

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**

**7<sup>th</sup> August 2022**

**NINETEENTH 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.**

## **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

I have been writing weekly about the life of a Priest. Today is the last in this series.

The relationship of the Priest to his people is given by the Bishop. The Bishop also has a relationship with the people of God as their Chief Shepherd / Pastor but that relationship – the cure of souls – is shown at a licensing when a Priest is given by the Bishop a licence with the words "Receive the cure of souls which is both yours and mine". The Priest is then a pastor. The word "pastor" can often be misunderstood. In some evangelical churches it is the name given to an ordained minister and also used as a title. We use the word "pastor" to refer to one of the important "charisms" of the Priest – he is a shepherd to care for his people. That pastoral role can be seen in many ways and cannot be separated from the sacramental role of the Priest as the celebrant of the Eucharist. If a Priest cares for his people correctly he will constantly highlight the importance of the Eucharist. The role of pastor cannot be separated from the ministry of prayer. When a priest cares for his people he prays for them and tells them he does.

Pastoral care, in its many forms, is an essential part of the Priest's life. He will be with you in good times and in bad. He will be with you in your sickness or the sickness of those close to you. He will be a listener, a friend, a helper and the Priest hopes you will listen to! He will pray with you. He will be with you in hospital, when a loved one comes to the end of their life, he will be with you in times of birth and death, he will hold your hand and, occasionally, tell you truths to make you think. All this he will seek to do to be modelled on Jesus the Good Shepherd. He may not always get it right – see last week's Father Richard writes – but he will be there for you because God has placed him there. He will bring Holy Communion to

your house or hospital bed when necessary. He will hear your Confession. He will pray for you and with you.

He is there for you – do not think you can't approach him. Whether you think he is the best thing since sliced bread or not a person to whom you do not warm, God has called the Priest to your parish or chaplaincy. You may not like him. *But you are called to love him.* You may adore him – but always remember he is your Priest. You may feel indifferent about him – but always remember he is your Priest. He may not like you but *he will always love you.* Ultimately he has responded to the call of God. My experience has been overwhelming generosity of spirit and kindness from those who really wish to progress in the Christian faith.

Just as he cares for you and prays for you, care and pray for your Priest. Your Priest may be single – he goes home to four walls. Your Priest may be married – he balances the priestly life with a spouse and family life which also has its challenges. The Priest will put himself out for you. Put yourself out for your Priest by regularly praying for him. He needs your prayers. He doesn't have a job. He doesn't have an occupation. He has a calling, a vocation, and a ministry.

To conclude some practical things:

1. The Priest is also an administrator. It is his responsibility to make sure the parish is run well. There are rules, regulations, laws, and canons. A Priest cannot do his own thing! He must make sure the Church Council is run correctly.
2. The Priest does have the final say in certain things! He will consult, of course, but some decisions – especially liturgy – are his to make and quite rightly. He has had the formation and experience often over many years. He will always teach why.
3. The Priest does not receive wages or a salary. He receives a stipend to compensate for the work he does. It is interesting that the word stipend is not used in the US – *compensation* is. It is the money given by the Church to enable him to live. In this Archdeaconry the majority of priests are not on whole stipends.
4. The Parish / Chaplaincy is responsible for housing the Priest.

I am always available to answer any questions. If there is anything you want to know please always ask me. I will give you an answer and if I do not have the answer I will find it.

We have had lovely new people joining us over the past few months so here is a quick biography so you know more about me.

*Ordained Deacon 1992 and Priest 1993. I served in S. Mary's Cottingham (Diocese of York 1992 – 1994) and Holy Trinity, Hawley (Diocese of Guildford 1994 – 1998) as Assistant Curate. I was Vicar of Hockley, Diocese of Chelmsford 1998 – 2005 and served on General Synod. In 2005 I went to Australia and was Rector of Benalla, Victoria, 2005-2009. In 2009 I became Vicar-General of the Diocese of The Murray, Archdeacon of The Murray and Rector of Mount Barker, all in South Australia. During the time when there was no Bishop I was Administrator of the Diocese. I have been here in Spain since 2015.*

God bless you all.  
Your priest and friend, Father Richard

## Ministry of a Lector

Thank you to those who have replied and I will be in further contact with you about this. *Father Richard*

### 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)



**We are always grateful for your giving to the Chaplaincy.** It is the main way by which the Priestly Ministry and Chaplaincy life is sustained. Without your giving there would be no Chaplaincy. Thank you to all who give so generously.

If you don't already, please would you consider a monthly standing order to either our UK to Spanish bank accounts? This would help us enormously in our financial planning.

It means your giving happens on a regular basis and we would be so grateful for this. Think of what the Chaplaincy means not only to you but the wider church community and the Church of England presence in this area.

Please see Peter or Jennifer or send Father Richard an email if you could help. Thank you.



**Sue's Homemade Lemon Curd and Pickled Onions 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! (She also taking orders for pickled onions available in six weeks.) Jill Dorsett is receiving orders for homemade marmalade. Thank you, Jill!



## DATES AHEAD:

Monday 15<sup>th</sup> August THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY



The Church celebrates that day when the Blessed Virgin Mary, at the end of her earthly life, was taken up body and soul into the glory of heaven. There will be a celebration of the Holy Eucharist at 1130 at La Siesta Church followed by lunch at the Chinese restaurant. It is a glorious summer festival and we praise God for the Blessed Virgin Mary and her Assumption, by God, into heavenly glory. Please come along and join the celebration.

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

We are a Covid 19 secure Chaplaincy.  
If you have COVID-19 symptoms please stay at home.

You no longer have to wear a mask in church  
(though if you chose to that is perfectly acceptable to protect yourself and protect others).

Hand sanitizer will still be available as you enter the church.

*You are encouraged still to use this to protect yourself and others.*

Holy Communion will still be administered in one kind for the time being.

You will be able to line up for Holy Communion instead of coming up individually.

Holy Communion is offered with the words "The Body of Christ" to which you say **Amen**  
*before* consuming the Sacred Host.

Holy Communion (in one kind still for the time being) will continue to be offered in front of  
the altar as we have been doing since the Pandemic.

Regarding the sharing of the Sign of Peace,  
we will remain with the status quo for the time being.

### POST-PANDEMIC INFORMATION

1. Lago Jardín Church will remain closed until further notice. *In due course the Chaplaincy Council will decide the way forward. However, as the Church is being used to store so much stuff from Los Balcones we will need to wait.*
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.

Sunday 7 <sup>th</sup> August	1130
Saturday 13 <sup>th</sup> August	1700
Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> August	1130 – THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY
Sunday 21 <sup>st</sup> August	1130
Saturday 27 <sup>th</sup> August	1700
Sunday 4 <sup>th</sup> September	1130
Saturday 10 <sup>th</sup> September	1700
Sunday 18 <sup>th</sup> September	1130
Saturday 24 <sup>th</sup> September	1700
Sunday 2 <sup>nd</sup> October	1130
Saturday 8 <sup>th</sup> October	1700

The live-streamed liturgies continue in a limited form now:

1. Go to <https://www.facebook.com/groups/chaplaintorreveja> 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.

**WORSHIP FOR THE WEEK AHEAD:**

Saturday 6 <sup>th</sup> August	1700	Evening Prayer	<i>Live-streamed</i>
Sunday 7 <sup>th</sup> August	1130	Holy Eucharist	<i>La Siesta / Live-streamed</i>
Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> August	1800	Evening Prayer and Holy Rosary	<i>Live-streamed</i>
Saturday 13 <sup>th</sup> August	1700	Holy Eucharist	<i>La Siesta / Live-streamed</i>
Sunday 14 <sup>th</sup> August	1100	Holy Eucharist	<i>Live-streamed</i>
Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> August	1130	Holy Eucharist	<i>La Siesta / Live-streamed</i>
	1800	Evening Prayer and Holy Rosary	<i>Live-streamed</i>

### **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.

### **Father Richard's Prayer List for August 2022:**

*Please pray for the sick and those in particular need at this time:* Paul McNab, David, Anna Horsnell, Anne John, Lesley Critchley, Charlie Smith, Allan Harris, David, Theo, Patricia Gilbert, Marie Creighton, Jennifer Moody, Erol Moody, Faras, Justin Clarke, Peter John, Mo and Bryan Bailey, Bernice, Luke Thompson, Gwen Simmons, Isaac Jalal, Father Terence, John Mileham, Samantha Shaw, Alex, Gerry Hopkins, Father Helge, Solveig Petterson, Eileen Catlin.



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

Rob Barnes RIP

*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).*

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

## **Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> August 2022**

### **Entrance Antiphon**

**Cf. Ps 73: 20, 19, 22, 23**

Look to your covenant, O Lord,  
and forget not the life of your poor ones for ever.  
Arise, O God, and defend your cause,  
and forget not the cries of those who seek you.

### **Collect**

Almighty ever-living God,  
whom, taught by the Holy Spirit,  
we dare to call our Father,  
bring, we pray, to perfection in our hearts  
the spirit of adoption as your sons and daughters,  
that we may merit to enter into the inheritance  
which you have promised.

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**

**Wisdom 18:6-9**

#### **You made us glorious by calling us to you**

That night had been foretold to our ancestors, so that,  
once they saw what kind of oaths they had put their trust in,  
they would joyfully take courage.  
This was the expectation of your people,  
the saving of the virtuous and the ruin of their enemies;  
for by the same act with which you took vengeance on our foes  
you made us glorious by calling us to you.  
The devout children of worthy men offered sacrifice in secret  
and this divine pact they struck with one accord:  
that the saints would share the same blessings and dangers alike;  
and forthwith they had begun to chant the hymns of the fathers.

### **Responsorial Psalm**

**Psalm 32(33):1,12,18-20,22**

*Happy are the people the Lord has chosen as his own.*

Ring out your joy to the Lord, O you just;  
for praise is fitting for loyal hearts.  
They are happy, whose God is the Lord,  
the people he has chosen as his own.

*Happy are the people the Lord has chosen as his own.*

The Lord looks on those who revere him,  
on those who hope in his love,  
to rescue their souls from death,  
to keep them alive in famine.

*Happy are the people the Lord has chosen as his own.*

Our soul is waiting for the Lord.  
The Lord is our help and our shield.  
May your love be upon us, O Lord,  
as we place all our hope in you.

*Happy are the people the Lord has chosen as his own.*

### **Second reading**

**Hebrews 11:1-2,8-19**

#### **Abraham looked forward to a city founded, designed and built by God**

Only faith can guarantee the blessings that we hope for, or prove the existence of the realities that at present remain unseen. It was for faith that our ancestors were commended.

It was by faith that Abraham obeyed the call to set out for a country that was the inheritance given to him and his descendants, and that he set out without knowing where he was going. By faith he arrived, as a foreigner, in the Promised Land, and lived there as if in a strange country, with Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. They lived there in tents while he looked forward to a city founded, designed and built by God.

It was equally by faith that Sarah, in spite of being past the age, was made able to conceive, because she believed that he who had made the promise would be faithful to it. Because of this, there came from one man, and one who was already as good as dead himself, more descendants than could be counted, as many as the stars of heaven or the grains of sand on the seashore.

All these died in faith, before receiving any of the things that had been promised, but they saw them in the far distance and welcomed them, recognising that they were only strangers and nomads on earth. People who use such terms about themselves make it quite plain that they are in search of their real homeland. They can hardly have meant the country they came from, since they had the opportunity to go back to it; but in fact they were longing for a better homeland, their heavenly homeland. That is why God is not ashamed to be called their God, since he has founded the city for them.

It was by faith that Abraham, when put to the test, offered up Isaac. He offered to sacrifice his only son even though the promises had been made to him and he had been told: It is through Isaac that your name will be carried on. He was confident that God had the power even to raise the dead; and so, figuratively speaking, he was given back Isaac from the dead.

### **Gospel Acclamation**

**Mt24:42-44**

Alleluia, alleluia!  
Stay awake and stand ready,  
because you do not know the hour  
when the Son of Man is coming.  
Alleluia!

### **Gospel**

**Luke 12:32-48**

#### **You too must stand ready**

Jesus said to his disciples: 'There is no need to be afraid, little flock, for it has pleased your Father to give you the kingdom.

'Sell your possessions and give alms. Get yourselves purses that do not wear out, treasure that will not fail you, in heaven where no thief can reach it and no moth destroy it. For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.

'See that you are dressed for action and have your lamps lit. Be like men waiting for their master to return from the wedding feast, ready to open the door as soon as he comes and knocks. Happy those servants whom the master finds awake when he comes. I tell you solemnly, he will put on an apron, sit them down at table and wait on them. It may be in the second watch he comes, or in the third, but happy those servants if he finds them ready. You may be quite sure of this, that if the householder had known at what hour the burglar would come, he would not have let anyone break through the wall of his house. You too must stand ready, because the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.'

Peter said, 'Lord, do you mean this parable for us, or for everyone?' The Lord replied, 'What sort of steward, then, is faithful and wise enough for the master to place him over his household to give them their allowance of food at the proper time? Happy that servant if his master's arrival finds him at this employment. I tell you truly, he will place him over everything he owns. But as for the servant who says to himself, "My master is taking his time coming," and sets about beating the menservants and the maids, and eating and drinking and getting drunk, his master will come on a day he does not expect and at an hour he does not know. The master will cut him off and send him to the same fate as the unfaithful.

The servant who knows what his master wants, but has not even started to carry out those wishes, will receive very many strokes of the lash. The one who did not know, but deserves to be beaten for what he has done, will receive fewer strokes. When a man has had a great deal given him, a great deal will be demanded of him; when a man has had a great deal given him on trust, even more will be expected of him.'

### **Homily**

Abraham's faith in God eventually brought him serenity and joy. The great patriarch had such trust in God's promise that it kept him going through life. We are impressed at how Abraham obeyed when God asked him to leave the past behind and launch out into an unknown future.

The Gospel says that a whoever belongs to Jesus need have no fear. People who makes God their treasure, and commit to Christ as our guide to living, see life as a journey leading to our true home where a loving Father is there to welcome us. If we can keep our eyes fixed on the vision that God has promised and attune our ears to the voice of God in the scriptures and in the events of daily life, we can live with confidence in his presence.

The same Gospel suggests that God also makes demands of us. If the saints in Scripture had many proofs of God's love, they also experienced suffering both as individuals and as a race. Often their faith was seriously put to the test, like that of Abraham and his wife Sarah, when it seemed that the promise of children could never be realized. The spirituality of Abraham ruggedly trying out to follow God's call in the obscurity of faith remains a template for Christian faith.

We don't know in advance what demands God's love may make on us that will clash with our own plans. We cannot know when personal illness, bereavement or some other calamity will put us to the test. But we trust that our life will be a success if we set our hearts on being faithful to the will of God. Our faith, like Abraham's, leads us onward, always pointing to something still to come. If we have faith like his, at the end of our pilgrimage all of God's promises will be fulfilled.



## 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.