

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.*

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

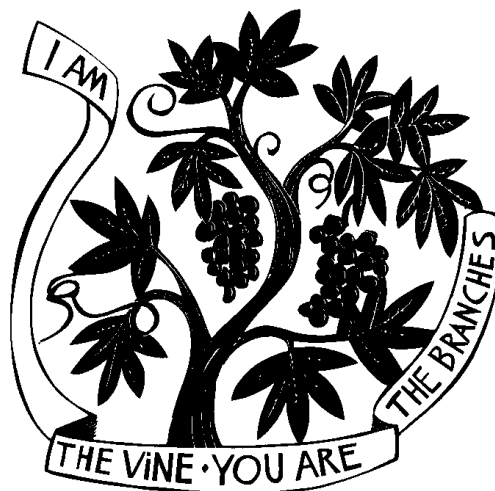
Chaplain's Facebook Group (to be used at the moment for livestreaming of liturgies):

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

### FATHER RICHARD'S WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2021

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER



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

Father Richard's usual working pattern is Sunday mornings, Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays. Emails sent to him will be answered on these days. He is available on these days. He is, of course, able to be contacted at any time for funerals and emergencies.

**Jill's Homemade Marmalade**

Jill Dorsett is now selling homemade marmalade after each service. Please see her if you would like to buy / order some. Thank you, Jill!

**Sue's Homemade Lemon Curd**

Sue Brassington is now selling homemade lemon curd after each service. Please see her if you would like to buy / order some. Thank you, Sue!

**FINANCIAL GIVING TO THE CHAPLAINCY**

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

You can give in the plate each week.

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.

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.

**From the Churchwardens:**

It had been so good to see so many of our congregations returning to Church and we thank the dedicated team who prepare for worship and deep clean afterwards. We must also thank those who have been putting their giving away and have now brought it back to Church. This is really needed as is the continued giving to maintain the life of our Chaplaincy. The ideal for the Chaplaincy would be for people to set up standing orders or direct debits. This allows us to have a good idea of what we can expect to receive and plan our finances.

If you feel you can manage to set up a standing order. The bank details to do this are as follows:

**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. Please state TORREVIEJA as the reference so the money is correctly applied. The IBAN number is: GB16 BUKB 2006 1340 3170 39.

Thank you so very much for your help,

*Peter and Jennifer*



## **Church of England Chaplaincy of SS Peter and Paul, Torrevieja**

**We are a Covid 19 secure Chaplaincy.**

**The list of full instructions can be obtained from Father Richard, the Churchwardens, the Secretary or Joan Berry. Please bear in mind your own self-care, your level of vulnerability and your age according to the risks involved.**

**If you have COVID-19 symptoms please stay at home. Under present regulations, the maximum number permitted at La Siesta is 32. You need to let Sue Maude know ([wardenlasiesta@gmail.com](mailto:wardenlasiesta@gmail.com)) each week if you are coming. This is so we can implement the regulations correctly. A STRICT TWO METRE SOCIAL DISTANCING RULE IS IN PLACE. Father Richard does not greet at the door at present. You will be shown to and escorted from your seat. Thank for your understanding and co-operation.**

### **THE PANDEMIC AND THE MONTHS AHEAD**

1. Lago Jardín Church will remain closed until further notice. This is because of the difficulty of social distancing in the church and its already limited capacity.
2. There is to be a building project to renovate the church but **Los Balcones church is now closed for the foreseeable future. It will re-open but it is impossible to say when. All services for the Chaplaincy will be held at La Siesta.**
3. La Siesta - these services will be for the whole Chaplaincy so please make every effort to be there and support the liturgical life of the Chaplaincy as we begin again in limited circumstances.

Future celebrations of the Holy Eucharist at La Siesta are:

Sunday 2 <sup>nd</sup> May	1130
Saturday 8 <sup>th</sup> May	1700
Sunday 16 <sup>th</sup> May	1130 – THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD
Saturday 22 <sup>nd</sup> May	1700
Saturday 29 <sup>th</sup> May	1700
Sunday 6 <sup>th</sup> June	1130 – CORPUS CHRISTI
Saturday 12 <sup>th</sup> June	1700
Sunday 20 <sup>th</sup> June	1130

The live-streamed liturgies continue:

1. Go to <https://www.facebook.com/groups/chaplaintorrevieja> and ask to join the group.
2. You will be asked three questions. Please complete them and agree to the rules of the group.
3. When the livestream starts it will appear on your device in the Facebook stream. The stream will start a few minutes before the broadcast so you can get settled in. You can only see this when I start the livestream.

*"Participants in a streamed service of Holy Communion should not be encouraged to place bread and wine before their screens. Joining together to share in the one bread and the one cup as those physically present to one another is integral to the service of Holy Communion; ... and it is not helpful to suggest otherwise. Any idea of the 'remote consecration' of the bread and wine should be avoided."*

The words above are an extract from a letter from Bishop Robert and Bishop David from 2nd April 2020. Under Church of England formularies the Priest himself must set the bread and wine upon the Altar which is going to be consecrated during the Eucharist.

This post underlines The Church of England position.

**WORSHIP FOR THE WEEK AHEAD:**

Saturday 1 <sup>st</sup> May	1700	Evening Prayer	<i>Live-streamed</i>
Sunday 2 <sup>nd</sup> May	1130	Holy Eucharist	<i>La Siesta / Live-streamed</i>
	1800	Evening Prayer	<i>Live-streamed</i>
Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> May	1800	Evening Prayer	<i>Live-streamed</i>
Tuesday 4 <sup>th</sup> May	1800	Evening Prayer	<i>Live-streamed</i>
Wednesday 5 <sup>th</sup> May	1100	Holy Eucharist	<i>Live-streamed</i>
	1800	Evening Prayer and Holy Rosary	<i>Live-streamed</i>
Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup> May	0930	Holy Eucharist	<i>Live-streamed</i>
	1800	Evening Prayer	<i>Live-streamed</i>
Friday 7 <sup>th</sup> May		<i>No live-streaming</i>	
Saturday 8 <sup>th</sup> May	1700	Holy Eucharist	<i>La Siesta / Live-streamed</i>
Sunday 9 <sup>th</sup> May	1100	Holy Eucharist	<i>Live-streamed</i>
	1800	Evening Prayer	<i>Live-streamed</i>

**Thursday 13th**

**May**

**1800 - 1900**

**AN ONLINE**

**HOLY HOUR**



An opportunity to see the Blessed Sacrament from home and spend an hour in prayer.



**The Blessed Sacrament Lamp at Lago Jardín**

Because Lago Jardín is not going to be used for the foreseeable future (until social distancing rules change) the Blessed Sacrament has been removed from Lago Jardín to be kept safely at the Chaplaincy House.

If you would like a Mass intention, please contact Father Richard.

**The Chaplain's Prayer List for April and May 2021:**

*Please pray for the sick and those in particular need at this time:*

Father Robert, Peter John, Terry, John Mileham, Andrew, Mo Bailey, Bernice, Luke Thompson, Gwen Simmons, Kathryn Moore, Isaac Jalal, Cathy Neil, Denise Taylor, Danny Gidman, Cassie Sampson, Father Terence, Sue Brassington, Jean Stacey; for all those suffering in mind, body and spirit as a result of the coronavirus.

**Please pray for the recently departed:**

*For all those who have died as a result of the coronavirus.*

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

**Anniversary of death:**

Roy Gee RIP, 28<sup>th</sup> April

**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).*

*Please pray for the Anglican Church in Perú, for Bishop Jorge Aguilar, and the Bishops, Priests, Deacons and Laity there.*

**Father Richard's Study Group...** will resume via Zoom on Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> May at 1630 and will meet on the first and third Thursdays of the month. Please contact Father Richard if you would like to take part – all are welcome.

**Making a Spiritual Communion. Something recommended for us all each day when we cannot participate in the Holy Eucharist.**

Even if we are watching a livestreamed Mass (and the times of our Chaplaincy livestreamed celebrations of the Eucharist are listed in the newsletter) we are invited to pause when the Priest receives Holy Communion and make our own spiritual communion. We can say it silently to ourselves or speak it out loud. In this way we are joined with Our Lord in his suffering and death for the world and we are united to His Most Sacred Heart. In these most worrying of days we know Our Lord is there and we can join ourselves to him just as he joins himself with us. This is a great blessing, comfort and strength.

Choose one of these prayers:

*My Jesus,*

*I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.*

*I love You above all things,*

*and I desire to receive You into my soul.*

*Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally,*

*come at least spiritually into my heart.*

*As though you have already come, I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You.*

*Never permit me to be separated from You.*

*Amen.*

or,

*Lord Jesus Christ, you are the bread of life and the one true vine. I believe that you are truly present in the Most Holy Sacrament of the Eucharist. I seek you. I worship and adore you. Since I cannot receive you in the eucharistic bread and wine, I pray that you will come into my heart and soul, that I may be united to you, by your all-powerful and ever-present Holy Spirit. Let me receive you, and be nourished by you. Become for me the manna in my wilderness, the bread of angels for my very human journey through time, a foretaste of the heavenly banquet, and solace in the hour of my death. I pray all this, trusting that you yourself are our Life, our Peace, and our everlasting Joy. Amen.*

**Father Richard writes:**

Next Sunday, May 9<sup>th</sup>, the *Estado de alarma* here in Spain comes to an end and we shall wait to see what the restrictions are for the *Comunidad Valenciana* and for Murcia. It has been a long haul since last October and there is still much uncertainty. However, it does begin to feel that things are getting better – the fact that bars and restaurants are open after 6 p.m. is just one sign of that. Let us pray and hope, that as more people are vaccinated, the situation continues to ameliorate. We miss our “swallows” and we miss many of our local people as well. Our standards of being Covid vigilant will continue and the social distancing must as well. But I hope that we might just see people returning to church especially as a number of our people have received their vaccines. We look forward to seeing you.

In today’s gospel reading, Jesus speaks of himself as the Vine and says we are the Branches. As the hymn below says “*rooted, grafted, built on thee.*” At the heart of this is being rooted onto Christ through the Eucharist, the offering of the Sacrifice of Christ’s Body and Blood and sharing in the fruits of it through a faithful reception of the Blessed Sacrament. This is at the heart of the Christian life. Return to the altar and experience a Eucharistic life once more!

I learnt this hymn when a choirboy and love it still...

*Bread of Heav’n on thee we feed,  
For thy flesh is meat indeed;  
Ever may our souls be fed  
With this true and living Bread;  
Day by day with strength supplied,  
Through the life of him Who died.*

*Vine of Heav’n, thy blood supplies  
This blest cup of sacrifice,  
’Tis thy wounds our healing give;  
To thy cross we look and live:  
Thou our life! O let us be  
Rooted, grafted, built on thee.*

Josiah Conder 1789 - 1855

With my prayers for you all,

*Father Richard*

**Sunday 2 May 2021**

**Entrance Antiphon**

**Cf. Ps 97: 1-2**

O sing a new song to the Lord,  
for he has worked wonders;  
in the sight of the nations  
he has shown his deliverance, alleluia.

**Collect**

Almighty ever-living God,  
constantly accomplish the Paschal Mystery within us,  
that those you were pleased to make new in Holy Baptism  
may, under your protective care, bear much fruit  
and come to the joys of life eternal.

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.

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**First reading****Acts 9:26-31****Barnabas explained how the Lord had appeared to Saul on his  
journey**

When Saul got to Jerusalem he tried to join the disciples, but they were all afraid of him: they could not believe he was really a disciple. Barnabas, however, took charge of him, introduced him to the apostles, and explained how the Lord had appeared to Saul and spoken to him on his journey, and how he had preached boldly at Damascus in the name of Jesus. Saul now started to go round with them in Jerusalem, preaching fearlessly in the name of the Lord. But after he had spoken to the Hellenists, and argued with them, they became determined to kill him. When the brothers knew, they took him to Caesarea, and sent him off from there to Tarsus.

The churches throughout Judaea, Galilee and Samaria were now left in peace, building themselves up, living in the fear of the Lord, and filled with the consolation of the Holy Spirit.

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**Responsorial Psalm****Psalm 21(22):26-28,30-32**

*You, Lord, are my praise in the great assembly.*

**or**

*Alleluia!*

My vows I will pay before those who fear him.

The poor shall eat and shall have their fill.

They shall praise the Lord, those who seek him.

May their hearts live for ever and ever!

*You, Lord, are my praise in the great assembly.*

**or**

*Alleluia!*

All the earth shall remember and return to the Lord,  
all families of the nations worship before him;

They shall worship him, all the mighty of the earth;

before him shall bow all who go down to the dust.

*You, Lord, are my praise in the great assembly.*



**or**

*Alleluia!*

And my soul shall live for him, my children serve him.

They shall tell of the Lord to generations yet to come,  
declare his faithfulness to peoples yet unborn:

'These things the Lord has done.'

*You, Lord, are my praise in the great assembly.*

**or**

*Alleluia!*

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## **Second reading**

**1 John 3:18-24**

### **The commandment of faith and love**

My children,  
our love is not to be just words or mere talk,  
but something real and active;  
only by this can we be certain  
that we are children of the truth  
and be able to quieten our conscience in his presence,  
whatever accusations it may raise against us,  
because God is greater than our conscience and he knows everything.  
My dear people,  
if we cannot be condemned by our own conscience,  
we need not be afraid in God's presence,  
and whatever we ask him,  
we shall receive,  
because we keep his commandments  
and live the kind of life that he wants.  
His commandments are these:  
that we believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ  
and that we love one another  
as he told us to.  
Whoever keeps his commandments  
lives in God and God lives in him.  
We know that he lives in us  
by the Spirit that he has given us.

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## **Gospel Acclamation**

**Jn15:4,5**

Alleluia, alleluia!

Make your home in me, as I make mine in you.

Whoever remains in me bears fruit in plenty.

Alleluia!

## Gospel

John 15:1-8

### I am the vine, you are the branches

Jesus said to his disciples:

'I am the true vine,  
and my Father is the vinedresser.  
Every branch in me that bears no fruit  
he cuts away,  
and every branch that does bear fruit  
he prunes to make it bear even more.  
You are pruned already,  
by means of the word that I have spoken to you.  
Make your home in me, as I make mine in you.  
As a branch cannot bear fruit all by itself,  
but must remain part of the vine,  
neither can you unless you remain in me.  
I am the vine,  
you are the branches.  
Whoever remains in me, with me in him,  
bears fruit in plenty;  
for cut off from me you can do nothing.  
Anyone who does not remain in me  
is like a branch that has been thrown away – he withers;  
these branches are collected and thrown on the fire,  
and they are burnt.  
If you remain in me  
and my words remain in you,  
you may ask what you will  
and you shall get it.  
It is to the glory of my Father that you should bear much fruit,  
and then you will be my disciples.'

## Homily

*He tried to join the disciples. (Acts 9:26)*

There's a lot of adventure in today's first reading. Paul, fresh from escaping death threats in Damascus, arrives in Jerusalem, where he faces suspicion from Christians and an attempted murder from some Greek-speaking Jews.

Why so much drama? Quite possibly God was using all this upheaval to "prune" Paul, to further purify him from remnants of his old life (John 15:1-3).

We are so used to talking about the saints as if their holiness were a given, but that's rarely the case. For many of them, the road to holiness was as long and winding as it is for many of us. After all, we know that Paul had a strong, assertive personality. Humility doesn't always come easily!

By his own admission, Paul was "an arrogant man" before his conversion (1 Timothy 1:13). You can imagine how some of that arrogance might still have been present as he tried to convert people. Maybe the man who had once spent his life "breathing murderous threats" against Christians still needed to learn Jesus' teaching about being poor in spirit (Acts 9:1). So it's possible that God was using the chaos Paul encountered in Jerusalem to help him examine his heart and see where he still needed to change.

Anyone who has lived more than a few decades will tell you how valuable it is to be pruned by the Lord. They probably didn't enjoy it at the time, but looking back, they could appreciate the fruit of such pruning. Coming face-to-face with our selfishness or arrogance or resentments can move us to turn to Jesus and ask him to purify us and set us free.

So let Jesus prune you from time to time. He promises that if you do, you will bear "more fruit" (John 15:2). You'll become more like him, just as Paul did.

*"Jesus, you are a wise and gentle gardener. Keep pruning me so that I can become more like you."*

### **The Nicene ("Niceno-Constantinopolitan") Creed**

I believe in one God,  
the Father almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all things visible and invisible.  
I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ,  
the Only Begotten Son of God,  
born of the Father before all ages.  
God from God,  
Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father;  
through him all things were made.  
For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven,  
*At the words that follow, up to and including 'and became man', all bow.*  
and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary,  
and became man.  
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate,  
he suffered death and was buried,  
and rose again on the third day  
in accordance with the Scriptures.  
He ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again in glory  
to judge the living and the dead  
and his kingdom will have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,

who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.

I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church.  
I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins  
and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

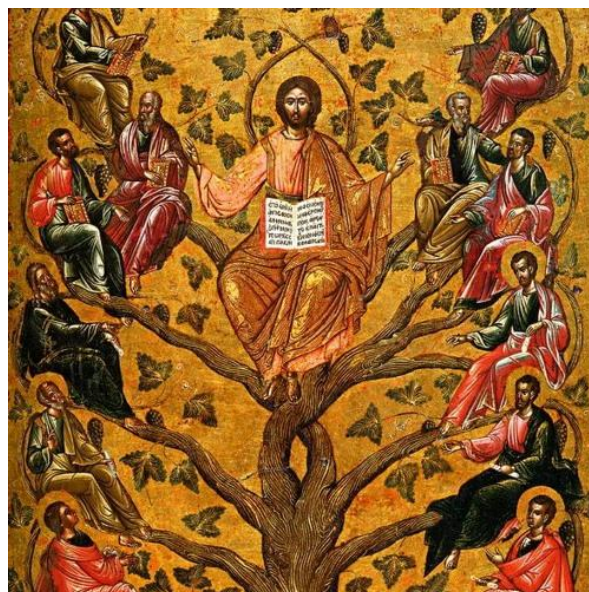
### THE GENERAL INTERCESSIONS

Praising God for the wonders of creation, we bring our prayers to the Lord.

1. For all the baptised, that we may never be separated from Christ, the true vine (*short pause for quiet prayer*). Lord, hear us.
2. For the children receiving First Holy Communion, that they may return to receive the Bread of Life often (*short pause for quiet prayer*). Lord, hear us.
3. For those who persecute Christians and treat them badly, that, like St Paul, they may change their ways (*short pause for quiet prayer*). Lord, hear us.
4. For a growing respect for the life of every human person, reflected in our laws; for the sick and those who care for them (*short pause for quiet prayer*). Lord, hear us.
5. For good weather for our farmers, that the crops may be planted and the cattle fed (*short pause for quiet prayer*). Lord, hear us.
6. For those who face challenges, that God's gifts of serenity and calm may be theirs (*short pause for quiet prayer*). Lord, hear us. 7.
7. For all whose pilgrimage on earth is over, (especially N & N), that they may reach their final destination, at the Father's house (*short pause for quiet prayer*). Lord, hear us.

God our creator, we praise you for your mighty deeds: hear the prayers your faithful people make, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Hymn: <https://youtu.be/GPMEuyMLVrl>



The Regina Cæli  
*(used during Eastertime)*



Joy to thee, O Queen of Heaven, alleluia!  
He whom thou wast meet to bear, alleluia!  
As he promised hath arisen, alleluia!  
Pour for us to God thy prayer, alleluia!

Rejoice and be glad, O Virgin Mary, alleluia!  
For the Lord is risen indeed, alleluia!

Let us pray.

O God , who by the resurrection of thy Son our Lord Jesus Christ, didst vouchsafe to give joy to the whole world, grant, we beseech thee, that through his Mother, the Virgin Mary, we may obtain the joys of everlasting life. Through the same Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**