

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.*

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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**

**31<sup>st</sup> July 2022**

**EIGHTEENTH 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.**

## **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:**

Dear friends

I am writing weekly about the life of a Priest.

I first read the Michael Ramsey's book, *The Christian Priest today*, when I was around 17 and it still speaks to me as a manual and guidebook on what is expected of a Priest. I've tried to model what it is to be a Priest around it and it continues to have a profound effect on me all these years later – I wryly smile when I see my name written in it that it is the handwriting of a child it seems and how I used to write. I do have two copies of the book and if anyone would like to borrow one please let me know but I would require a heavy ransom as the book is out of print now.

One of the chapters is entitled "Sorrow and Joy". Bishop Ramsey writes: *You are as a priest going to be exposed in new ways to joy and to sorrow*. It is only now that these words have become really understood. There are sorrows – real human sorrows of death, bereavement, shock, pain, telling someone their husband has died, the funeral of a still-born child, showing someone around their house which has had a fire and so on which are terrible and yet, paradoxically, a great privilege that you are entrusted, as a priest, with that. They stick with you, as do others, forever. These are other people's sorrows which you bear with them and, in a way, help to carry their cross. You are a bit like Simon of Cyrene in that respect.

But then there are you own personal sorrows. Sadly, these can be dealt to you by the very people that God has called you to serve. They can be cruel, distressing, painful and thoughtless. Somehow – for whatever bizarre reason – some people think the Priest is fair game. Much of this can be caused by thoughtlessness, gossip, and people just not thinking.

Would they like to be spoken to it that way? Conversely, the Priest can be thoughtless, uncaring, selfish when he puts himself first or tries to use his office in a most egregious way. One of the worst things a Priest can do is falling foul of the sins of Pride and Vanity. It can easily happen and I have done it. You can be the author of your own sorrow.

As Bishop Michael writes: *Every ordained man sooner or later will be telling of his grief...You will sorrow at the apathy of thousands about the things of God, at your pastoral disappointments, at being let down by people on whom you had relied. There is grief at one's own blunders: "If only I hadn't put my foot in it like that". "As sorrowful" – the words come true for you. (Personal note – I have put my foot in it hundreds of times and got it very very wrong. Thank goodness for the Sacrament of Reconciliation, Confession and the generosity of loving forgiveness of the people of God.)*

I love when Bishop Ramsey writes:

*We see the extremes of contrast clearly enough in people we have known. Here is a Priest, so cheerful, always cheerful, cheerful for the wrong reasons, cheerful in pride and shallowness, he may be liked and admired, but he will not be a true priest until his heart is broken, whether in penitence before his Lord or in agony for the people he is serving. (Personal note, the agony is real not just theoretical so is brokenness of heart.) And here is a Priest always gloomy, always grumbling; and he tries to spiritualize his gloom into a kind of perpetual holy moan.*

Pope Benedict, before his elevation to the Papacy, wrote that Priests are "ministers of joy." There is so much joy in the Priest's ministry. Do you contribute to the joy of your Priest? There is so much joy in the Eucharist, in the liturgy, in the music, in the social life of the Parish. There is the sheer enjoyment of being a Priest which doesn't diminish. Christian joy is miles away from worldly happiness. Worldly happiness comes and goes. Christian joy is eternal. Yes, there is even joy in taking a funeral because of what you proclaim. There is the humble joy of someone contacting you many years later and telling you of something you said or did at the time that helped them. There is the joy of laughter and the joy of seeing someone's faith grow, develop, blossom. There is the joy of seeing the boy at your first Mass who was thurifer one day being ordained Priest himself - that is extraordinary joy. There is the joy of being Father in God to the people of God. I can list many...

But I finish with Bishop Ramsey who sums up the joy perfectly:

*You enjoy the many openings of touch with people of all kinds. You have range upon range of new human experiences: the small children, the teenagers, the married people, the old. You get to know every kind of profession, and every kind of human circumstance. You are rewarded by many friendships. There are people who like you and say so; there are people who love you and say so. And with these joys there are the joys of seeing closely the grace of God in human lives, in individuals and in families as they grow.*

**A Priest is never to be popular. He is to be faithful.**

Next week's "instalment" will be the last in this series about the relationship of a Priest to his people.

God bless you all.

Your priest and friend, Father Richard

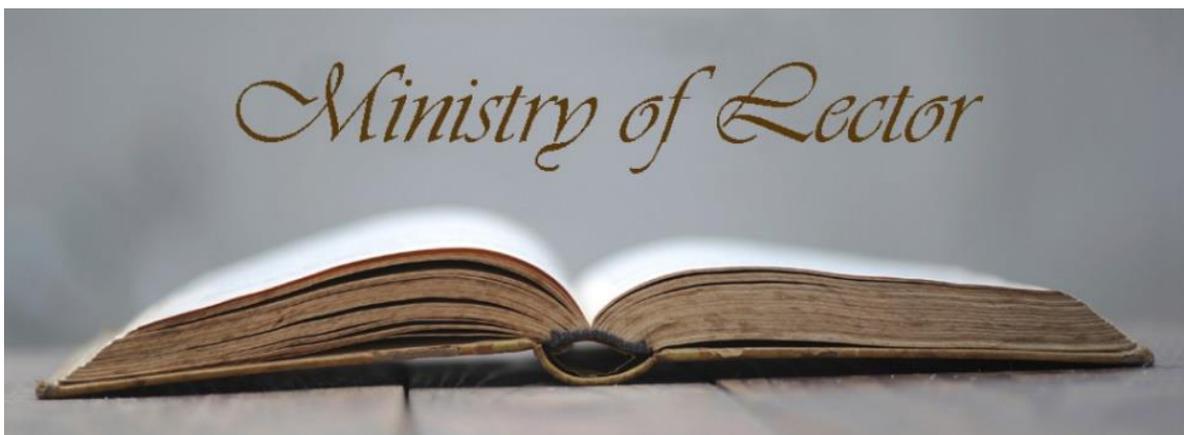
## Ministry of a Lector

I am beginning again a roster of lay people to read at the Eucharist as a Lector. This stopped during the Pandemic and now is the time to recommence it. I have been grateful for those who have kept ministry alive, in a restricted manner, during the Pandemic. However, I now believe that its time to open this up again.

I invite those who would like to be part of team of Lectors to send me an email by the end of July and then I will organise a gathering. It is open to anyone who would like to read to come forward and I would welcome this. Those who are not resident in the Chaplaincy the whole year are also welcome though I do realise this is more difficult but I am sure we can work around it.

The commitment will be:

1. To be prepared to read on Saturday evenings or Sunday mornings until further notice.
2. To practise the readings in the week before and study them. These I will send in good time.
3. To arrive at church in plenty of time for quiet recollection before sharing in the Liturgy of the Word. Coming in at the last minute is not suitable for the ministry in which you share. You are proclaiming God's Word.



So I invite those who have read before and those who haven't to send me an email and I will start to organise this ministry once again. This will be under my auspices as your Priest.

**It is not a job you do in church! It is a ministry that you share with the Priest in proclaiming Sacred Scripture in the Eucharistic assembly to the people of God. May God bless you in this.**  
*Father Richard*

**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 Torre Vieja

**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.



**Sue's Homemade Lemon Curd and Pickled Onions 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! (She also taking orders for pickled onions available in six weeks.) Jill Dorsett is receiving orders for homemade marmalade. Thank you, Jill!



**DATES AHEAD:**

Monday 15<sup>th</sup> August THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY



The Church celebrates that day when the Blessed Virgin Mary, at the end of her earthly life, was taken up body and soul into the glory of heaven. There will be a celebration of the Holy Eucharist at 1130 at La Siesta Church followed by lunch at the Chinese restaurant. It is a glorious summer festival and we praise God for the Blessed Virgin Mary and her Assumption, by God, into heavenly glory. Please come along and join the celebration.



## 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.

You no longer have to wear a mask in church  
(though if you chose to that is perfectly acceptable to protect yourself and protect others).

Hand sanitizer will still be available as you enter the church.

*You are encouraged still to use this to protect yourself and others.*

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

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.

Holy Communion (in one kind still for the time being) will continue to be offered in front of  
the altar as we have been doing since the Pandemic.

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 Los Balcones we will need to wait.*
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.

Saturday 30 <sup>th</sup> July	1700
Sunday 7 <sup>th</sup> August	1130
Saturday 13 <sup>th</sup> August	1700
Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> August	1130 – THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY
Sunday 21 <sup>st</sup> August	1130
Saturday 27 <sup>th</sup> August	1700
Sunday 4 <sup>th</sup> September	1130
Saturday 10 <sup>th</sup> September	1700
Sunday 18 <sup>th</sup> September	1130
Saturday 24 <sup>th</sup> September	1700
Sunday 2 <sup>nd</sup> October	1130

The live-streamed liturgies continue in a limited form now:

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:**

Saturday 30 <sup>th</sup> July	1700	Holy Eucharist	<i>La Siesta / Live-streamed</i>
Sunday 31 <sup>st</sup> July	1100	Holy Eucharist	<i>Live-streamed</i>
Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> August	1800	Evening Prayer and Holy Rosary	<i>Live-streamed</i>
Saturday 6 <sup>th</sup> August	1700	Evening Prayer	<i>Live-streamed</i>
Sunday 7 <sup>th</sup> August	1130	Holy Eucharist	<i>La Siesta / Live-streamed</i>

**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 July 2022:**

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

David, Anna Horsnell, Anne John, Lesley Critchley, Charlie Smith, Allan Harris, David, Theo, Patricia Gilbert, Marie Creighton, Jennifer Moody, Erol Moody, Faras, Justin Clarke, Peter John, Mo and Bryan Bailey, Bernice, Luke Thompson, Gwen Simmons, Isaac Jalal, Father Terence, John Mileham, Samantha Shaw, Alex, Gerry Hopkins, Father Helge, Solveig Petterson, Eileen Catlin.



**Please pray for the recently departed:**

*Those killed as a result of the conflict in Ukraine.*

+ Rest eternal grant unto them, O Lord, and let light perpetual shine upon them.

**Please advise Father Richard if there are any corrections to the above list.**

*If you wish a name to be added to the list of the sick you need to email Father Richard or write to him giving permission for yourself or ensure permission has been granted by someone else for their name to appear on this list. (GDPR regulations).*

*Please pray for the Anglican Church in Perú, for Bishop Jorge Aguilar, and the Bishops, Priests, Deacons and Laity there.*

## **Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> July 2022**

### **Entrance Antiphon**

**Ps 69: 2, 6**

O God, come to my assistance;  
O Lord, make haste to help me!  
You are my rescuer, my help;  
O Lord, do not delay.

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### **Collect**

Draw near to your servants, O Lord,  
and answer their prayers with unceasing kindness,  
that, for those who glory in you as their Creator and guide,  
you may restore what you have created  
and keep safe what you have restored.  
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**

**Ecclesiastes 1:2,2:21-23**

#### **Vanity of vanities; all is vanity**

Vanity of vanities, the Preacher says. Vanity of vanities. All is vanity!

For so it is that a man who has laboured wisely, skilfully and successfully must leave what is his own to someone who has not toiled for it at all. This, too, is vanity and great injustice; for what does he gain for all the toil and strain that he has undergone under the sun? What of all his laborious days, his cares of office, his restless nights? This, too, is vanity.

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### **Responsorial Psalm**

**Psalm 89(90):3-6,12-14,17**

*O Lord, you have been our refuge from one generation to the next.*

You turn men back to dust  
and say: 'Go back, sons of men.'  
To your eyes a thousand years  
are like yesterday, come and gone,  
no more than a watch in the night.

*O Lord, you have been our refuge from one generation to the next.*

You sweep men away like a dream,  
like the grass which springs up in the morning.  
In the morning it springs up and flowers:  
by evening it withers and fades.

*O Lord, you have been our refuge from one generation to the next.*

Make us know the shortness of our life  
that we may gain wisdom of heart.  
Lord, relent! Is your anger for ever?  
Show pity to your servants.

*O Lord, you have been our refuge from one generation to the next.*

In the morning, fill us with your love;  
we shall exult and rejoice all our days.  
Let the favour of the Lord be upon us:  
give success to the work of our hands.

*O Lord, you have been our refuge from one generation to the next.*

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## **Second reading**

**Colossians 3:1-5,9-11**

### **You must look for the things that are in heaven, where Christ is**

Since you have been brought back to true life with Christ, you must look for the things that are in heaven, where Christ is, sitting at God's right hand. Let your thoughts be on heavenly things, not on the things that are on the earth, because you have died, and now the life you have is hidden with Christ in God. But when Christ is revealed – and he is your life – you too will be revealed in all your glory with him.

That is why you must kill everything in you that belongs only to earthly life: fornication, impurity, guilty passion, evil desires and especially greed, which is the same thing as worshipping a false god; and never tell each other lies. You have stripped off your old behaviour with your old self, and you have put on a new self which will progress towards true knowledge the more it is renewed in the image of its creator; and in that image there is no room for distinction between Greek and Jew, between the circumcised or the uncircumcised, or between barbarian and Scythian, slave and free man. There is only Christ: he is everything and he is in everything.

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## **Gospel Acclamation**

**Jn17:17**

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

**Or:**

**Mt5:3**

Alleluia, alleluia!  
How happy are the poor in spirit:  
theirs is the kingdom of heaven.  
Alleluia!

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## Gospel

Luke 12:13-21

### **Fool! This very night your soul will be demanded of you**

A man in the crowd said to Jesus, 'Master, tell my brother to give me a share of our inheritance.' 'My friend,' he replied, 'who appointed me your judge, or the arbitrator of your claims?' Then he said to them, 'Watch, and be on your guard against avarice of any kind, for a man's life is not made secure by what he owns, even when he has more than he needs.'

Then he told them a parable: 'There was once a rich man who, having had a good harvest from his land, thought to himself, "What am I to do? I have not enough room to store my crops." Then he said, "This is what I will do: I will pull down my barns and build bigger ones, and store all my grain and my goods in them, and I will say to my soul: My soul, you have plenty of good things laid by for many years to come; take things easy, eat, drink, have a good time." But God said to him, "Fool! This very night the demand will be made for your soul; and this hoard of yours, whose will it be then?" So it is when a man stores up treasure for himself in place of making himself rich in the sight of God.'

## Homily

"What does it profit us to have gained the whole world, and to have lost or ruined our own self?" (Lk 9:25). "Our life is not made secure by what we own, even when we have more than we need" (Lk 12:15). A worthy and purposeful life focus merely on heaping up money or a material legacy. The rich man in the parable believed his future was secure, and that his good fortune was entirely due to his own merits. It must have come as a shock to learn that his life was God's to give and God's to take away. We might even feel a sneaking admiration for this industrious man. There is in all of us some streak of greed and covetousness, wanting to own things at all costs.'

Greed can spring from lack of love, and many people try to fill that void with property and celebrity. There is ample evidence of this on every side. The clamour of the rat-race, an obsessive scramble to advance by fair means or foul, the demands of already well-paid professionals for higher salaries, backed by the withdrawal of service if these demands are not met. Jesus opposes such self-seeking and wants us to face the question: What are my hopes for the life hereafter?

The rich fool spent his energies on piling riches upon riches. The other extreme would be to see no value at all in working for a living. "Why bother with service since life is so short, and we can be fed at public expense?" Living off state benefits is not a valid vocational option. That tendency existed among some in the early Church, who thought that the second coming of Christ was so near that work was superfluous. Saint Paul, usually so concerned with spiritual growth, shows himself a pragmatist on this matter. "If anyone refuses to work, he should not eat."

Virtue is usually midway between extremes. We should apply this to our appetite for money. On the one hand we have the voluntary poverty of Jesus; born in a place used to house animals; he left this world owning nothing, stripped even of his clothes before being crucified. On the other side, we need some worldly goods, a place to live and money to live on. And there are many ways to use money responsibly. Someone rich who uses that wealth to provide worthwhile employment, is doing more than one who claims to believe the gospel but does nothing for the welfare of others.

We "lay up treasure in heaven", by living with integrity, not only honouring God but also caring for our neighbour. To live a good, honourable life we need to put to death our vices, especially greed which is like worshipping a false god. Nothing can better show the relativity of money than the question, "This pile of yours, when death comes knocking – whose shall it be?"



## 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.