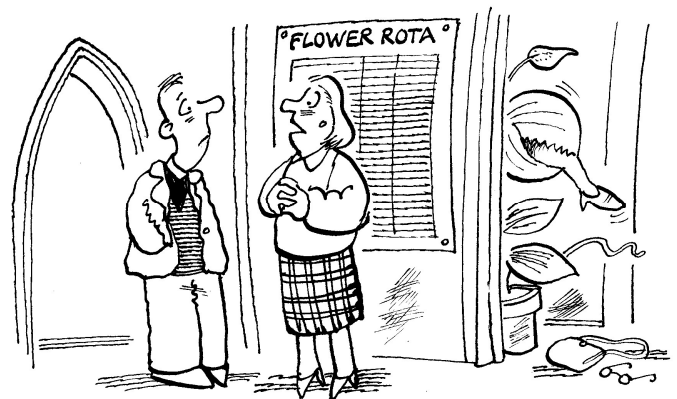
A workbook is provided with the film to provide discussion points as well as recommended further reading.

To date, the film has been viewed by over 450 people around the world, some of whom have contacted Clive to tell him that the film accurately reflects their experiences in troubled parishes.

There is also a link to a medically approved online self-test to enable you to check whether **you** are the Psychopath In The Parish.

If you would like to view the film (which lasts 30 minutes, please go to

www.leonidasproject.com



Er...Vicar. You remember that Mrs Jarvis had to go a bit further afield for her summer holiday to find a country on the Green List ? Well I think we may have a problem with the plant she brought back with her...



NEXT WEEK'S WORSHIP AT

ECO

We have set out below our programme of worship for next week. For all details of our latest worship, always go to the Home Page of our website:

www.ourchurch.fr

Sunday August 8th - Trinity 10 - Proper 14

10:30 am Online Sunday Worship on Zoom

This Sunday's service will be held live on Zoom when we will be celebrating the Feast Of The Transfiguration and you will also be able to join us on YouTube and Facebook as usual.

The service will followed by our normal online Zoom Coffee Bar at about 11:30

Tuesday August 10th

19:00 - An Iona Service of Evening Prayer

This is a short service of prayer and readings from the Bible which is available as a video and also as a Podcast to download and listen to at the close of the day. We also provide the order of service in .PDF for you to download and keep so that you can follow it on your smartphone, tablet or computer if you wish.

Thursday August 12th

19:00 - A Service of Prayer for Healing

Each week, we come together to pray by name for God's healing touch for those who are in special need at this time. We are happy to include anyone known to you in our prayers (we only refer to people by their first names)

Please send any names of people whom you would like to be included to

healing@ourchurch.fr

by **Monday evening** this week please,

COMING NEXT WEEK: **A SPECIAL LIVE SERVICE IN** **NORTH OCCITANIE**

Up until now, most of our live worship has been recorded in the South of the Occitanie. However, on Wednesday 11th August, we are pleased to announce that we will be holding and recording a "Bubble" Communion Service in the Lot Region, starting at 15:00 and followed by a picnic tea.

If you live near Cahors and would like to join us please send an e-mail to

contact@ourchurch.fr

The service will be broadcast on the following Sunday morning at 10:30am - 15th August.

Please remember that you will need to e-mail us if you intend to come to join us as space will be limited by the health regulations currently in force owing to the Covid -19 Emergency.

We are very grateful to have received invitations from the owners of other locations to record live worship in their premises. Thank you ! We look forward to being able to vary more widely the locations from which we will broadcast. Please remember that all we require is one electric socket, enough space for people to socially distance and a table. For outdoors some good weather also helps....!

Also, please remember that our recorded services are online 24/7, so you do not need to skip worship in any other church that you attend in order to join us when it suits you.



Worship for the Young and the Young At Heart

If you are joining us for worship with younger members of your family, each Sunday we are now also broadcasting a short video reflection on the readings for the day from our colleague and friend Margaret Pritchard Houston, who is a member of the Children's Ministry Team in the Diocese of St Albans

This Sunday's video is entitled "Walking on Water".