

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

Sunday 22nd August 2021

TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Sunday 29th August 2021

TWENTY-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.**

Father Richard's working pattern this week is:
Sunday morning, Monday, Tuesday, Saturday
Emails sent to him will be answered on these days and he is available on these days. He is, of course, able to be contacted at any time for funerals and emergencies.



Jill is requesting, please:

Home-made cakes, small or large. (*At her house on the Friday or bring on Saturday*)

Good quality items and books for the bring and buy.

Apart from the cakes, items can either be brought to church the week before, on the day or, if you live local, she will collect.

On the day we will need a few helpers to set up approximately one hour beforehand and also to clear away afterward.

Thank you!

Please tell your friends and bring them along and let's have a lovely and well-attended morning!

Sue's Homemade Lemon Curd

Sue Brassington is now selling homemade lemon curd after each service.
Please see her if you would like to buy / order some. Thank you, Sue!

FINANCIAL GIVING TO THE CHAPLAINCY

There are various ways of giving financially to the Chaplaincy for the work of the Church:

You can give in the plate each week.

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.

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.

From the Churchwardens:

Dear Friends in Christ

It is lovely to see many of you coming to church once more. We still have our COVID regulations in force and distancing which makes La Siesta Church a very safe place to be for you to worship in so we would encourage all those who are considering returning to do so and try it for yourself. We are sure that, if you are still staying at home, you are missing your Holy Communion. At the moment we receive only the Sacred Host and in that we receive the fullness of the Blessed Sacrament when we make our Holy Communion. Our team of volunteers who clean and disinfect the church pay a great deal of attention to their duties and we thank them wholeheartedly for their dedication.

Father Richard can now, at a suitable distance, have a chat with you outside after the service and he would love to see you again.

A big, big thank you to all who have taken out standing orders. It has helped us a great deal in budgeting and planning. You may not be aware that we have paid our Common Fund payment of €4626.88 ahead of the scheduled date to receive a discount. We have also had to pay €617.10 for repairs to the plumbing system in the Chaplaincy office and we will have some Archdeaconry dues later this year. We really wish to encourage you to think about paying by standing order for us to plan our expenditure. The bank

details are provided below. If you need help with this, we are here to show you how to set up a Standing Order.

Thank you to those who are giving in and saving up their collections in Gift Aid envelopes. This also is a great help as we can benefit from the tax return on these. WELL DONE everybody! We are continuing to keep the chaplaincy going and with Gods help we will survive this pandemic and all be together once more.

Spanish Bank details. Banco Sabadell. IBAN number ES65 0081 2061 7900 0106 0414
BSAB ESBB / Capellana Anglicana de Torrevieja

UK Bank details. Barclays Bank PLC Account name: Diocese in Europe Fund
Account number: 40317039 Sort code: 20-06-13. Please state TORREVIEJA as the reference so the money is correctly applied. The IBAN number is: GB16 BUKB 2006 1340 3170 39.

Best wishes and thank you.

Jennifer and Peter



Church of England Chaplaincy of SS Peter and Paul, Torrevieja

We are a Covid 19 secure Chaplaincy. Please bear in mind your own self-care, your level of vulnerability and your age according to the risks involved. If you have COVID-19 symptoms please stay at home. You will be recorded as attending for track and trace purposes.

A STRICT TWO METRE SOCIAL DISTANCING RULE IS IN PLACE. You will be shown to and escorted from your seat. Thank for your understanding and co-operation.

THE PANDEMIC AND THE MONTHS AHEAD

1. Lago Jardín Church will remain closed until further notice. This is because of the difficulty of social distancing in the church and its already limited capacity.
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 as we begin again in limited circumstances.

Saturday 21 st August	1700
Saturday 28 th August	1700

Sunday 5 th September	1130	(Morning Prayer)
Saturday 11 th September	1700	
Sunday 19 th September	1130	
Saturday 25 th September	1700	
Sunday 3 rd October	1130	– HARVEST THANKSGIVING
Saturday 9 th October	1700	

The live-streamed liturgies continue:

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.

"Participants in a streamed service of Holy Communion should not be encouraged to place bread and wine before their screens. Joining together to share in the one bread and the one cup as those physically present to one another is integral to the service of Holy Communion; ... and it is not helpful to suggest otherwise. Any idea of the 'remote consecration' of the bread and wine should be avoided."

The words above are an extract from a letter from Bishop Robert and Bishop David from 2nd April 2020. Under Church of England formularies the Priest himself must set the bread and wine upon the Altar which is going to be consecrated during the Eucharist.

This post underlines The Church of England position.

WORSHIP FOR THE WEEK AHEAD:

Saturday 21 st August	1700	Holy Eucharist	<i>La Siesta / Live-streamed</i>
Sunday 22 nd August	1130	Holy Eucharist	<i>Live-streamed</i>
	1800	Evening Prayer	<i>Live-streamed</i>
Monday 23 rd August	1100	Holy Eucharist	<i>Live-streamed</i>
	1800	Evening Prayer and Holy Rosary	<i>Live-streamed</i>
Tuesday 24 th August	0930	Holy Eucharist	<i>Live-streamed</i>
	1800	Evening Prayer	<i>Live-streamed</i>
Weds 25 th August	1800	Evening Prayer	<i>Live-streamed</i>
Thursday 26 th August	1800	Evening Prayer	<i>Live-streamed</i>
Friday 27 th August		<i>No live-streaming</i>	
Saturday 28 th August	1700	Holy Eucharist	<i>La Siesta / Live-streamed</i>

There will no live-streaming from Sunday 29th August. It will resume on Thursday 16th September.



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 2021:

Please pray for the sick and those in particular need at this time:

Lisa, Madelyn, Olivia, Peter John, Mo and Bryan Bailey, Bernice, Luke Thompson, Gwen Simmons, Kathryn Moore, Isaac Jalal, Cathy Neil, Danny Gidman, Cassie Sampson, Father Terence, Sue Brassington, John Mileham, Baby Alex, David, Samantha Shaw, Ian Sharpe, Gerry Hopkins, Father Helge, Solveig Petterson, Eileen Catlin, for all those suffering in mind, body and spirit as a result of the coronavirus.

Please pray for the recently departed:

Carol Jean Walker

For all those who have died as a result of the coronavirus.

+ 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.

Father Richard's Study Group... meets, via Zoom, on the first and third Thursdays of the month. *In recess at the moment.*

Making a Spiritual Communion. Something recommended for us all each day when we cannot participate in the Holy Eucharist.

Even if we are watching a livestreamed Mass (and the times of our Chaplaincy livestreamed celebrations of the Eucharist are listed in the newsletter) we are invited to pause when the Priest receives Holy Communion and make our own spiritual communion. We can say it silently to ourselves or speak it out loud. In this way we are joined with Our Lord in his

suffering and death for the world and we are united to His Most Sacred Heart. In these most worrying of days we know Our Lord is there and we can join ourselves to him just as he joins himself with us. This is a great blessing, comfort and strength.

Choose one of these prayers:

My Jesus,

I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.

I love You above all things,

and I desire to receive You into my soul.

Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally,

come at least spiritually into my heart.

As though you have already come, I embrace You as if You were already there

and unite myself wholly to You.

Never permit me to be separated from You.

Amen.

or,

Lord Jesus Christ, you are the bread of life and the one true vine. I believe that you are truly present in the Most Holy Sacrament of the Eucharist. I seek you. I worship and adore you. Since I cannot receive you in the eucharistic bread and wine, I pray that you will come into my heart and soul, that I may be united to you, by your all-powerful and ever-present Holy Spirit. Let me receive you, and be nourished by you. Become for me the manna in my wilderness, the bread of angels for my very human journey through time, a foretaste of the heavenly banquet, and solace in the hour of my death. I pray all this, trusting that you yourself are our Life, our Peace, and our everlasting Joy. Amen.

Sunday 22nd August

Entrance Antiphon

Cf. Ps 85: 1-3

Turn your ear, O Lord, and answer me;

save the servant who trusts in you, my God.

Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I cry to you all the day long.

Collect

O God, who cause the minds of the faithful

to unite in a single purpose,

grant your people to love what you command

and to desire what you promise,

that, amid the uncertainties of this world,

our hearts may be fixed on that place

where true gladness is found.

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**Joshua 24:1-2,15-18****We will serve the Lord, for he is our God**

Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel together at Shechem; then he called the elders, leaders, judges and scribes of Israel, and they presented themselves before God. Then Joshua said to all the people, 'If you will not serve the Lord, choose today whom you wish to serve, whether the gods that your ancestors served beyond the River, or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are now living. As for me and my House, we will serve the Lord.'

The people answered, 'We have no intention of deserting the Lord and serving other gods! Was it not the Lord our God who brought us and our ancestors out of the land of Egypt, the house of slavery, who worked those great wonders before our eyes and preserved us all along the way we travelled and among all the peoples through whom we journeyed? What is more, the Lord drove all those peoples out before us, as well as the Amorites who used to live in this country. We too will serve the Lord, for he is our God.'

Responsorial Psalm**Psalm 33(34):2-3,16-23**

Taste and see that the Lord is good.

I will bless the Lord at all times,
his praise always on my lips;
in the Lord my soul shall make its boast.
The humble shall hear and be glad.

Taste and see that the Lord is good.

The Lord turns his face against the wicked
to destroy their remembrance from the earth.
The Lord turns his eyes to the just
and his ears to their appeal.

Taste and see that the Lord is good.

They call and the Lord hears
and rescues them in all their distress.
The Lord is close to the broken-hearted;
those whose spirit is crushed he will save.

Taste and see that the Lord is good.

Many are the trials of the just man
but from them all the Lord will rescue him.
He will keep guard over all his bones,
not one of his bones shall be broken.

Taste and see that the Lord is good.

Evil brings death to the wicked;
those who hate the good are doomed.

The Lord ransoms the souls of his servants.
Those who hide in him shall not be condemned.
Taste and see that the Lord is good.

Second reading

Ephesians 5:21-32

Christ loves the Church, because it is his body

Give way to one another in obedience to Christ. Wives should regard their husbands as they regard the Lord, since as Christ is head of the Church and saves the whole body, so is a husband the head of his wife; and as the Church submits to Christ, so should wives to their husbands, in everything. Husbands should love their wives just as Christ loved the Church and sacrificed himself for her to make her holy. He made her clean by washing her in water with a form of words, so that when he took her to himself she would be glorious, with no speck or wrinkle or anything like that, but holy and faultless. In the same way, husbands must love their wives as they love their own bodies; for a man to love his wife is for him to love himself. A man never hates his own body, but he feeds it and looks after it; and that is the way Christ treats the Church, because it is his body – and we are its living parts. *For this reason, a man must leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two will become one body.* This mystery has many implications; but I am saying it applies to Christ and the Church.

Gospel Acclamation

cf. Jn6:63,68

Alleluia, alleluia!
Your words are spirit, Lord, and they are life;
you have the message of eternal life.
Alleluia!

Gospel

John 6:60-69

Who shall we go to? You are the Holy One of God

After hearing his doctrine many of the followers of Jesus said, 'This is intolerable language. How could anyone accept it?' Jesus was aware that his followers were complaining about it and said, 'Does this upset you? What if you should see the Son of Man ascend to where he was before?

'It is the spirit that gives life,
the flesh has nothing to offer.
The words I have spoken to you are spirit
and they are life.

'But there are some of you who do not believe.' For Jesus knew from the outset those who did not believe, and who it was that would betray him. He went on, 'This is why I told you that no

one could come to me unless the Father allows him.' After this, many of his disciples left him and stopped going with him.

Then Jesus said to the Twelve, 'What about you, do you want to go away too?' Simon Peter answered, 'Lord, who shall we go to? You have the message of eternal life, and we believe; we know that you are the Holy One of God.'

Sunday 29 August 2021

Entrance Antiphon

Cf. Ps 85: 3, 5

Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I cry to you all the day long.
O Lord, you are good and forgiving,
full of mercy to all who call to you.

Collect

God of might, giver of every good gift,
put into our hearts the love of your name,
so that, by deepening our sense of reverence,
you may nurture in us what is good
and, by your watchful care,
keep safe what you have nurtured.
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 4:1-2,6-8

Observe these laws and customs, that you may have life

Moses said to the people: 'Now, Israel, take notice of the laws and customs that I teach you today, and observe them, that you may have life and may enter and take possession of the land that the Lord the God of your fathers is giving you. You must add nothing to what I command you, and take nothing from it, but keep the commandments of the Lord your God just as I lay them down for you. Keep them, observe them, and they will demonstrate to the peoples your wisdom and understanding. When they come to know of all these laws they will exclaim, "No other people is as wise and prudent as this great nation." And indeed, what great nation is there that has its gods so near as the Lord our God is to us whenever we call to him? And what great nation is there that has laws and customs to match this whole Law that I put before you today?'

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 14(15):2-5

The just will live in the presence of the Lord.

Lord, who shall dwell on your holy mountain?
He who walks without fault;
he who acts with justice
and speaks the truth from his heart;
he who does not slander with his tongue.

The just will live in the presence of the Lord.

He who does no wrong to his brother,
who casts no slur on his neighbour,
who holds the godless in disdain,
but honours those who fear the Lord.

The just will live in the presence of the Lord.

He who keeps his pledge, come what may;
who takes no interest on a loan
and accepts no bribes against the innocent.
Such a man will stand firm for ever.

The just will live in the presence of the Lord.

Second reading

James 1:17-18,21-22,27

Accept and submit to the word

It is all that is good, everything that is perfect, which is given us from above; it comes down from the Father of all light; with him there is no such thing as alteration, no shadow of a change. By his own choice he made us his children by the message of the truth so that we should be a sort of first-fruits of all that he had created.

Accept and submit to the word which has been planted in you and can save your souls. But you must do what the word tells you, and not just listen to it and deceive yourselves.

Pure, unspoilt religion, in the eyes of God our Father is this: coming to the help of orphans and widows when they need it, and keeping oneself uncontaminated by the world.

Gospel Acclamation

cf.Jn6:63,68

Alleluia, alleluia!
Your words are spirit, Lord, and they are life;
you have the message of eternal life.
Alleluia!

Or:

James1:18

Alleluia, alleluia!

By his own choice the Father made us his children
by the message of the truth,
so that we should be a sort of first-fruits
of all that he created.
Alleluia!

Gospel

Mark 7:1-8,14-15,21-23

You put aside the commandment of God, to cling to human traditions

The Pharisees and some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem gathered round Jesus, and they noticed that some of his disciples were eating with unclean hands, that is, without washing them. For the Pharisees, and the Jews in general, follow the tradition of the elders and never eat without washing their arms as far as the elbow; and on returning from the market place they never eat without first sprinkling themselves. There are also many other observances which have been handed down to them concerning the washing of cups and pots and bronze dishes. So these Pharisees and scribes asked him, 'Why do your disciples not respect the tradition of the elders but eat their food with unclean hands?' He answered, 'It was of you hypocrites that Isaiah so rightly prophesied in this passage of scripture:

This people honours me only with lip-service,
while their hearts are far from me.
The worship they offer me is worthless,
the doctrines they teach are only human regulations.

You put aside the commandment of God to cling to human traditions.' He called the people to him again and said, 'Listen to me, all of you, and understand. Nothing that goes into a man from outside can make him unclean; it is the things that come out of a man that make him unclean. For it is from within, from men's hearts, that evil intentions emerge: fornication, theft, murder, adultery, avarice, malice, deceit, indecency, envy, slander, pride, folly. All these evil things come from within and make a man unclean.'

Homily 220821

In our culture success can often be a game of numbers. A successful television programme is one that has a very large viewing audience. If the numbers watching declines, the programme is in trouble. Democracy is based on majority vote. The candidate with the most votes gets elected. Every political party is anxious to maximize their vote on election day. In all kinds of ways, numbers matter in our society. The schools with the biggest number of graduates going on to University are considered the better schools. If some event that is organized only attracts a small crowd it is considered a failure.

The gospel suggests that Jesus was not too concerned about numbers. The gospels for the last four Sundays have been taken from chapter 6 of John's gospel where Jesus speaks of himself as the Bread of Life and of the need to eat his flesh and drink his blood in order to have life. In today's gospel some of Jesus' own disciples express their unease with this language. 'This is intolerable language', they say, 'How could anyone accept it?' Jesus is

portrayed in that reading as being very aware that some of his followers were complaining. Yet, he did not make any effort to soften his teaching in order to hold on to his numbers. Rather, he insists that the words he has been speaking, all his words, are spirit and life. As a result, the gospel tells us that 'many of his disciples left him and stopped going with him.' Jesus suddenly lost a whole swathe of his following. From the perspective of the culture of the time and of our own culture he was suddenly less successful. According to the gospel, Jesus even turned to the Twelve apostles, his core group, and asked them, 'What about you? Do you want to go away too?' He was prepared to suffer a haemorrhage from that core group rather than compromise on the teaching that he had given. It seems that numbers were not important to him. What was important to him was proclaiming the truth as he had heard it from God his Father. On this occasion Jesus held onto the Twelve. Peter, their spokesperson, grasped the moment to declare their faithfulness to Jesus, 'Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the message of eternal life.' Yet, Jesus would go on to lose even some of the Twelve. At the time of his passion Judas betrayed him and Peter denied him. If success is to be measured by numbers, by the end of his earthly life, Jesus was a total failure.

The whole life of Jesus shows that the value of something does not bear any necessary relation to the number of people who support it. Popularity does not necessarily show where truth is to be found. We can be tempted to think that if a lot of people reject some viewpoint that, therefore, it must be wrong. Numbers are not everything. We follow Jesus not because he was or is popular but because, in the word of Peter in the gospel, we recognize that he has the message of eternal life, or in the language of Jesus himself in that same reading, we acknowledge that the words that he speaks are spirit and life. We will find some of his teaching very challenging. We may be tempted to say, in the words of some of the disciples, 'This is intolerable language. How can anyone accept it?' We may not be troubled so much by his identification of himself as the Bread of Life or his call to eat his flesh and drink his blood. It may be some other aspect of his teaching, perhaps his challenging words in the Sermon on the Mount, to love our enemies, to pray for those who persecute us. Some people react negatively to some of Jesus' parables. They feel sorry for the older son in the parable of the prodigal son and for the men who worked all day and who got the same wages as those who worked for the last hour in the parable of the Workers in the Vineyard. It should not surprise us when we find ourselves struggling with some of what Jesus says. In the language of the prophet Isaiah, God's thoughts are not our thoughts; God's ways are not our ways. It has been said that Jesus comforts the afflicted and afflicts the comfortable. We all need Jesus to do both for us. We need his comforting and sustaining presence when we are afflicted, but sometimes we need his disturbing presence in our comfort.

The teaching and the life of Jesus will always challenge us at some level of our being. There may even be times when we will feel like walking away from it. That is why it is so important for us to keep renewing our response to the Lord's presence and invitation. The Eucharist is the primary moment when we commit ourselves again to the Lord's vision for our lives; it is our weekly opportunity to make our own those words of Peter in today's gospel, 'Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the message of eternal life.'

Homily 290821

In ancient times burial was rarely permitted within the walls of a city, while one of the commonest places for tombs was by the side of public roads. You can see a great number of these latter, still bearing their inscriptions, more than 2,000 years later, just outside Rome,

along the Appian Way leading towards Naples. A particular variant on this was that, just before the Feast of Passover, in Palestine, the roads to Jerusalem were thronged with pilgrims coming to celebrate this great annual feast. But, according to the Mosaic Law, anyone who touched a dead body, or came into contact with a tomb, became automatically unclean, and was thereby debarred from attending the ceremonies of Passover in Jerusalem. To prevent such a disaster it became a Jewish custom to whitewash all wayside tombs in advance of the Feast, so that they became more conspicuous, thus easier to avoid. So in the Spring sunshine these tombs stood out, sparkling white, and almost lovely, although within they were full of decaying bodies or bones, whose touch would defile.

According to Jesus, that was precisely what the Pharisees were like, whited sepulchres, devout men who seemed intensely religious in every way, but looked down with contempt on those they regarded as sinners. The name Pharisees means "separated ones," a group who distanced themselves not just from gentile sinners, but also from lax Jews whom they deemed less observant of the Law. With haughty arrogance they dismissed such people as "a rabble that do not know the Law." In today's Gospel we see how the Scribes and Pharisees had come to hear Jesus, but instead of listening to what he had to say they just began to criticise the behaviour of his disciples. It was the age-old tactic of lowering a man's credibility by disparaging his friends.

The charge against the disciples was that they were eating without having first washed their hands, and so were breaking the ancient Jewish traditions. This typified the Pharisees' air of self-righteousness, and was based not on any interior, personal relationship with God, but from purely human customs. This is not to say that all Pharisees were bad or immoral. Some, like Nicodemus, were sincere searchers for the truth. But there is nothing harder for a good man than to avoid being proud of being good, and once pride intervenes, his goodness is tarnished, no matter how sincere he feels. There was always the possibility that in attempting to be perfect in every little detail of the Law the Pharisee could end up as a bigoted legalist, or indeed as a violent zealot. This is not simply a Christian verdict on the Pharisees, but rather that of the Jews themselves. For the Talmud cites seven different types of Pharisee, only one of them truly good. So when Jesus condemned the Pharisees as whited sepulchres, many of those listening would have agreed with him.

His warning holds a message also for each of us, to look inwards into the depths of our own souls. Deep within us God has written his Law, and it is our honour and duty to obey it, as we see it in our conscience. We will be judged according to the way we behave, based on what in our hearts we believe to be right and true and proper. "It is from within," Jesus tells us today, "that evil arises." He wants us to look beyond current opinion, the confrontations and problems of our own time, and strive for greater purity of heart. Steer clear of stupid conflicts and from slavery to convention and taboos, he says, and open up to the Holy Spirit's word of life.

The Nicene ("Niceno-Constantinopolitan") Creed

I believe in one God,
the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all things visible and invisible.
I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ,

the Only Begotten Son of God,
born of the Father before all ages.
God from God,
Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven,
At the words that follow, up to and including 'and became man', all bow.
and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary,
and became man.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate,
he suffered death and was buried,
and rose again on the third day
in accordance with the Scriptures.
He ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory
to judge the living and the dead
and his kingdom will have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.

I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church.
I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins
and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

THE GENERAL INTERCESSIONS

220821

As brothers and sisters in Christ who trust in God's wisdom and love, we present our prayers and petitions for the needs of the world.
That the Church may be ever-grateful for the gift of faith and may ever grow and respond to the word of God proclaimed in the Gospels, we pray to the Lord...
That our Bishops, Priests and Deacons may bring the faithful to a deeper knowledge and love of God through their preaching and teaching, we pray to the Lord...
That government leaders may exercise their authority and power in ways that show compassion to those who are underprivileged and suffering, we pray to the Lord...
That we may echo Peter's profession of faith, that Christ is indeed the Son of God and the alone has dominion over the precious gift of human life, we pray to the Lord...
That those who are suffering from the effects of war and violence may receive God's peace and the help and strength to rebuild their lives, we pray to the Lord...
That those who are sick and those who care for them know God's gracious love, we pray to the Lord...

That those who have died may be welcomed into God's heavenly kingdom, we pray to the Lord...

Loving Father, as you hear and answer our prayers, grant that we may know and accept your loving will in our lives. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

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Gathered by God's command to seek new ways to discover his will in our lives, we turn to him in prayer:

For the Church, that the Spirit of God will make her a prophetic voice in the world, upholding gospel values. *(pause)* Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

For the world and all its peoples, that richer nations will avoid self interest and learn to share their wealth with the poor. *(pause)* Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

For all who are called to be prophets today, that the Spirit of Christ will sustain and empower them to witness to the truth from which society hides. *(pause)* Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

For all who are held captive or are unjustly imprisoned, that their hope may remain strong and their freedom soon be secured. *(pause)* Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

For all Christians, that we will be strengthened in our commitment to deny ourselves, take up our crosses and live lives of true discipleship. *(pause)* Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

For the sick and the suffering, the elderly and infirm, the anxious, the fearful and those who are alone, that they will experience the infinite love of God. *(pause)* Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

For the faithful departed, that eternal rest may be granted unto them. *(pause)* Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Gracious God, we ask you to hear our prayers and grant that we may draw closer to you each day. We ask this through Christ our Lord.



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.**