



**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](http://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**  
**3<sup>rd</sup> September 2023**  
**TWENTY-SECOND 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 OF ENGLAND IN  
THIS CHAPLAINCY.**

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

**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](mailto:churchwardenpeter@gmail.com))

Jennifer Saville ([chaplaincywardenjennifer@gmail.com](mailto:chaplaincywardenjennifer@gmail.com))

They also act as Joint Treasurers.

**The Vice-Chairman of the Chaplaincy Council is:**

Joan Berry ([losbalconeswarden@gmail.com](mailto:losbalconeswarden@gmail.com))

**The Honorary Secretary to the Chaplaincy Council is:**

Mary Western ([honsectorrevieja@yahoo.com](mailto:honsectorrevieja@yahoo.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](mailto:safeguardingtorrevieja@gmail.com)

**The Congregational Warden at La Siesta is:**

Sue Maude ([wardenlasiesta@gmail.com](mailto:wardenlasiesta@gmail.com))

**Our other two churches remain temporarily closed.**

### **Home Communion**

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

This week we welcome Father Kevin Smith, the Priest Administrator of the Shrine of Our Lady of Walsingham and one of the Guardians of the Shrine to our Sunday morning celebration of the Holy Eucharist. Father Kevin is staying with me for a few days well-earned rest after a busy August at the Shrine with a three hundred strong youth pilgrimage for a week; various liturgical celebrations for the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, and a Pilgrimage and Mass of Healing and Renewal. Father Kevin will be sitting in the congregation and I know you will make him welcome. We trained to be priests at The Theological College, Chichester and have known each other since 1990. He is a dear friend, brother priest and, like me, has celebrated thirty years as a Priest this year.

Summer fades (sort of) and autumnal days are longed for. This means we go back to a busy schedule leading up to Advent and Christmass. Conscious of the fact that many people are still travelling and going here, there, and everywhere I am putting a list of all the special liturgical events in the newsletter so you know what is happening, I know some of these are months away but perhaps it is good to get everything in the diary now so you can plan ahead.

**Don't forget and please support...**

On Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> September at 3.30 p.m. we are going to have a *Hymns and Pimms* afternoon at La Siesta Church as a social and fund-raising event with the enjoyment of singing your favourite hymns. Normally I choose the hymns but these will be your choice!

The tickets are 10 euros to include refreshments – Pimms or a non-alcoholic cocktail. There will be a raffle and the tickets are included in the 10 euros. Forms to write your hymn choices need to be returned by Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> September please and are available when you purchase your ticket. We will collate them and the ten most popular will be sung accompanied by Beth on the organ. I shall say a few words about each hymn before we sing it. Funds raised are to support the ministry of the chaplaincy.

This is a good outreach opportunity to bring friends along to show them something of our Chaplaincy so please invite others along.

I send you warmest wishes and the assurance of my prayers, as always and in thanksgiving for his many blessings.

Your priest and friend,  
Father Richard

Dates ahead:

**Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> September, 3.30 p.m at La Siesta Church  
HYMNS AND PIMMS!**



Tickets €10 each to include Pimms Cocktails / Father Richard's non-alcoholic cocktail and nibbles. Raffle tickets are included in the 10 euro ticket. **Proceeds to support the ministry of the Church here.**

Please choose ten hymns. Forms available once you have bought



your ticket. The top ten hymns will be sung so start thinking about your favourite hymns! These will be collated. Do invite folks from outside the church to come along as a way of outreach. Tickets from Sue and Joan.

**Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> September, 1030 (please note time) at La Siesta Church  
MASS WITH LAYING ON OF HANDS AND ANOINTING**



This is a celebration of the Eucharist with special prayers for the sick, for healing, and for wholeness. The Church offers these two sacraments (The Eucharist and Anointing) to those who are troubled in mind, body, and spirit. During the celebration the Priest lays his hands on the head of those who would like to come forward and prays in silence. He then anoints on the forehead and palms of the hands with the Oil of the Sick. In this wonderful way we receive the grace of God's strength in our weakness to

bind us up with the knowledge that Christ is with us and reaches out to us through the ministry of his Priests. Some of you I know have experienced such a liturgical celebration before, others not. It used to be part of our Chaplaincy liturgical schedule and now I think it's the right time to introduce it again.

Full teaching is given during the celebration and a full explanation of what happens too. Please come along with an open mind and bring to the Lord what burdens you.

***Through this holy anointing may the Lord in his love and mercy help you with the grace of the Holy Spirit. Amen.***

***May the Lord who frees you from sin save you and raise you up. Amen.***

**Friday 27<sup>th</sup> October, 1700, La Siesta Church**

**HOLY HOUR – A time of prayer in the presence of Our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament** (*sunset is at 1912 so there is plenty of time to get home before it gets dark*)

**Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> November, ALL SAINTS’**

**1130 Holy Eucharist at La Siesta Church**

**Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> November, ALL SOULS’**

**1130 Holy Eucharist at La Siesta Church**

**Monday 6<sup>th</sup> November, La Siesta Church**

**1030 (please note time) Praying The Holy Rosary**

During the Pandemic many of us were introduced to praying the Holy Rosary each week online. Now we have an opportunity to come together as a group of praying Christians and bring our intentions of prayer together. More details will be given nearer the time and full teaching given. If you don't have a Rosary Father Richard has some spares but you might like to try and get one yourself (or ask him to get one for you).

**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)



### **Sue's Homemade Lemon Curd and Jill's Homemade Marmalade**

Sue Brassington is selling *made to order* homemade lemon curd after each service. Please see her if you would like order some. Thank you, Sue! Jill Dorsett is receiving orders for homemade marmalade. Thank you, Jill!



DIOCESE IN EUROPE  
THE CHURCH  
OF ENGLAND



### **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.**

#### **ONGOING INFORMATION**

1. Lago Jardín Church will remain closed until further notice.

There is a building project to renovate the church at Los Balcones, Nuestra Señora de la Asunción. There is no indication when this will be completed.

2. La Siesta - these services will be for the whole Chaplaincy until our other churches are opened again so please make every effort to be there and support the liturgical life of the Chaplaincy.

Sunday 3 <sup>rd</sup> September	1130
Saturday 9 <sup>th</sup> September	1700
Sunday 17 <sup>th</sup> September	1130
Saturday 23 <sup>rd</sup> September	1700
Thursday 28 <sup>th</sup> September	<b>1030</b> – <i>Mass with Laying on of Hands and Anointing</i>
Sunday 1 <sup>st</sup> October	1130 – <i>HARVEST THANKSGIVING</i>
Saturday 7 <sup>th</sup> October	1700
Sunday 15 <sup>th</sup> October	1130
Saturday 21 <sup>st</sup> October	1700
Saturday 28 <sup>th</sup> October	1700
Wednesday 1 <sup>st</sup> November	1130 – <i>ALL SAINTS</i>
Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup> November	1130 – <i>ALL SOULS</i>
Sunday 5 <sup>th</sup> November	1130

There is a liturgical Facebook group.

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.

### **The Blessed Sacrament Lamp at Lago Jardín**

The Blessed Sacrament has been removed from Lago Jardín to be kept safely with Father Richard until the church re-opens.

### **Father Richard's Prayer List for September 2023:**

*Please pray for the sick and those in particular need at this time:* Anna Horsnell, Liz Shouksmith, Chloe and Lorena, Peter John, Martin Skillen, Bert Nelson, Garth Sutherland, Andrew Little, Philip Howse, Jamie Hill, Carol and family, Raj Panchal, Peter Passey, Paul McNab, Lesley Critchley, Charlie Smith, Luke Thompson, Gwen Simmons, Gerry Hopkins.  
*Please help Father Richard by letting him know when people can be taken off the prayer list.*



### **Please pray for the recently departed:**

*Those killed as a result of the conflict in Ukraine.*

+ 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 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2023**

**Entrance Antiphon**

**Cf. Ps 85: 3, 5**

Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I cry to you all the day long.  
O Lord, you are good and forgiving,  
full of mercy to all who call to you.

---

**Collect**

God of might, giver of every good gift,  
put into our hearts the love of your name,  
so that, by deepening our sense of reverence,  
you may nurture in us what is good  
and, by your watchful care,  
keep safe what you have nurtured.  
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**

**Jeremiah 20:7-9**

**The word of the Lord has meant insult for me**

You have seduced me, Lord, and I have let myself be seduced;  
you have overpowered me: you were the stronger.  
I am a daily laughing-stock,  
everybody's butt.  
Each time I speak the word, I have to howl  
and proclaim: 'Violence and ruin!'  
The word of the Lord has meant for me  
insult, derision, all day long.  
I used to say, 'I will not think about him,  
I will not speak in his name any more.'  
Then there seemed to be a fire burning in my heart,  
imprisoned in my bones.  
The effort to restrain it wearied me,  
I could not bear it.

---



## Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 62(63):2-6,8-9

*For you my soul is thirsting, O Lord my God.*

O God, you are my God, for you I long;  
for you my soul is thirsting.

My body pines for you  
like a dry, weary land without water.

*For you my soul is thirsting, O Lord my God.*

So I gaze on you in the sanctuary  
to see your strength and your glory.

For your love is better than life,  
my lips will speak your praise.

*For you my soul is thirsting, O Lord my God.*

So I will bless you all my life,  
in your name I will lift up my hands.

My soul shall be filled as with a banquet,  
my mouth shall praise you with joy.

*For you my soul is thirsting, O Lord my God.*

For you have been my help;  
in the shadow of your wings I rejoice.

My soul clings to you;  
your right hand holds me fast.

*For you my soul is thirsting, O Lord my God.*

---

## Second reading

Romans 12:1-2

### Offer your bodies as a living sacrifice

Think of God's mercy, my brothers, and worship him, I beg you, in a way that is worthy of thinking beings, by offering your living bodies as a holy sacrifice, truly pleasing to God. Do not model yourselves on the behaviour of the world around you, but let your behaviour change, modelled by your new mind. This is the only way to discover the will of God and know what is good, what it is that God wants, what is the perfect thing to do.

---

## Gospel Acclamation

cf. Ep1:17,18

Alleluia, alleluia!

May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ  
enlighten the eyes of our mind,  
so that we can see what hope his call holds for us.

Alleluia!

---

## Gospel

Matthew 16:21-27

### 'Get behind me, Satan!'

Jesus began to make it clear to his disciples that he was destined to go to Jerusalem and suffer grievously at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes, to be put to death and to be raised up on the third day. Then, taking him aside, Peter started to remonstrate with him. 'Heaven preserve you, Lord;' he said 'this must not happen to you.' But he turned and said to Peter, 'Get behind me, Satan! You are an obstacle in my path, because the way you think is not God's way but man's.'

Then Jesus said to his disciples, 'If anyone wants to be a follower of mine, let him renounce himself and take up his cross and follow me. For anyone who wants to save his life will lose it; but anyone who loses his life for my sake will find it. What, then, will a man gain if he wins the whole world and ruins his life? Or what has a man to offer in exchange for his life?

'For the Son of Man is going to come in the glory of his Father with his angels, and, when he does, he will reward each one according to his behaviour.'

## Homily

Today's Gospel continues the story that began in last week's Gospel. Simon Peter was called the "rock" upon which Jesus would build his Church, and yet Peter continues to show the limitations of his understanding of Jesus' identity. Now that the disciples have acknowledged that Jesus is the Messiah, Jesus confides in them the outcome of his ministry: he must suffer and die in Jerusalem to be raised on the third day. Peter rejects this prediction, and Jesus rebukes him severely, calling him "Satan." In opposing this aspect of Jesus' mission, Peter shows that he is no longer speaking based on the revelation from God but as a human being. Jesus then teaches all of the disciples about the difficult path of discipleship: to be Christ's disciple is to follow in his way of the cross.

Peter could not yet understand what it meant to call Jesus the Messiah. It is unlikely that the other disciples understood any better. Messianic expectations were a common aspect of first-century Judaism. Under Roman occupation, many in Israel hoped and prayed that God would send a Messiah to free the Jews from Roman oppression. The common view was that the Messiah would be a political figure, a king that would free Israel from Roman rule. This is perhaps what Peter envisioned when he was led to recognize Jesus as the Messiah. In this passage, however, Jesus is beginning to teach his disciples that he would be the Messiah in a different way.

Jesus would be more like the suffering servant described by the prophet Isaiah than the political liberator. Those who would be Jesus' disciples would be called to a similar life of service. Perhaps this is what Peter feared most in Jesus' prediction of his Passion. He whom Jesus had called "rock" would also be called upon to offer himself in sacrifice and service to others. Christian leaders today are still called to sacrifice and serve others as Jesus did.



## 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.**