

## French Government Sends Masks and Sanitizer Gels



Government officials across France sent free masks and hand sanitizer gels to residents of towns, cities, departments, and regions as the country readied itself to re-open on May 11 after a nearly two-month quarantine. We received our masks and hand sanitizer gels on May 7. The gifts are intended to keep people safe from infection while they are out of their homes. The masks and gels are also available at pharmacies, supermarkets, and shops.

## The Sheep Have Returned



Four sheep have taken residence in the Centre's orchard—just in time for Good Shepherd Sunday. Each summer, a local shepherd brings 2-4 sheep to munch on the long green grass behind the Centre. They have the benefit of feeding themselves for the season while we enjoy their tranquil presence. The sheep go back to the farm in late summer.

## St. Joseph to the Rescue



Last fall we almost lost the magazine table that sits in the foyer of the Centre. One of our guests had accidentally broken the table between the pedestal and its top. We took it to Emmaus, an international charitable organization that collects used items and resells them. Emmaus also has a repair shop for broken items. We hoped that we would somehow come across the table after it was fixed. Last November while we were walking in the city, we passed the Emmaus re-sell shop, saw the table in the window, and bought it for 25 Euros. Emmaus had securely re-attached the pedestal to the top of the table. This was truly a gift of St. Joseph!



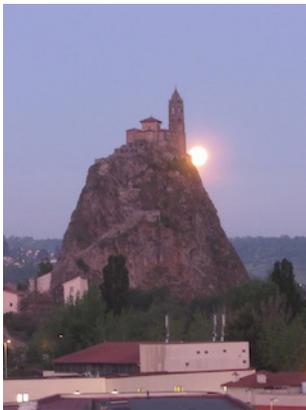
*On this Feast of Pentecost, may we be filled with the Holy Spirit and together pray : Lord, send out your Spirit, and renew the face of the Earth.*

## **Nature Provides a Stunning Presence at the Centre**



The beautiful yellow flowers have bloomed with rich, spectacular colors. The cherries are taking shape and we anticipate great eating and jam making in the near future.

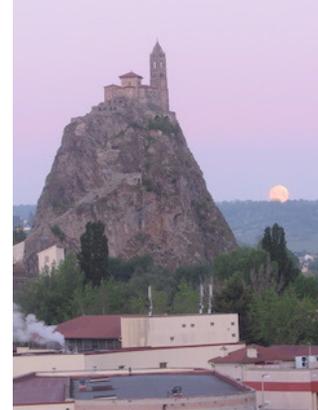
## **Full Moon Sets in Dramatic Fashion Behind St. Michel**



6:04 a.m.



6:16 a.m.



6:20 a.m.

## **St. Joan of Arc Feast Day – May 30**



Joan of Arc is the patron saint of France. As a result, you will usually see a statue of her in French churches. Most people are familiar with “the Maid of Orleans” who heard supernatural voices ordering her to deliver France from the English and have Charles VII crowned to confirm his legitimacy. Later she was captured, declared a heretic, and burned at the stake by the English at age 19. In 1456, Pope Callixtus III declared Joan a martyr. In 1803 Napoleon designated her as the national symbol of France. Rome beatified her in 1909 and canonized her in 1920. Over the centuries she has been used by various political groups to make their battles sacred. Her life has likewise inspired countless works of art, film, literature, and music.