

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 (to be used at the moment for livestreaming of liturgies):

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

FATHER RICHARD'S WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

15th January 2023

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 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:

Sandra Harbut (churchsecretarysandra@gmail.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.

It is hoped they will re-open for Holy Week in 2023.

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:

One of the joys of 2022 was to see new people joining our community. This is a sign of God's work of renewal in our community and in which each of us is a co-worker. Through virtue of our Baptism we are called to work and co-operate with God and with the acknowledgement of the Holy Spirit in this. I hope during 2023 we will understand more deeply our baptismal call to embrace the spirit of S. John the Baptist who points out to the disciples Jesus, the Lamb of God. For we who already participate in the life of the Church and our local Church community are called to work with me and each other in growing our community. 2023 will be the first year since the Pandemic that is "normal" and now we have God's gift of time in front of us to engage in the mission of the Church more fully once again. It is incumbent on us all to share in the ministry of welcome to those who come to our community for this first time and encourage them in their participation in our church and Eucharistic life.

I know it has been a long time in restoring the chalice at the Eucharist. It simply wasn't right until now. The Bishop needs to give permission to lay people to assist me at the altar with this ministry called *Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion*. I need to prepare them for this and then for them to be endorsed by the Council before submitting the application. So please bear with me on this but it will be happening as soon as I can. Please bear in mind I only work part-time because of our financial situation!

I know some of you have been asking about what is going to happen when our other churches re-open. The proposal is that *Nuestra Señora de la Asunción* at Los Balcones will re-open in Holy Week but, unfortunately, some doubt has been cast on this because of a shortfall in finances. However, let us be hopeful. Again, when I have more information, I will share this. Regarding service times the Church Council will work carefully with me on this and as soon as I have information to share I will. Two factors are important in this – the mission of the Church and the Priest's ministry. I can't be in two places at once! The Council will take time to reflect and pray and I ask you, please, to pray for the Council in this regard. Thank you.

God bless you all.

Your priest and friend, Father Richard

Dates ahead:



Sunday 22nd January
1800 SERVICE FOR THE WEEK OF PRAYER FOR
CHRISTIAN UNITY

at the Church of the Inmaculada Concepción in
Torrevieja.

The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity is an important occasion for Christian churches throughout the world and is observed well here in Torrevieja and the Catholic Diocese of Orihuela-Alicante. In this spirit Father Richard hopes we will have a good representation from the Chaplaincy at the service in Torrevieja. We work closely with the Catholic Church and receive hospitality from them. It is an opportunity to pray for the unity of the

*Church and pray with other Christians from all the denominations in Torrevieja. Please respond positively, if you can, to this invitation. Thank you. **The time is still to be confirmed.***

Tuesday 21st February LUNCHTIME PANCAKE PARTY
More details to follow.

Wednesday 22nd February ASH WEDNESDAY
1130 HOLY EUCHARIST WITH THE BLESSING AND DISTRIBUTION OF ASHES
La Siesta Church. An important holy day as we begin Lent.

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.

THANK YOU TO ALL WHO HAVE RESPONDED POSITIVELY AND GENEROUSLY ABOUT THIS.



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!



From Joan Berry: 100 Club 2023

Thank you to all those who bought subscriptions for the 100 Club in 2022. This helped to raise funds for charity and for the ongoing work of the chaplaincy.

The subscriptions for 2023 are now due and will be collected from **1st until 28th January.**

For those of you who are new and have not heard of the 100 Club this is a useful way of raising funds for charity and the chaplaincy. At the start of the year subscriptions are collected. It costs €20 per subscription and you can purchase as many as you want. You will get allocated a number.

There are then 6 main draws through the year plus one in December for Christmas. The prize money depends on how many of the numbers we sell as the money collected is split three ways, one third for the prize money, one third for charity and one third for chaplaincy funds. The more numbers we sell, the higher the prize money etc.

I shall be collecting subscriptions from both past and new members in church from Sunday 1st January.

We do ask for your support in this please. Thank you.
Joan Berry

**From the Discourse Against the Pagans by Saint Athanasius, bishop
The Word creates a divine harmony in creation**

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. All things were made through him, and without him nothing was made. In these words John the theologian teaches that nothing exists or remains in being except in and through the Word.

Think of a musician tuning his lyre. By his skill he adjusts high notes to low and intermediate notes to the rest, and produces a series of harmonies. So too the wisdom of God holds the world like a lyre and joins things in the air to those on earth, and things in heaven to those in the air, and brings each part into harmony with the whole. By his decree and will he regulates them all to produce the beauty and harmony of a single, well-ordered universe. While remaining unchanged with his Father, he moves all creation by his unchanging nature, according to the Father's will. To everything he gives existence and life in accordance with its nature, and so creates a wonderful and truly divine harmony.

To illustrate this profound mystery, let us take the example of a choir of many singers. A choir is composed of a variety of men, women and children, of both old and young. Under the direction of one conductor, each sings in the way that is natural for him: men with men's voices, boys with boys' voices, old people with old voices, young people with young voices. Yet all of them produce a single harmony. Or consider the example of our soul. It moves our senses according to their several functions so that in the presence of a single object they all act simultaneously: the eye sees, the ear hears, the hand touches, the nose smells, the tongue tastes, and often the other parts of the body act as well as, for example, the feet may walk.

Although this is only a poor comparison, it gives some idea of how the whole universe is governed. The Word of God has but to give a gesture of command and everything falls into place; each creature performs its own proper function, and all together constitute one single harmonious order.



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.

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

This will change in the near future.

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.

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 Nuestra Señora de la Asunción, Los Balcones we will need to wait.

2. There is to be a building project to renovate the church at Los Balcones, Nuestra Señora de la Asunción. It is hoped this will re-open for Holy Week 2023.
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 15 th January	1130
Saturday 21 st January	1700
Saturday 28 th January	1700
Sunday 5 th February	1130
Saturday 11 th February	1700
Sunday 19 th February	1130
Wednesday 22nd February	1130 – ASH WEDNESDAY
Saturday 25 th February	1700
Sunday 5 th March	1130
Saturday 11 th March	1700

For the live-streamed liturgies from La Siesta:

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.

WORSHIP FOR THE WEEK AHEAD:

Sunday 15 th January	1130	Holy Eucharist
Saturday 21 st January	1700	Holy Eucharist

La Siesta / Live-streamed
La Siesta / Live-streamed

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 December 2022:

Please pray for the sick and those in particular need at this time: Tony Sage, Helen Parry, Raj Panchal, Peter Passey, John Meehan, David Doig, Charlotte, Val Donkin, Debbie von Niekerk, Ingrid Boutier, Martin Skillen, Pat Dooley, Bill Bennion, Karen Moon, William McDonald, Liz Shouksmith, Paul McNab, David, Anne John, Lesley Critchley, Charlie Smith, David, Peter John, Bernice, Luke Thompson, Gwen Simmons, Father Terence, John Mileham, Samantha Shaw, Alex, 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:

Pope Benedict XVI, Ron Beagrie, Purificación Howse, Justin Clarke, Jean Barlow, Joyce Rayson
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 15th January 2023

Entrance Antiphon

Ps 65: 4

All the earth shall bow down before you, O God,
and shall sing to you,
shall sing to your name, O Most High!

Collect

Almighty ever-living God,
who govern all things,
both in heaven and on earth,
mercifully hear the pleading of your people
and bestow your peace on our times.
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

Isaiah 49:3,5-6

**I will make you the light of the nations so that my salvation may
reach to the ends of the earth**

The Lord said to me, 'You are my servant, Israel,
in whom I shall be glorified';
I was honoured in the eyes of the Lord,
my God was my strength.

And now the Lord has spoken,
he who formed me in the womb to be his servant,
to bring Jacob back to him,
to gather Israel to him:

'It is not enough for you to be my servant,

to restore the tribes of Jacob and bring back the survivors of Israel;
I will make you the light of the nations
so that my salvation may reach to the ends of the earth.'

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 39(40):2,4,7-10

Here I am, Lord! I come to do your will.

I waited, I waited for the Lord
and he stooped down to me;
he heard my cry.
He put a new song into my mouth,
praise of our God.

Here I am, Lord! I come to do your will.

You do not ask for sacrifice and offerings,
but an open ear.
You do not ask for holocaust and victim.
Instead, here am I.

Here I am, Lord! I come to do your will.

In the scroll of the book it stands written
that I should do your will.
My God, I delight in your law
in the depth of my heart.

Here I am, Lord! I come to do your will.

Your justice I have proclaimed
in the great assembly.
My lips I have not sealed;
you know it, O Lord.

Here I am, Lord! I come to do your will.

Second reading

1 Corinthians 1:1-3

**May God the Father and our Lord Jesus Christ send you grace and
peace**

I, Paul, appointed by God to be an apostle, together with brother Sosthenes, send greetings to the church of God in Corinth, to the holy people of Jesus Christ, who are called to take their place among all the saints everywhere who pray to our Lord Jesus Christ; for he is their Lord no less than ours. May God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ send you grace and peace.

Gospel Acclamation

cf.Lk19:38,2:14

Alleluia, alleluia!
Blessings on the King who comes,
in the name of the Lord!
Peace in heaven
and glory in the highest heavens!
Alleluia!

Or:

Jn1:14,12

Alleluia, alleluia!
The Word was made flesh and lived among us:
to all who did accept him
he gave power to become children of God.
Alleluia!

Gospel

John 1:29-34

'Look: there is the Lamb of God'

Seeing Jesus coming towards him, John said, 'Look, there is the lamb of God that takes away the sin of the world. This is the one I spoke of when I said: A man is coming after me who ranks before me because he existed before me. I did not know him myself, and yet it was to reveal him to Israel that I came baptising with water.' John also declared, 'I saw the Spirit coming down on him from heaven like a dove and resting on him. I did not know him myself, but he who sent me to baptise with water had said to me, "The man on whom you see the Spirit come down and rest is the one who is going to baptise with the Holy Spirit." Yes, I have seen and I am the witness that he is the Chosen One of God.'

Homily

Two particular thoughts are prompted by today's readings. The first is John's dramatic declaration, Behold the Lamb of God. the second is an invitation to do a personal stock-taking during this first month of the new year, and make some resolutions to improve the quality of our lives. The Baptist urges us to ask what are we fundamentally about and then seek to reset our lives. And St Paul reminds us that we are "called to be saints together with all those who in every place call on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ."

An honest stock-taking of ourselves may unveil the selfish motives that often direct our actions. To rise above an ego-centric spirit we need to recognise something outside of and larger than ourselves, the God who cares for us and for the whole human community. Can we listen to John's call to restore what is broken, and Jesus' call, to bring light to the world? Do we see that it is with our cooperation that the Lamb can remove the "sin of the world?"

Facing our deepest personal truths is always difficult; it calls us to not just drift along with this world's evil, always taking the line of least resistance. Discipleship is urgent and costly, but it is also possible and is the way towards the deeper joy and fulfilment that our soul is longing for. If we properly hear the Baptist as he witnesses to Christ, our response will be a

stock-taking that goes to the root of our being. It may even reveal to us the truth that sets us free.



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.