

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**

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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**

**21<sup>st</sup> May 2023**

**THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD**



***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:**

Sandra Harbut ([churchsecretarysandra@gmail.com](mailto: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](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 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:**

This week I wish to pay tribute to Sandra Harbut who is stepping down as Secretary to the Chaplaincy Council after four years. Sandra has done a magnificent job during her tenure at not an easy time – she has been Secretary during the re-organisation of the Chaplaincy, the Pandemic, the aftermath of the Pandemic, and the sale of the Chaplaincy house, all of which generated extra work over and above the usual round of Chaplaincy Council business. Sandra has executed her duties cheerfully and enthusiastically and we all owe her a debt of gratitude for what she has done. Thank you, Sandra. During her time she introduced a Secretary's report which meant the members of the Chaplaincy Council were able to see what correspondence has been received and what has been sent out. She has undertaken the tasks I have laid on her shoulders willingly and gladly and I am, personally, thankful for all her hard work. I felt it was important to acknowledge this work before you all because so much goes on behind the scenes, unseen and unacknowledged. Sandra will continue as a member of the Chaplaincy Council but I am sure you will want to join with me in thanking Sandra in her "retirement" from this role and for all the work she has done, about which very few people are aware.

Moving on from the Coronation now we have a few events coming up and I do invite you to support them and bring people to them. They are not just for those who already come to church but are a way of reaching out to others and bringing them into fellowship with us. This is how we grow the Church. Please do help by inviting those you know to our concert, our bingo afternoon tea and, of course, any church services. Thank you.

Your priest and friend,  
Father Richard

### **Dates ahead:**



Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> June

### **Bingo and Afternoon Tea Party**

15th June at 1600 at the home of Sue Brassington, Los Altos.

10€ per ticket to include food, tea/coffee and two bingo tickets. Cava and wine will be sold plus extra bingo tickets.

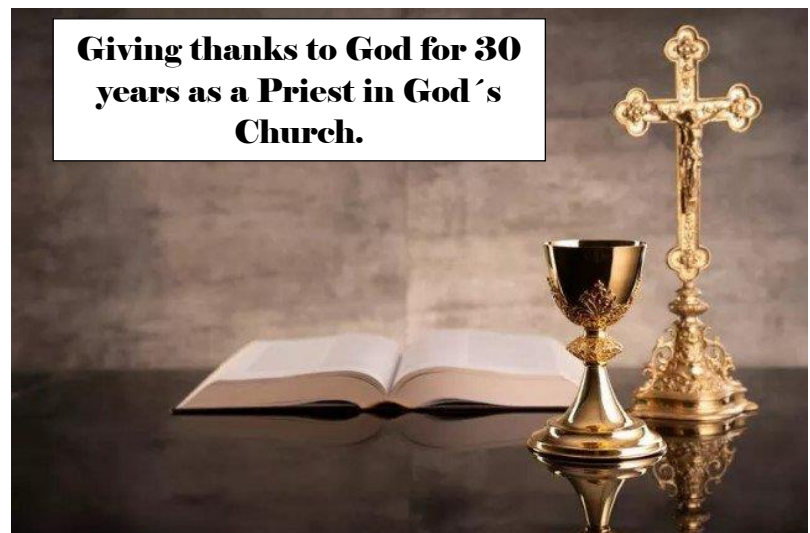
Caller: Father Richard

Tickets on sale soon.



Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> June  
SS PETER AND PAUL, APOSTLES  
PATRONAL FESTIVAL  
1130 HOLY EUCHARIST at La Siesta  
*This is an important day in our  
Chaplaincy life to celebrate our Patronal  
Festival and to offer praise for the  
prayers of the saints under whose  
intercession we have been placed. It is a  
day to give thanks to God for our  
community and to ask for God's blessing  
on us as we praise him for Ss Peter and  
Paul. There will be a celebration  
afterwards. Watch this space.*

Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> July  
**1130 HOLY EUCHARIST in  
thanksgiving for Father  
Richard's 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary to  
the Sacred Priesthood** at La  
Siesta Church followed by  
lunch. Details to follow. All  
welcome.



The Vocal Group

# LYRICAL

PRESENT THEIR

## Spring Concert

**Thursday 25th May 7:30pm**

**Featuring a mix of popular  
classics, show tunes and music  
loved by all**

La Siesta Church

Calle Granados, El Chaparral

Tickets 10€ - All Proceeds to Church Funds

**Tickets from Sue Maude.  
Please sell to friends and in your social networks.  
This is a major fundraiser for our Chaplaincy.  
WE NEED TO GET THE TICKETS SOLD.  
PLEASE PLAY YOUR PART.  
THANK 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)



**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!



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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.

2. 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.
3. 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 21 <sup>st</sup> May	1130	
Saturday 27 <sup>th</sup> May	1700	
Sunday 4 <sup>th</sup> June	1130	
Saturday 10 <sup>th</sup> June	1700	
Sunday 18 <sup>th</sup> June	1130	
Saturday 24 <sup>th</sup> June	1700	
Sunday 2 <sup>nd</sup> July	1130	
Saturday 8 <sup>th</sup> July	1700	
Sunday 16 <sup>th</sup> July	1130	
Tuesday 18 <sup>th</sup> July	1130	Father Richard's 30 <sup>th</sup> anniversary of ordination to the Sacred Priesthood
Saturday 22 <sup>nd</sup> July	1700	
Saturday 29 <sup>th</sup> July	1700	

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 May 2023:**

*Please pray for the sick and those in particular need at this time:* Andrew Little, Philip Howse, Brian Smith, Jamie Hill, Carol and family, Raj Panchal, Peter Passey, Paul McNab, Lesley Critchley, Charlie Smith, David, 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:**

Maris Curtis 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 21<sup>st</sup> May 2023**

### **Entrance Antiphon**

**Acts 1: 11**

Men of Galilee, why gaze in wonder at the heavens?  
This Jesus whom you saw ascending into heaven  
will return as you saw him go, alleluia.

---

### **Collect**

Gladden us with holy joys, almighty God,  
and make us rejoice with devout thanksgiving,  
for the Ascension of Christ your Son  
is our exaltation,  
and, where the Head has gone before in glory,  
the Body is called to follow in hope.  
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.

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### **First reading**

**Acts 1:1-11**

#### **Jesus was lifted up while they looked on**

In my earlier work, Theophilus, I dealt with everything Jesus had done and taught from the beginning until the day he gave his instructions to the apostles he had chosen through the Holy Spirit, and was taken up to heaven. He had shown himself alive to them after his Passion by many demonstrations: for forty days he had continued to appear to them and tell them about the kingdom of God. When he had been at table with them, he had told them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for what the Father had promised. 'It is' he had said 'what you have heard me speak about: John baptised with water but you, not many days from now, will be baptised with the Holy Spirit.'

Now having met together, they asked him, 'Lord, has the time come? Are you going to restore the kingdom to Israel?' He replied, 'It is not for you to know times or dates that the Father has decided by his own authority, but you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you, and then you will be my witnesses not only in Jerusalem but throughout Judaea and Samaria, and indeed to the ends of the earth.'

As he said this he was lifted up while they looked on, and a cloud took him from their sight. They were still staring into the sky when suddenly two men in white were standing

near them and they said, 'Why are you men from Galilee standing here looking into the sky? Jesus who has been taken up from you into heaven, this same Jesus will come back in the same way as you have seen him go there.'

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### **Responsorial Psalm**

**Psalm 46(47):2-3,6-9**

*God goes up with shouts of joy; the Lord goes up with trumpet blast.*

**or**

*Alleluia!*

All peoples, clap your hands,  
cry to God with shouts of joy!  
For the Lord, the Most High, we must fear,  
great king over all the earth.

*God goes up with shouts of joy; the Lord goes up with trumpet blast.*

**or**

*Alleluia!*

God goes up with shouts of joy;  
the Lord goes up with trumpet blast.  
Sing praise for God, sing praise,  
sing praise to our king, sing praise.

*God goes up with shouts of joy; the Lord goes up with trumpet blast.*

**or**

*Alleluia!*

God is king of all the earth,  
sing praise with all your skill.  
God is king over the nations;  
God reigns on his holy throne.

*God goes up with shouts of joy; the Lord goes up with trumpet blast.*

**or**

*Alleluia!*

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### **Second reading**

**Ephesians 1:17-23**

#### **God made him sit at his right hand in heaven**

May the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, give you a spirit of wisdom and perception of what is revealed, to bring you to full knowledge of him. May he enlighten the eyes of your mind so that you can see what hope his call holds for you, what rich glories he has promised the saints will inherit and how infinitely great is the power that he has exercised for us believers. This you can tell from the strength of his power at work in Christ, when he used it to raise him from the dead and to make him sit at his right hand, in heaven, far above every Sovereignty, Authority, Power, or Domination, or any other name that can be

named not only in this age but also in the age to come. He has put all things under his feet and made him, as the ruler of everything, the head of the Church; which is his body, the fullness of him who fills the whole creation.

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### **Gospel Acclamation**

**Mt28:19,20**

Alleluia, alleluia!

Go, make disciples of all the nations.

I am with you always; yes, to the end of time.

Alleluia!

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### **Gospel**

**Matthew 28:16-20**

#### **Go and make disciples of all nations**

The eleven disciples set out for Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had arranged to meet them. When they saw him they fell down before him, though some hesitated. Jesus came up and spoke to them. He said, 'All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go, therefore, make disciples of all the nations; baptise them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teach them to observe all the commands I gave you. And know that I am with you always; yes, to the end of time.'

### **Homily**

Today's Gospel is taken from the conclusion of the Gospel of Matthew. Matthew's Gospel quickly moves from the disciples' discovery of Jesus' empty tomb, to Jesus' appearance to Mary Magdalene and the other Mary, to the commission that Jesus gives his disciples in today's Gospel.

The Final Commission, as this Gospel is sometimes called, is given on the mountaintop. Throughout Scripture, the most important events happen on the mountaintop, and Matthew has used this motif throughout his Gospel. Earlier in Matthew's Gospel, Peter, James, and John had seen Jesus transfigured on the mountaintop (Matthew 17:1-8). Also in the Gospel of Matthew, Jesus taught the crowds from the mountaintop in what we now call the Sermon on the Mount.

Here we are told that the eleven disciples go the mountaintop in Galilee, as Jesus had instructed through Mary Magdalene and the other Mary (cf. Matthew 28:9-10). They see Jesus, and both worship and doubt at the same time. Jesus approaches them and commissions them to baptize and teach, "to make disciples of all nations." It is a task which Jesus had previously prepared his disciples for; recall that Jesus had sent the twelve apostles to preach the Kingdom of God and to heal (cf. Matthew 10:1-15). However, earlier the Twelve were sent only to the House of Israel; in this Final Commission, the eleven are told to go to "all nations." The mission of Jesus is now to be taken to all people; the task now is to baptize and to teach.

Jesus commissions his disciples to baptize in the name of the Trinity, one of the clearest attestations found in Scripture for baptism in the name of the Trinity. In the Acts of the Apostles and in the Letters of Paul, baptism is more frequently offered "in the name of Jesus."

The ending of Matthew's Gospel can be understood as the beginning of the Church. Jesus commissions his disciples to continue to teach in his name and to bring others into the community of disciples through baptism. The Gospel ends, as it had begun, with the promise that Jesus will continue to be Emmanuel, "God with us" (cf. Matthew 1:23), for all eternity.

## The Regina Cæli (used during Eastertime)



Joy to thee, O Queen of Heaven, alleluia!  
He whom thou wast meet to bear, alleluia!  
As he promised hath arisen, alleluia!  
Pour for us to God thy prayer, alleluia!

Rejoice and be glad, O Virgin Mary, alleluia!  
For the Lord is risen indeed, alleluia!

Let us pray.

O God, who by the resurrection of thy Son our Lord Jesus Christ, didst vouchsafe to give joy to the whole world, grant, we beseech thee, that through his Mother, the Virgin Mary, we may obtain the joys of everlasting life. Through the same Christ our Lord.

Amen.

