

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 25th April 2021

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Good Shepherd Sunday



**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 usual working pattern is Sunday mornings, Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays. Emails sent to him will be answered on these days. He is available on these days. He is, of course, able to be contacted at any time for funerals and emergencies.

Jill's Homemade Marmalade

Jill Dorsett is now selling homemade marmalade after each service. Please see her if you would like to buy / order some. Thank you Jill!

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:

It had been so good to see so many of our congregations returning to Church and we thank the dedicated team who prepare for worship and deep clean afterwards. We must also thank those who have been putting their giving away and have now brought it back to Church. This is really needed as is the continued giving to maintain the life of our Chaplaincy. The ideal for the Chaplaincy would be for people to set up standing orders or direct debits. This allows us to have a good idea of what we can expect to receive and plan our finances.

If you feel you can manage to set up a standing order. The bank details to do this are as follows:

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. Please state TORREVIEJA as the reference so the money is correctly applied. The IBAN number is: GB16 BUKB 2006 1340 3170 39.

Thank you so very much for your help,

Peter and Jennifer

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Church of England Chaplaincy of SS Peter and Paul, Torrevieja

We are a Covid 19 secure Chaplaincy.

The list of full instructions can be obtained from Father Richard, the Churchwardens, the Secretary or Joan Berry. 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. Under present regulations, the maximum number permitted at La Siesta is 32. You need to let Sue Maude know (wardenlasiesta@gmail.com) each week if you are coming. This is so we can implement the regulations correctly. A STRICT TWO METRE SOCIAL DISTANCING RULE IS IN PLACE. Father Richard does not greet at the door at present. 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.

Future celebrations of the Holy Eucharist at La Siesta are:

Saturday 24 th April	1700
Sunday 2 nd May	1130
Saturday 8 th May	1700
Sunday 16 th May	1130
Saturday 22 nd May	1700
Saturday 29 th May	1700
Sunday 6 th June	1130

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.

- 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 24 th April	1700	Vigil Mass	<i>La Siesta / Live-streamed</i>
Sunday 25 th April	1100	Holy Eucharist	<i>Live-streamed</i>
	1800	Evening Prayer	<i>Live-streamed</i>
Monday 26 th April	1100	Holy Eucharist	<i>Live-streamed</i>
	1800	Evening Prayer	<i>Live-streamed</i>
Tuesday 27 th April	1800	Evening Prayer	<i>Live-streamed</i>
Wednesday 28 th April	1100	Holy Eucharist	<i>Live-streamed</i>
	1800	Evening Prayer and Holy Rosary	<i>Live-streamed</i>
Thursday 29 th April	1800	Evening Prayer	<i>Live-streamed</i>
Friday 30 th April		<i>No live-streaming</i>	
Saturday 1 st May	1700	Evening Prayer	<i>Live-streamed</i>
Sunday 2 nd May	1130	Holy Eucharist	<i>La Siesta / Live-streamed</i>
	1800	Evening Prayer	<i>Live-streamed</i>

Many congratulations to Sue and Peter Maude as they celebrate their golden wedding anniversary, fifty years of Holy Matrimony on Saturday 24th April. We join them in thanking God and pray for his blessing on them. They offer thanks to God on Saturday 24th during the La Siesta Holy Eucharist.



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.

The Chaplain's Prayer List for April 2021:

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

Peter John, Terry, Sean Lahey, Andrew, Mo Bailey, Bernice, Luke Thompson, Gwen Simmons, Kathryn Moore, Isaac Jalal, Cathy Neil, Denise Taylor, Danny Gidman, Cassie Sampson, Father Terence, Sue Brassington, Jean Stacey; for all those suffering in mind, body and spirit as a result of the coronavirus.

Please pray for the recently departed:

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

Jackie Asquith RIP

+ 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... will resume via Zoom.

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.

Father Richard writes:

*Almighty God, give us priests:
to establish the honour of your holy name;
to offer the holy sacrifice of the altar;
to give us Jesus in the holy sacrament;
to proclaim the faith of Jesus;
to baptise and to teach the young;
to tend your sheep; to seek the lost;
to give pardon to the penitent sinner;
to bless our homes; to pray for the afflicted;
to comfort mourners;
to strengthen us in our last hour;
to commend our souls;
Almighty God, give us priests!
Holy Father, you gave us Christ
as the shepherd of our souls;
may your people always have priests
who care for them with his great love.*

*We make our prayer, through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
God, for ever and ever.*

Amen.

<https://additionalcurates.co.uk/>

The Fourth Sunday of Easter is known as Good Shepherd Sunday because the Gospel reading at the Holy Eucharist is always on this theme. This weekend we hear the words of Our Blessed Lord: *I am the good shepherd. (John 10:11)*. Today is also Vocations Sunday when we particularly pray for vocations to the Sacred Priesthood. The prayer in italics above is the Prayer of the Additional Curates Society, founded in 1837, when King William IV gave five hundred pounds to Joshua Watson. You can read more about the history here: <https://additionalcurates.co.uk/our-story/> and explore the website further. Throughout its history the Additional Curates Society (Patron: Her Majesty The Queen) has sought to encourage and support vocations to the Sacred Priesthood and continues in this important work today. As a teenager, I went on one of the ACS conferences when I was exploring whether I believed God was calling me to be a Priest.

Please pray the ACS prayer and continue to pray for vocations to the Sacred Priesthood. The Church needs priests and it is enjoined on the faithful to pray for your priests (do you do that?) and to pray for vocations (do you do that?) A Parish or Chaplaincy needs a priest and the ACS prayer is a summary of why.

On this Good Shepherd Sunday please find time to pray the prayer and continue to pray for your priests and vocations to the Sacred Priesthood.

With my prayers for you all,

Father Richard

Sunday 11th April

Entrance Antiphon

Cf. Ps 32: 5-6

The merciful love of the Lord fills the earth;
by the word of the Lord the heavens were made, alleluia.

Collect

Almighty ever-living God,
lead us to a share in the joys of heaven,
so that the humble flock may reach
where the brave Shepherd has gone before.
Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
God, for ever and ever.

First reading

Acts 4:8-12

The name of Jesus Christ is the only name in which we can be saved

Filled with the Holy Spirit, Peter said: 'Rulers of the people, and elders! If you are questioning us today about an act of kindness to a cripple, and asking us how he was healed, then I am

glad to tell you all, and would indeed be glad to tell the whole people of Israel, that it was by the name of Jesus Christ the Nazarene, the one you crucified, whom God raised from the dead, by this name and by no other that this man is able to stand up perfectly healthy, here in your presence, today. This is the stone rejected by you the builders, but which has proved to be the keystone. For of all the names in the world given to men, this is the only one by which we can be saved.'

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 117(118):1,8-9,21-23,26,28-29

The stone which the builders rejected has become the corner stone.

or

Alleluia!

Give thanks to the Lord for he is good,
for his love has no end.
It is better to take refuge in the Lord
than to trust in men;
it is better to take refuge in the Lord
than to trust in princes.

The stone which the builders rejected has become the corner stone.

or

Alleluia!

I will thank you for you have answered
and you are my saviour.
The stone which the builders rejected
has become the corner stone.
This is the work of the Lord,
a marvel in our eyes.

The stone which the builders rejected has become the corner stone.

or

Alleluia!

Blessed in the name of the Lord
is he who comes.
We bless you from the house of the Lord;
You are my God, I thank you.
My God, I praise you.
Give thanks to the Lord for he is good;
for his love has no end.

The stone which the builders rejected has become the corner stone.

or

Alleluia!

Second reading

1 John 3:1-2

We shall be like God because we shall see him as he really is

Think of the love that the Father has lavished on us,
by letting us be called God's children;
and that is what we are.
Because the world refused to acknowledge him,
therefore it does not acknowledge us.
My dear people, we are already the children of God
but what we are to be in the future has not yet been revealed;
all we know is, that when it is revealed
we shall be like him
because we shall see him as he really is.

Gospel Acclamation

Jn10:14

Alleluia, alleluia!
I am the good shepherd, says the Lord;
I know my own sheep and my own know me.
Alleluia!

Gospel

John 10:11-18

The good shepherd is one who lays down his life for his sheep

Jesus said:

'I am the good shepherd:
the good shepherd is one who lays down his life for his sheep.
The hired man, since he is not the shepherd
and the sheep do not belong to him,
abandons the sheep and runs away
as soon as he sees a wolf coming,
and then the wolf attacks and scatters the sheep;
this is because he is only a hired man
and has no concern for the sheep.

'I am the good shepherd;
I know my own
and my own know me,
just as the Father knows me
and I know the Father;
and I lay down my life for my sheep.
And there are other sheep I have
that are not of this fold,

and these I have to lead as well.
They too will listen to my voice,
and there will be only one flock,
and one shepherd.

'The Father loves me,
because I lay down my life
in order to take it up again.
No one takes it from me;
I lay it down of my own free will,
and as it is in my power to lay it down,
so it is in my power to take it up again;
and this is the command I have been given by my Father.'

Homily

When people go to Rome on pilgrimage, they usually try to include a visit to the Catacombs, the earliest Christian cemeteries in existence. The earliest Christian art is there in the catacombs, in images are very simple and unadorned compared to the art that would emerge in later centuries. Yet these pictures are very striking just because of their simplicity and directness. One of the images of Jesus most found in the catacombs is that of the Good Shepherd. One is in the Catacomb of San Callistus, showing a young beardless man with a sheep draped around his shoulders and holding a bucket of water in his right hand. Clearly the image of Jesus as the Good Shepherd that we find in today's gospel spoke to Christians from the earliest days of the church.

The shepherd image in the catacombs appealed to Christians from the start, because it conveys the *personal* nature of the relationship between Jesus and his followers; it portrays the close personal care that the shepherd has for the sheep. The shepherd has gone looking for the one sheep that was wandered off and having found it, he takes it home to the flock upon his shoulders. There is a bond between the shepherd and this one sheep. That is what Jesus conveys in today's gospel. He declares that he knows his own and his own know him, just as the Father knows him and he knows the Father. It is an extraordinary statement to make. Jesus is saying that the very personal relationship he has with his heavenly Father is the model for the equally personal relationship he has with each one of us. Jesus knows us as intimately as the Father knows him, and he wants us to know him as intimately as he knows the Father. There is a great deal to ponder there. When it comes to the Lord we are not just one of a crowd, lost in a sea of faces. In a way that we will never fully understand, the Lord knows each one of us by name. He relates to us in a personal way and he invites us to relate to him in a personal way. He wishes to enter into a personal relationship with each one of us. There are some words in Saint Paul's letter to the churches in Galatia, where he says, 'I live by faith in the Son of God who loved me and gave himself for me'. We can each make our own those words of Saint Paul. When Jesus says in today's gospel that, as the good shepherd, 'I lay down my life for my sheep', he is saying that he lays down his life for each one of us individually.

The Lord who knows us by name, who gave himself in love for each one of us, also calls us by name. Today is *Vocations Sunday*. The Lord has a calling that is personal to each one of us. He calls us in our uniqueness with our very particular temperament, our unique identity,

the background that is specific to each one of us. No one of us is like anyone else. Parents know how distinct and unique each of their children is. They will all have been given the same love; they grow up in basically the same environment. Yet, from a very early age, their uniqueness becomes very evident. The family is a microcosm of the church as a whole. From the time of our baptism, we are each called to be the Lord's disciples, to follow the good Shepherd. However, the way we do that will be unique to each one of us. The particular way in which the Lord works through us is unique to each one of us. Each person in this church can do something for the Lord that only he or she can do. Each one of us has a unique contribution to make to the work of the Lord in the world, to the life of the church, and that contribution is just as vital as anyone else's contribution. We each have a unique vocation and each vocation is equally significant. Each one of us is vitally important to the Lord. When we each respond to our unique vocation, we give a lift to everyone else. When any one of us fails to respond to that vocation, we are all a little bit impoverished.

The first reading talks about the stone that was rejected by the builders becoming the keystone of the building. There is a clear reference there to Jesus himself, the rejected one. We can all feel at times like the rejected stone, for whatever reason. Yet, we are never rejected in the Lord's eyes. He continues to call us in the way that is unique to us. He sees us as the keystone for some aspect of his work. He recognizes the potential for good that is within us all. On this Vocations Sunday we commit ourselves anew to hearing and responding to the call of the good shepherd.

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.

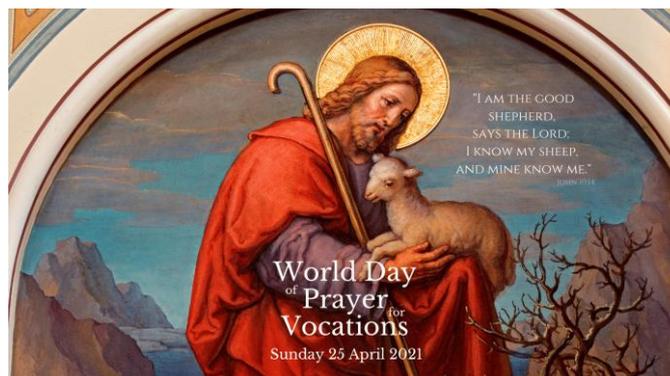
THE GENERAL INTERCESSIONS

Confident that the Lord's love for us has no end, we bring forward our needs and the needs of the whole world.

1. For those who serve and lead in the Church, that they may follow the example of Christ, the good shepherd (*pause for quiet prayer*). Lord, hear us.
2. For all the members of the Church, that they may love each other with tenderness and forgiveness (*pause for quiet prayer*). Lord, hear us.
3. For young people deciding how they will spend their lives, that they may consider serving God's people (*pause for quiet prayer*). Lord, hear us.
4. For the members of the caring professions, that the Lord's compassion may be visible in them (*pause for quiet prayer*). Lord, hear us.
5. For farmers, shepherds and those who work on the land, that they may show respect for all of God's creation (*pause for quiet prayer*). Lord, hear us.
6. For priests and for an increase in vocations to the Sacred Priesthood (*pause for quiet prayer*). Lord, hear us.
7. For people who call on the name of the Lord Jesus in their sufferings, that they may experience God's healing power (*pause for quiet prayer*). Lord, hear us.
8. For all who have gone before us in faith (*especially N & N*), that they may see God, face to face (*pause for quiet prayer*). Lord, hear us.

God of beauty and compassion, you love us as a shepherd loves all the flock: continue to support your people with your grace, we pray, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Hymn: <https://youtu.be/GNMXynVUZpg>



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.