



**Diocese
in Europe**

THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND

SS PETER AND PAUL, TORREVIEJA

*We worship 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):

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FATHER RICHARD'S WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

9th March 2025

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT



**WELCOME TO THE CHAPLAINCY OF SS PETER AND PAUL, TORREVIEJA.
ALL ARE WELCOME TO SHARE IN THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH IN 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 the Chaplaincy Council is:
Joan Berry (losbalconeswarden@gmail.com)
Joan is also Honorary Secretary to the Chaplaincy Council.
For Chaplaincy Council matters please use:
chapsec@gmail.com

We take the Safeguarding of Children and Vulnerable Adults seriously. Our Safeguarding Policy is displayed at La Siesta and Lago Jardín and is available on our website:
<https://www.c-of-e-torre vieja.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)

Nuestra Señora de la Asunción at Los Balcones, our third church,
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.

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

Lent gives us a forty day time of uniting ourselves with Christ in the wilderness through living more simply and contemplating our progress in the faith. One of the titles given to Our Lord is *The Second Adam* or *The New Adam*. You will be familiar with the words of S. John Henry Newman's hymn *Praise to the holiest in the height*:

*O loving wisdom of our God!
When all was sin and shame,
a second Adam to the fight
and to the rescue came.*

This, therefore, is a reference to Our Lord. Perhaps you might like to think it about this way? The first Adam (along with Eve) were placed in the earthly paradise of beauty and perfection. However, they gave into the temptation of the devil and sin came into the world. This is what we call *Original Sin*. All of us are born with it and only Holy Baptism can wash it away.

The Second Adam, Jesus, goes not into paradise but into the parched and arid land of the wilderness or desert. Like the first Adam he is tempted by Satan but, unlike the first Adam, does not give into the three temptations that we hear about in this Sunday's gospel reading. The struggle against the Spirit of evil involves each of us who are called to follow Jesus's example. Jesus resists the temptation of the Devil and triumphs over the Evil One – almost as a foretaste of the greatest triumph with his death on the Cross.

This Lent we are called to model our lives on Jesus, the Second Adam. But do we find it is often the first Adam that we emulate in our lives. It makes us pray more earnestly and sincerely to Our Father – *lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil*.

May the grace and prayer of these Lenten days bring us all to greater strength to resist the temptations of the Evil One. May we all grow in this the Church's springtime.

With my best wishes and prayers for you all,

Father Richard

OUR LENT COURSE THIS YEAR will be the first of two I am leading this year about the Nicene Creed, the Creed we proclaim during the Holy Eucharist which was formulated in 325 AD. Therefore, it is the 1700th anniversary of the Creed this year. We profess the Creed each week. But how much do you really know about it? How much do you understand it? Why is it



important? Have you ever thought about its significance in the light of our faith?

The first course will be during Lent and will be an introduction to more exploration later this year.

The sessions will be as follows and will take place from 1600 – 1700 Spain

time:

- | | |
|-------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Monday 10 th March | Introduction |
| Monday 17 th March | The nature of faith |
| Monday 24 th March | The history of the Church's creeds |
| Monday 31 st March | Why the creeds matter |
| Monday 7 th April | The role of creeds in liturgy |

They will take place via Zoom. Please do contact me if you would like to take part.



PRAY



FAST



GIVE

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DATES AHEAD:

Wednesday 19th March

SOLEMNITY OF S. JOSEPH, HOLY EUCHARIST AT LAGO JARDÍN AT *1130*



A statue of S. Joseph (left) has been presented to the Chaplaincy in memory of Jill Dorsett who died on March 14th last year. As you look at the altar in Lago Jardín, it will be placed on the right hand side in the space occupied by an ikon. This will "balance" the altar which already has a statue of Our Lady



on the left hand side. I hope as many as possible will share in this Mass as we remember Jill at the time of her first anniversary of death and the anniversary of her Funeral Mass which was celebrated on March 18th last year. I will bless the statue and place it in the church, March 19th being the Solemnity of S. Joseph. There will be refreshments afterwards.

Tuesday 25th March

THE ANNUNCIATION OF THE LORD, HOLY EUCHARIST AT LA SIESTA AT *1030*



The Church celebrates the Annunciation of Our Lord on March 25th and recalls the moment when the Archangel Gabriel was sent by God to Nazareth to the Blessed Virgin Mary. Here Mary accepted God's will for her with the Holy Spirit overshadowing her. Because of this, God was able to come into our world at the Incarnation. This Mass honours Mary's participation in God's plan for our salvation. Mary said "Yes" so we could find redemption through her Son. Come and celebrate this wonderful truth at this Mass.

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee!

Tuesday 1st April La Siesta Church

1030 ELECTION OF CHURCHWARDENS AND ANNUAL CHAPLAINCY MEETING

This meeting is open to those who are on the new electoral roll.

EASTER SUNDAY LUNCH



Bar Carmen, C.Fray Angelico 11, El Chaparral. Five minute drive from the Church. Lunch booked for 1330. Please see Sue Maude.

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 give through the UK gift aid scheme if you are a UK tax payer.
 3. **You are encouraged to set up a standing order to the Chaplaincy – this helps us budget more effectively.**
 4. You can make an offset against your Spanish tax
 5. if you are Spanish tax payer.
- One off donations are gratefully received.

For more information contact Father Richard or the Churchwardens.

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)*

GIVING ONLINE:

<https://givealittle.co/c/3yXhRUWebr0Vqwf1OSVyV8>

GIVING BY QR CODE, APPLE PAY, GOOGLE WALLET:

Hover over the QR code and go from there!

See next page...



Thank you!





THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND

In this Chaplaincy...

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 2 nd March	1130	La Siesta
Wednesday 5th March	1030	La Siesta
Wednesday 5th March	1700	Lago Jardín
Saturday 8 th March	1700	La Siesta
Sunday 9 th March	1130	Lago Jardín
Sunday 16 th March	1130	La Siesta
Wednesday 19th March	1130	Lago Jardín
		S. JOSEPH, SPOUSE OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY
Saturday 22 nd March	1700	La Siesta
Sunday 23 rd March	1130	Lago Jardín
Tuesday 25th March	1030	La Siesta
		THE ANNUNCIATION OF THE LORD
Saturday 29 th March	1700	La Siesta
Sunday 30 th March	1130	Lago Jardín
Sunday 6 th April	1130	La Siesta
Saturday 12 th April	1700	La Siesta
Sunday 13 th April	1130	Lago Jardín
		PALM SUNDAY

The Blessed Sacrament Lamp at Lago Jardín

*burns this week for: **Terry Harbut and Janice**.* 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 March 2025:

Please pray for the sick and those in particular need at this time: Pope Francis, Victoria Hudson, Moira Corfield, Michael Elliott, Lewis Elliott, Linda Thompson, Luke Thompson, Jamie Hill, Ed White, Rhys Miles, Gwen Simmons, Eileen Shaw, Sandra and Terry Harbut, Clíodhna pronounced Cliona Leydon, Jaime pronounced Jamie Mack, John Sunderland, Chris Hughes, Raj Panchal, Anna and Dick Horsnell, David Horsnell, Peter John, Martin Skillen, Paul McNab, Father Barry Smart, Gwyneth Manning, Lesley Critchley.
Please help Father Richard by letting him know when people can be taken off the prayer list. Please notify Father Richard of any corrections.

Please pray for the recently departed:

Those killed as a result of the conflicts in Ukraine, Israel, and Gaza; for a lasting peace.
+ 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 9th March 2025

Entrance Antiphon

Cf. Ps 90: 15-16

When he calls on me, I will answer him;
I will deliver him and give him glory,
I will grant him length of days.

Collect

Grant, almighty God,
through the yearly observances of holy Lent,
that we may grow in understanding
of the riches hidden in Christ
and by worthy conduct pursue their effects.
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

Deuteronomy 26:4-10

The confession of faith of the chosen people.

Moses spoke to the people: 'The priest shall take the basket from your hand and set it down before the altar of the LORD your God. And you shall make response before the LORD your God, "A wandering Aramean was my father. And he went down into Egypt and sojourned there, few in number, and there he became a nation, great, mighty, and populous. And the Egyptians treated us harshly and humiliated us and laid on us hard labour. Then we cried to the LORD, the God of our fathers, and the LORD heard our voice and saw our affliction, our toil, and our oppression. And the LORD brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm, with great deeds of terror, with signs and wonders. And he brought us into this place and gave us this land, a land flowing with milk and honey. And behold, now I bring the first of the fruit of the ground, which you, O LORD, have given me." And you shall set it down before the LORD your God and worship before the LORD your God.'

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 91(90):1-2. 10-11. 12-13. 14-15. R cf 15b

Be with me, O Lord, in my distress.

He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High,
and abides in the shade of the Almighty,
says to the LORD, 'My refuge,
my stronghold, my God in whom I trust!'

Be with me, O Lord, in my distress.

Upon you no evil shall fall,
no plague approach your tent.
For you has he commanded his angels
to keep you in all your ways.

Be with me, O Lord, in my distress.

They shall bear you upon their hands,
lest you strike your foot against a stone.
On the lion and the viper you will tread,
and trample the young lion and the serpent.

Be with me, O Lord, in my distress.

Since he clings to me in love, I will free him,
protect him, for he knows my name.
When he calls on me, I will answer him;
I will be with him in distress;
I will deliver him, and give him glory.

Be with me, O Lord, in my distress.

Second reading

Romans 10:8-13

The confession of faith of believers in Christ.

Brothers and Sisters: What does Scripture say? 'The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart' (that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); because, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved. For the Scripture says, 'Everyone who believes in him will not be put to shame.' For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; for the same Lord is Lord of all, bestowing his riches on all who call on him. For, 'everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.'

Gospel Acclamation

Matthew 4:4b

Glory and praise to you, O Christ.
One does not live by bread alone,
but by every word that comes forth from the mouth of God.
Glory and praise to you, O Christ.

Gospel

Luke 4:1-13

'Jesus was led by the Spirit in the wilderness and tempted by the devil'

At that time: Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness for forty days, being tempted by the devil. And he ate nothing during those days. And when they were over, he was hungry.

The devil said to him, 'If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become bread.' And Jesus answered him, 'It is written, "Man shall not live by bread alone." '

And the devil took him up and showed him all the kingdoms of the world in a moment of time, and said to him, 'To you I will give all this authority and their glory, for it has been delivered to me, and I give it to whom I will. If you, then, will worship me, it will all be yours.' And Jesus answered him, 'It is written, "You shall worship the Lord your God, and him only shall you serve." '

And he took him to Jerusalem and set him on the pinnacle of the temple and said to him, 'If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here, for it is written, "He will command his angels concerning you, to guard you", and "On their hands they will bear you up, lest you strike your foot against a stone." ' And Jesus answered him, 'It is said, "You shall not put the Lord your God to the test." '

And when the devil had ended every temptation, he departed from him until an opportune time.

Homily

In each of the three Synoptic Gospels, after his baptism, Jesus is reported to have spent forty days in the desert, fasting and praying. In Luke and in Matthew, the devil presents three temptations to Jesus. The devil tempts Jesus to use his power to appease his hunger, he offers Jesus all the kingdoms of the world if Jesus will worship him, and he tempts Jesus to put God's promise of protection to the test. In each case, Jesus resists, citing words from Scripture to rebuke the devil's temptation.

Each temptation that Jesus faces offers insight into the spirituality we hope to develop as we keep the forty days of the Season of Lent. We can trust God to provide for our material needs. We worship God because God alone has dominion over us and our world. We can trust God to be faithful to his promises. Jesus' rejection of the devil's temptations shows that he will not put God to the test. Grounding himself on the Word and authority of Scripture, Jesus rebukes the devil by his confidence in God's protection and faithfulness.

This Gospel highlights for us one of the central themes of the Season of Lent. We are dependent upon God for all that we have and all that we are. Anything that leads us to reject this dependency or to distrust its sufficiency, is a temptation from the devil.

Luke ends his report of Jesus' temptation in the desert by noting that the devil departs for a time. The implication is that the devil will return. Jesus knows that he will be tempted again in the Garden of Gethsemane. The depth of Jesus' trust in God is shown most fully when Jesus rejects the temptation to turn away from the task God has given to him. Jesus' final rebuke of the devil is his sacrifice on the Cross.

Jesus' responses to the temptations of the devil teach us how we can respond to temptation. As we start our journey through Lent, this Sunday's Gospel calls us to adopt the same confidence that Jesus had in the face of temptation: God's word alone will suffice, God's promise of protection can be trusted, and God alone is God.





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.