



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

Chaplain's Facebook Group:

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

**FATHER RICHARD'S WEEKLY NEWSLETTER
10th September 2023
TWENTY-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 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)
Jennifer Saville (chaplaincywardenjennifer@gmail.com)
They also act as Joint Treasurers.

The Vice-Chairman of the Chaplaincy Council is:

Joan Berry (losbalconeswarden@gmail.com)

The Honorary Secretary to the Chaplaincy Council is:

Mary Western (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**

The Congregational Warden at La Siesta is:

Sue Maude (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

Each week the readings from Sacred Scripture to be proclaimed at the Sunday Eucharist are printed (together with a reflection) in this newsletter. They are there for two reasons: 1. It gives those who (for whatever reason) cannot join in the Eucharist an opportunity to at least read the Scriptures of the day and to feast upon the Word of the Lord *but also* 2. An opportunity for all of us to prepare for the Sunday Eucharist (or Saturday Vigil Mass) by studying those passages of Sacred Scripture so they become more familiar with them as part of our spiritual preparation. Often the passages of Sacred Scripture are quite complex in length and content and this would enable you to be ready to hear them proclaimed. There might be an opportunity to find some time to read them together if you are a couple or some time of silent reading if you live alone – light a candle, open your heart to God, read them slowly and listen to God speaking to you. Then when you hear the readings proclaimed to the whole Eucharistic assembly, the Holy Spirit (the agent of the Word) will bring those readings to your heart, mind, and soul in a powerful way. 3. Read them again after the Eucharist in light of the celebration and the homily which has been preached. Know that the Lord is speaking to **you**. Let *The Word of the Lord* take deep root in you.

This week...

On Wednesday 13th 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 2nd 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 13th 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 28th 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 27th 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 1st November, ALL SAINTS’

1130 Holy Eucharist at La Siesta Church

Thursday 2nd November, ALL SOULS’

1130 Holy Eucharist at La Siesta Church

Monday 6th 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!



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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.

Saturday 9 th September	1700
Sunday 17 th September	1130
Saturday 23 rd September	1700
Thursday 28 th September	1030 – <i>Mass with Laying on of Hands and Anointing</i>
Sunday 1 st October	1130 – <i>HARVEST THANKSGIVING</i>
Saturday 7 th October	1700
Sunday 15 th October	1130
Saturday 21 st October	1700
Saturday 28 th October	1700
Wednesday 1 st November	1130 - <i>ALL SAINTS</i>
Thursday 2 nd November	1130 – <i>ALL SOULS</i>
Sunday 5 th November	1130
Saturday 12 th November	1700 – <i>Eve of Remembrance Sunday</i>

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 10th September 2023

Entrance Antiphon

Ps 118: 137, 124

You are just, O Lord, and your judgement is right;
treat your servant in accord with your merciful love.

Collect

O God, by whom we are redeemed and receive adoption,
look graciously upon your beloved sons and daughters,
that those who believe in Christ
may receive true freedom
and an everlasting inheritance.
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

Ezekiel 33:7-9

If you do not speak to the wicked man, I will hold you responsible for his death

The word of the Lord was addressed to me as follows: 'Son of man, I have appointed you as sentry to the House of Israel. When you hear a word from my mouth, warn them in my name. If I say to a wicked man: Wicked wretch, you are to die, and you do not speak to warn the wicked man to renounce his ways, then he shall die for his sin, but I will hold you responsible for his death. If, however, you do warn a wicked man to renounce his ways and repent, and he does not repent, then he shall die for his sin, but you yourself will have saved your life.'

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 94(95):1-2,6-9

O that today you would listen to his voice! 'Harden not your hearts.'

Come, ring out our joy to the Lord;
hail the rock who saves us.

Let us come before him, giving thanks,
with songs let us hail the Lord.

O that today you would listen to his voice! 'Harden not your hearts.'

Come in; let us bow and bend low;
let us kneel before the God who made us:
for he is our God and we
the people who belong to his pasture,
the flock that is led by his hand.

O that today you would listen to his voice! 'Harden not your hearts.'

O that today you would listen to his voice!
'Harden not your hearts as at Meribah,
as on that day at Massah in the desert
when your fathers put me to the test;
when they tried me, though they saw my work.'

O that today you would listen to his voice! 'Harden not your hearts.'

Second reading

Romans 13:8-10

Your only debt should be the debt of mutual love

Avoid getting into debt, except the debt of mutual love. If you love your fellow men you have carried out your obligations. All the commandments: *You shall not commit adultery, you shall not kill, you shall not steal, you shall not covet*, and so on, are summed up in this single command: *You must love your neighbour as yourself*. Love is the one thing that cannot hurt your neighbour; that is why it is the answer to every one of the commandments.

Gospel Acclamation

Jn17:17

Alleluia, alleluia!
Your word is truth, O Lord:
consecrate us in the truth.
Alleluia!

Or:

2Co5:19

Alleluia, alleluia!
God in Christ was reconciling the world to himself,
and he has entrusted to us the news that they are reconciled.
Alleluia!

Gospel

Matthew 18:15-20

If your brother listens to you, you have won back your brother

Jesus said to his disciples: 'If your brother does something wrong, go and have it out with him alone, between your two selves. If he listens to you, you have won back your brother. If he does not listen, take one or two others along with you: the evidence of two or three witnesses is required to sustain any charge. But if he refuses to listen to these, report it to the community; and if he refuses to listen to the community, treat him like a pagan or a tax collector.

'I tell you solemnly, whatever you bind on earth shall be considered bound in heaven; whatever you loose on earth shall be considered loosed in heaven.

'I tell you solemnly once again, if two of you on earth agree to ask anything at all, it will be granted to you by my Father in heaven. For where two or three meet in my name, I shall be there with them.'

Prayer over the Offerings

O God, who give us the gift of true prayer and of peace,
graciously grant that through this offering,
we may do fitting homage to your divine majesty
and, by partaking of the sacred mystery,
we may be faithfully united in mind and heart.
Through Christ our Lord.

Communion Antiphon

Like the deer that yearns for running streams,
so my soul is yearning for you, my God;
my soul is thirsting for God, the living God.

Cf. Ps 41: 2-3

Or:

I am the light of the world, says the Lord;
whoever follows me will not walk in darkness,
but will have the light of life.

Jn 8: 12

Prayer after Communion

Grant that your faithful, O Lord,
whom you nourish and endow with life
through the food of your Word and heavenly Sacrament,
may so benefit from your beloved Son's great gifts
that we may merit an eternal share in his life.
Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

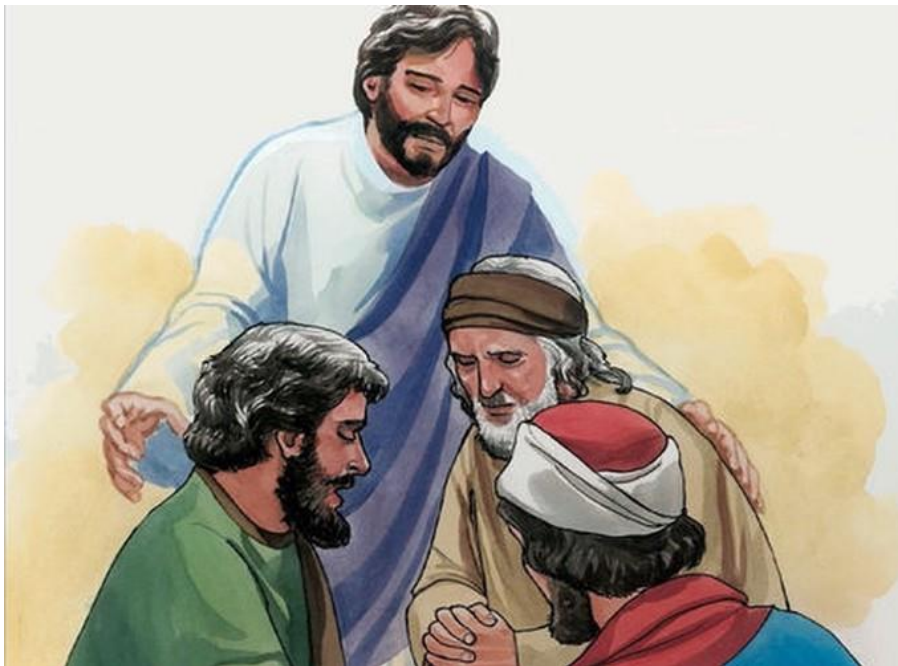
Homily

Today's Gospel reading is taken from a chapter of Matthew's Gospel, which is sometimes called the "discourse on the Church" or the "church order" discourse. In this part of Matthew's Gospel, Jesus speaks more directly about matters of Church discipline and order. In today's reading we find one of only three instances in which Jesus uses the word *church* in Matthew's Gospel. In Matthew's record of Jesus' teaching, we can hear echoes of the kinds of issues faced by the early Christian community.

In the first part of the "discourse on the Church" (Matthew 18:1-14), Matthew addresses the Christian community's concerns about rank. Jesus responds to the disciples' question about who is greatest in the kingdom of heaven. Jesus indicates that those who wish to enter the kingdom of heaven must be like children, and he cautions those leaders who might lead these "little ones" astray. He also responds with the parable of the lost sheep, indicating how God will seek out and bring back those "little ones" who have strayed.

In today's Gospel reading, Matthew 18:15-20, Jesus addresses a common occurrence in the Christian community: a dispute between two members of the Church. Jesus outlines a procedure for settling such matters fairly. The victim should privately address the offender and attempt to resolve the dispute without outside involvement. If that fails, then the victim should bring two or three witnesses and confront the offender again. If the dispute is still unresolved, the matter should be brought to the attention of the entire community. If the offender refuses to adhere to the reparations prescribed by the community, then Jesus suggests that the offender may be expelled from the Church.

Jesus does not discourage disagreement within the community of the Church; he acknowledges the reality of conflict and error and offers his disciples a means for addressing such matters. It is in the conclusion to this teaching that the message of hope is found: Jesus is present with the community and will guide the community in its relations. If decisions are taken in prayer, then the community can be assured of God's assistance.





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.