



**Diocese
in Europe**

THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND

SS PETER AND PAUL, TORREVIEJA

*The Church of England worshipping in Word and Sacrament at Lago Jardín, Los Balcones and La Siesta and ministering through the southern Costa Blanca and eastern Murcia.
A truly Eucharistic community of faith and love.*

Chaplain (equivalent of Parish Priest):

Father Richard A. Seabrook SSC

+ 34 966 840 136

+ 34 693 932 438 – Chaplaincy Mobile

frras@c-of-e-torrevieja.com

www.c-of-e-torrevieja.com



Chaplaincy Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/anglicantorrevieja>

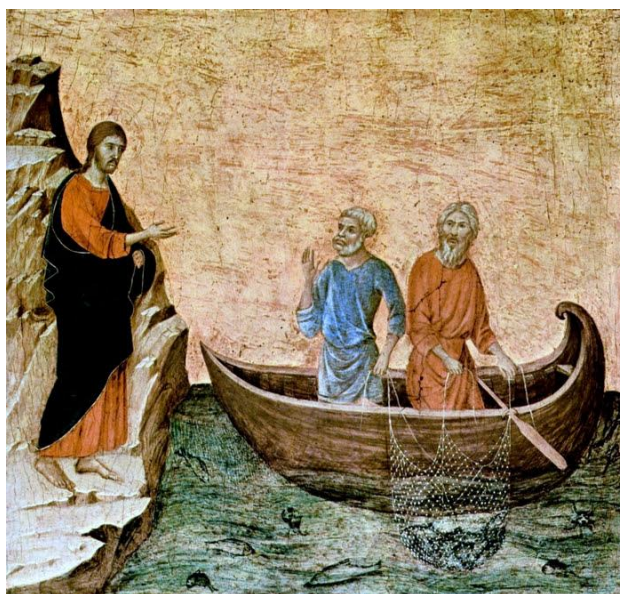
Chaplain's Facebook Group:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/chaplaintorrevieja/>

FATHER RICHARD'S WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

21st January 2024

THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



**WELCOME TO THE CHAPLAINCY OF SS PETER AND PAUL, TORREVIEJA.
ALL ARE WELCOME TO SHARE IN THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH THIS CHAPLAINCY.**

**Please remember to turn off your mobile phone
before our services begin.
Please don't use a mobile phone in church. Pray instead!**

**Please remember to talk to God in prayer before our services begin.
There is plenty of time to talk to each other afterwards.
Your talking may distract someone else's praying.
Please keep a devotional silence.**

Father Richard's contact details are on the front of this newsletter.

**Our Churchwardens are:
Peter Maude (churchwardenpeter@gmail.com)
Jennifer Saville (chaplaincywardenjennifer@gmail.com)
They also act as Joint Treasurers.**

**The Vice-Chairman of and Honorary Secretary to the Chaplaincy Council is:
Joan Berry (losbalconeswarden@gmail.com)**

**We take the Safeguarding of Children and Vulnerable Adults seriously. Our Safeguarding Policy
is displayed at La Siesta and is available on our website:
<https://www.c-of-e-torrevieja.com/safeguarding-policy/>
Our Safeguarding Officer is Anna Horsnell who can be contacted at
safeguardingtorrevieja@gmail.com**

**The Congregational Warden at La Siesta is:
Sue Maude (wardenlasiesta@gmail.com)**

**The Congregational Warden at Lago Jardín is:
Liz Shouksmith (shouksmithliz@gmail.com)**

**Our church Lago Jardín is in the process of being used again.
Nuestra Señora de la Asunción at Los Balcones is closed for a major rebuilding project.**

Home Communions

Father Richard will take Holy Communion to people at home according to their circumstances. This is a privilege and enables for prayer in the home at difficult times and for the communicant to receive Holy Communion at home. Please never hesitate to contact me if you would like Holy Communion at home if you are unable to come to church because of sickness or being housebound. Obviously Covid circumstances are taken into consideration.

Here are some guidelines to assist you:

1. If you can, please arrange a surface with a white cloth upon which I can place the Blessed Sacrament. If this is difficult please do not worry too much but it is appreciated.
2. The Priest will not enter into general conversation until after the celebration which lasts about ten minutes. Then he would appreciate a cup of tea and chat with you but if your circumstances don't allow, please do not worry.

3. Please consider giving a donation to the Church for the Priest's ministry. He will have had to drive to you and it also enables you to give your weekly collection to support the priestly ministry in the parish / chaplaincy. This means there can be a Priest available for you and for others with a priestly presence in the parish / chaplaincy.
It is a long-established custom – if you can – to make an offering to the Church in thankfulness for the ministry of the Church.
4. You don't have to tidy up before the priest arrives! Just prepare spiritually for an encounter with Christ in the Eucharist by being prayerful before his arrival.

Father Richard writes:

Dear friends

Barely into the New Year we are already thinking about Lent! Ash Wednesday is just a month away and we begin to think about the prayer, fasting, and almsgiving that accompany our Lenten journey. So much of our church life is familiar that it can lose its edge; so much of what we see in church is familiar that we sometimes forget that each and everything we do points to the sacred through which God reveals himself to us and we worship him in spirit and in truth.

Colours

The colour of the vestments I wear (and the hanging on the ambo at La Siesta) change throughout the year. There are four principle colours (white, purple, red, green), two lesser colours (rose and black) and one colour (blue) that is used liturgically in Spain.

At the start of the liturgical year during the season of Advent **purple** is seen. It has the sense of preparation and expectancy.

The Christmass season until the Baptism of the Lord is **white** (*or even gold*) and it is used as a way of expressing the joy of the Nativity – the colour of celebration.

Green is used in two periods of the year – the two periods of ordinary time (from the day after The Baptism of the Lord until the day before Ash Wednesday and then from the day after Pentecost until the day before the first Sunday of Advent) when there is no celebration of a particular mystery of the Lord but is a reminder of God's goodness in creation which sustains our lives. Ordinary isn't ordinary in the sense of dull or boring. It comes from the ordinal numbers and is a way of counting the Sundays of the year outside the liturgical seasons. Ordinary Time is a time for growth and spiritual maturity, a time in which the mystery of Christ is called to penetrate ever more deeply into history until all things are finally caught up in Christ. The goal, toward which all of history is directed, is represented by the final Sunday in Ordinary Time, the Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe which, unsurprisingly, is white.

Purple returns for Lent with the season of penitence and preparation through prayer, fasting, almsgiving, and self-denial which are the characteristics of the season.

Red makes its first appearance in the liturgical year on Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord and then again on Good Friday – red symbolises Christ's blood shed on the cross.

White expresses the institution of the Eucharist on Holy Thursday and then the colour of Paschal joy during Easter including The Ascension of the Lord.

Red returns for Pentecost – the colour of fire and flame to represent the descent of the Holy Spirit.

White is also used for saints who were not martyrs. **Red** represents the blood shed for Christ in martyrdom and is used for the martyred saints.

White is also used for Solemnities and Feasts of Our Lord and the Blessed Virgin Mary that occur during the year. **Blue** is permitted for Solemnities and Feasts of the Blessed Virgin Mary in Spain. Why blue? *Sacré bleu!* Holy blue, the sky is our Lady's mantle.

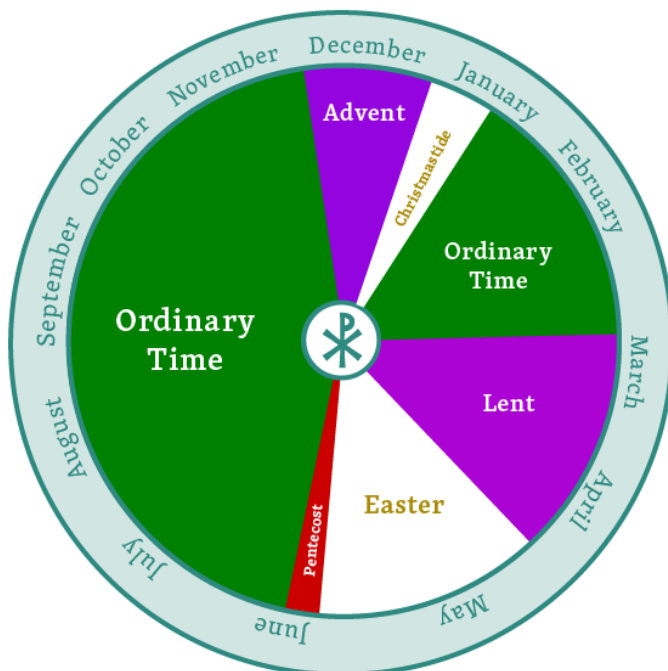
Rose is used on two Sundays of the year as a lesser purple. *Gaudete Sunday* (The Third Sunday of Advent) and *Laetare Sunday* (The Fourth Sunday of Lent) were breaks in the rigours of Advent and Lent and expressed Advent and Lenten joy. Both those Latin words mean *Rejoice*.

Black can be used for funerals, the colour of mourning, but it is more common the see **purple** as we pray that the faithful departed may be cleansed of their sins in a merciful judgement, again with themes of penitence and lament of them.

So when you see the familiar liturgical colours, remind yourselves that they point to a greater spiritual reality and are there to assist us in our worship. The colours point to the sacred.

With my prayers for you all as I ask you to pray for me.

Your priest and friend,
Father Richard



Christmas Time and Easter Time highlight the central mysteries of the Paschal Mystery, namely, the incarnation, death on the cross, resurrection, and ascension of Jesus Christ, and the descent of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost. The Sundays and weeks of Ordinary Time, on the other hand, take us through the life of Christ. This is the time of conversion. This is living the life of Christ.

Dates ahead:

Monday 5th February 1700 – 1800

HOLY HOUR AT LAGO JARDÍN

**Blessed and praised be
Jesus Christ in the
Most Holy Sacrament!
Hosanna in excelsis!**



We spend an hour in quiet adoration and prayer before the Blessed Sacrament. Beginning with Evening Prayer, we come into the presence of the Lord with the Eucharistic Host being placed in the monstrance – you can see this in the photograph. There is silence, some singing, some prayers, some reflection. Everyone who comes says it is wonderful experience. The Blessed Sacrament is honoured with incense. It's a lovely devotional time. Why not try it?

We conclude with Benediction. The Priest makes the Sign of the Cross over us and truly we receive the blessing of Our Lord Jesus Christ.



Tuesday 13th February
SHROVE TUESDAY PANCAKE PARTY
AT LA SIESTA (lunchtime) – 5 euros



SOUP, PANCAKES, STALLS...

We would like to try and beat our 600 euros raised last year. Please see Sue Maude if you can help with items for a cake stall, bric a brac, preserves, the raffle, and anything you might suggest could help us on the day.



Wednesday 14th February
ASH WEDNESDAY
Day of Fasting and Abstinence

In preparation for this please return your palm crosses from last year. These are needed to burn to make the ash for Ash Wednesday.

Celebrations of the Holy Eucharist with the Blessing and Distribution of Ashes:

1030 at Lago Jardín

1700 at La Siesta (please note the change of time)

Please note the times.

An important Holy Day so start Lent well!



100 Club 2024 subscriptions

Thank you to everyone who were in the 100 Club scheme last year which helped to raise funds for the chaplaincy and for the Mission Possible charity.

Subscriptions are now due in January, starting on the 7th. David and Moira Corfield have kindly agreed to assist me in collecting the money and they will be approaching people on the current list to see if you wish to continue. (Please do so!)

I shall be at Lago Jardin Church on the Sundays when they have a service and you may give me the money if you are there.

If you are not yet part of the 100 Club but would be interested in joining, please see either Moira or myself. Please ensure any money is paid by 4th February.

Subscriptions cost €20 per year. You get an allocated number which is entered into seven draws per year. The final prize money will depend on the number of subscriptions we sell.

If you are not going to be in Spain during January you may transfer the amount in to the chaplaincy UK account, the details of which are in this newsletter.

If you do a transfer, please mark it clearly 100 Club and let myself and Peter Maude know.

Joan Berry

FINANCIAL GIVING TO THE CHAPLAINCY

There are various ways of giving financially to the Chaplaincy for the work of the Church:

1. You can give in the plate each week.
2. You can join our envelope scheme to give a regular amount on a weekly basis – and set aside money for those weeks when you cannot be here.
3. **You are encouraged to set up a standing order to the Chaplaincy – this helps us budget more effectively.**

If you are a UK tax payer you can gift aid your giving.

If you are a Spanish tax payer you can have a tax offset by notifying your accountant when arranging your yearly tax along with the Spanish bank account number who will then arrange a claim and the money will be donated back to the Chaplaincy.

One off donations would be gratefully received to assist us at this difficult time.
Thank you for your help.

For more information contact Father Richard, the Churchwardens, or your Congregational Warden.

The Chaplaincy relies on generous and sacrificial giving in response to a generous God who sacrificed his Son for us all on the cross.

Spanish Bank details. Banco Sabadell.

IBAN number ES65 0081 2061 7900 0106 0414

BSAB ESBB / Capellania Anglicana de Torrevieja

UK Bank details. Barclays Bank PLC Account name: Diocese in Europe Fund

Account number: 40317039 Sort code: 20-06-13. Address : Tufton Street,London Please state TORREVIEJA as the reference so the money is correctly applied. The IBAN number is: GB16 BUKB 2006 1340 31 70 39.

God bless you all for your support. *Peter and Jennifer (Churchwardens)*



Church of England Chaplaincy of SS Peter and Paul, Torrevieja

The Chalice containing the Precious Blood of Christ is offered for those who wish to receive it. Holy Communion is offered with the words "The Body of Christ" to which you say **Amen** before consuming the Sacred Host. The words "The Blood of Christ" are said to which you say **Amen** before receiving from the Chalice. The Chalice is optional.

**INTINCTION IS NOT PERMITTED
FOR HEALTH AND HYGIENE REASONS.**

**ONGOING INFORMATION FOR OUR THREE CHURCHES
SERVICES ARE SHARED BETWEEN LAGO JARDÍN AND LA SIESTA**

Los Balcones, Nuestra Señora de la Asunción

remains closed for re-building.

Services in the Chaplaincy:

Date	Time	Church
Sunday 21 st January	1130	La Siesta
Saturday 27 th January	1700	La Siesta
Sunday 28 th January	1130	Lago Jardín
Sunday 4 th February	1130	La Siesta
Saturday 10 th February	1700	La Siesta
Sunday 11 th February	1130	Lago Jardín
Wednesday 14 th February	1030 ASH WEDNESDAY	Lago Jardín
Wednesday 14 th February	1700 ASH WEDNESDAY	La Siesta
Sunday 18 th February	1130	La Siesta
Saturday 24 th February	1700	La Siesta
Sunday 25 th February	1130	Lago Jardín
Sunday 3 rd March	1130	La Siesta
Saturday 9 th March	1700	La Siesta
Sunday 10 th March	1130	Lago Jardín

We now have three opportunities:

- 1. For those who prefer to worship on a Sunday we will have services every week for you.*
- 2. To grow the congregation at Lago Jardín especially with those around the church now it is re-opened.*
- 3. To continue to consolidate and grow the congregation at La Siesta as we are not lessening our commitment there.*

There is a liturgical Facebook group.

- Go to <https://www.facebook.com/groups/chaplaintorrevieja> and ask to join the group.
- You will be asked three questions. Please complete them and agree to the rules of the group.

The Blessed Sacrament Lamp at Lago Jardín

burns this week for the Chaplaincy.

If you would like to dedicate the Blessed Sacrament for a week for a person, an intention, or in memory of a departed loved one, please see Father Richard. The cost is five euros for the week.

Father Richard's Prayer List for January 2024:

Please pray for the sick and those in particular need at this time: Ellen Bedford *in extremis*, Garth Sutherland, Tanya Ziegler, Patricia Welch, Michael Sheriden, Gary Wilkes, Joey McNab, Keith Palmer, Jill and John Dorsett,



Eileen Shaw, Anna Horsnell, Dick Horsnell, David Horsnell, Liz Shouksmith, Chloe and Lorena, Peter John, Martin Skillen, Andrew Little, Philip Howse, Jamie Hill, Raj Panchal, Peter Passey, Paul McNab, Lesley Critchley, Luke Thompson, Gwen Simmons.

Please help Father Richard by letting him know when people can be taken off the prayer list.

Please pray for the recently departed:

Enid Buswell RIP, Bert Nelson RIP, Gordon Bristow RIP

Those killed as a result of the conflicts in Ukraine, Israel, and Gaza.

+ Rest eternal grant unto them, O Lord, and let light perpetual shine upon them.

Please advise Father Richard if there are any corrections to the above list.

If you wish a name to be added to the list of the sick you need to email Father Richard or write to him giving permission for yourself or ensure permission has been granted by someone else for their name to appear on this list. (GDPR regulations).

Sunday 21st January 2024

Entrance Antiphon

Cf. Ps 95: 1, 6

O sing a new song to the Lord;
sing to the Lord, all the earth.
In his presence are majesty and splendour,
strength and honour in his holy place.

Collect

Almighty ever-living God,
direct our actions according to your good pleasure,
that in the name of your beloved Son
we may abound in good works.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
God, for ever and ever.

First reading

Jonah 3:1-5,10

The people of Nineveh renounce their evil behaviour

The word of the Lord was addressed to Jonah: 'Up!' he said 'Go to Nineveh, the great city, and preach to them as I told you to.' Jonah set out and went to Nineveh in obedience to the word of the Lord. Now Nineveh was a city great beyond compare: it took three days to cross it. Jonah went on into the city, making a day's journey. He preached in these words, 'Only forty days more and Nineveh is going to be destroyed.' And the people of Nineveh believed in God; they proclaimed a fast and put on sackcloth, from the greatest to the least.

God saw their efforts to renounce their evil behaviour, and God relented: he did not inflict on them the disaster which he had threatened.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 24(25):4-6,7b-9

Lord, make me know your ways.

Lord, make me know your ways.

Lord, teach me your paths.

Make me walk in your truth, and teach me:

for you are God my saviour.

Lord, make me know your ways.

Remember your mercy, Lord,

and the love you have shown from of old.

In your love remember me,

because of your goodness, O Lord.

Lord, make me know your ways.

The Lord is good and upright.

He shows the path to those who stray,

He guides the humble in the right path,

He teaches his way to the poor.

Lord, make me know your ways.

Second reading

1 Corinthians 7:29-31

The world as we know it is passing away

Brothers: our time is growing short. Those who have wives should live as though they had none, and those who mourn should live as though they had nothing to mourn for; those who are enjoying life should live as though there were nothing to laugh about; those whose life is buying things should live as though they had nothing of their own; and those who have to deal with the world should not become engrossed in it. I say this because the world as we know it is passing away.

Gospel Acclamation

Mk1:15

Alleluia, alleluia!

The kingdom of God is close at hand:

repent, and believe the Good News.

Alleluia!

I will make you into fishers of men

After John had been arrested, Jesus went into Galilee. There he proclaimed the Good News from God. 'The time has come' he said 'and the kingdom of God is close at hand. Repent, and believe the Good News.'

As he was walking along by the Sea of Galilee he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net in the lake – for they were fishermen. And Jesus said to them, 'Follow me and I will make you into fishers of men.' And at once they left their nets and followed him.

Going on a little further, he saw James son of Zebedee and his brother John; they too were in their boat, mending their nets. He called them at once and, leaving their father Zebedee in the boat with the men he employed, they went after him.

Homily

Today we begin a continuous reading of Mark's Gospel that will carry us through this segment of the liturgical season of Ordinary Time. Remember that in Cycle B of the Lectionary, most of the Gospel readings are taken from the Gospel according to Mark.

The Gospel according to S. Mark does not begin with a narrative about Jesus' birth. Instead Mark begins by reporting on the preaching of John the Baptist. John is described as the voice in the wilderness sent to prepare the way of the Lord. Immediately after describing the work of John the Baptist, Mark reports on Jesus' baptism and his temptation in the desert. Jesus' public ministry begins after the arrest of John the Baptist. Mark wants his readers to understand the important connection between the end of the ministry of John the Baptist and the beginning of Jesus' own ministry.

As we learn at the beginning of today's Gospel reading, Jesus preaches the Kingdom of God in continuity with the preaching of John the Baptist. Like John the Baptist, Jesus' pronouncement of the kingdom is a call to repentance. Yet Jesus' preaching is greater than John's. Jesus begins the time of fulfillment; the Kingdom of God is already here. This will be demonstrated again and again, both in Jesus' words and in the actions that follow. Jesus' healings and forgiveness of sins are signs of the Kingdom of God that he announces in his teaching.

In contrast to last week's Gospel, in Mark's Gospel Jesus takes the initiative in calling his first disciples. As mentioned last week, it was more typical of first-century rabbinical schools for students to seek out rabbis, asking to be their disciples. In Mark's Gospel, Jesus breaks with this tradition and invites his disciples to learn from him. Jesus is said to have first called four fishermen—Simon, Andrew, James, and John. Simon and Andrew are brothers. Jesus promises that he will make them "fishers of men." James and John are also brothers. Mark does not report Jesus' words of invitation to them, but he does report that they left their fishing immediately; their father, Zebedee, was left behind in the boat.

Mark's Gospel is told with a great sense of urgency and immediacy. Jesus is a person of action, and events occur in rapid succession. We see this in today's Gospel. Time is of the essence; the fishermen immediately put aside their livelihood to become Jesus' disciples. The Kingdom of God is here and now. The time of fulfillment is at hand. How might our lives be different if we more fully shared this sense of the immediacy of God's kingdom?



The Angelus

The Angel of the Lord brought tidings to Mary,
And she conceived by the Holy Spirit.

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee,
Blessed art thou among women
and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.
Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners now
and at the hour of our death.

Behold the handmaid of the Lord.
Be it unto me according to Thy Word.

Hail Mary, (as above)

And the Word was made flesh,
And dwelt among us.

Hail Mary, (as above)

Pray for us, O holy Mother of God.
That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

Pour forth, we beseech thee, O Lord, thy grace into our hearts; that as we have
known the incarnation of thy son Jesus Christ by the message of an angel, so by
His + cross and passion we may be brought to the glory of His Resurrection.
Through the same Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**