

**Advanced notice for Sunday, 6<sup>th</sup> October:** Our **Patronal Festival** in honour of St Francis of Assisi. Also to include the delayed celebration of John's 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of ordination to the priesthood. There will be a single Eucharist on this day; **10.15am at San Eugenio**, followed by a lunch locally. Further details to follow.

A thought for the day

'The Eucharist becomes our ongoing touchstone for the Christian journey, a place to which we must repeatedly return in order to find our face, our name, our absolute identity, who we are in Christ, and thus who we are forever. *We are not just humans having a God experience. The Eucharist tells us that, in some mysterious way, we are God having a human experience!*' - Richard Rohr

A prayer for the week for ourselves

Heavenly Father, in response to your love, we have chosen you by our baptism as the God of our lives. In the strength of this eucharist help us to renew day by day this commitment to you and your kingdom. May your Son Jesus Christ build up with us a community of peace and service, and when it is slow in coming reassure us that in your own good time the seed will bear much fruit that lasts for ever. Amen.

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**The Anglican Church of St. Francis, South Tenerife**

*Diocese in Europe; Archdeaconry of Gibraltar*

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***Walking together in faith***

25<sup>th</sup> August 2024

**Thirteenth Sunday after Trinity**  
*(21<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time)*

**The Sunday Eucharist:**

10.15am **San Eugenio**, Playa de Las Américas

12 noon **San Blas**, Golf del Sur

6.00pm **Espiritu Santo**, Los Gigantes

Welcome to everyone to our worship. Today's Gospel prompts us consider that many have left the Church because of its defects, including those in some of its leaders and members. But many more have stayed and continue to join. This is perhaps mostly because of the Church's numerous qualities and beauty, its message of life, its supportive ministry and fellowship, and especially because, in spite of the warts, the Lord is present in it. The Church is a work of God in progress; incomplete, sometimes stumbling, but on the way to being a community that embodies and reflects the self-giving love and message of Jesus. When we gather round his table as now, may we be assured of his presence to strengthen and renew us in our calling as his disciples, and so continue to walk with him.

Important information regarding the reception of Holy Communion  
Holy Communion is distributed in both kinds (bread and wine). You may receive in one kind only if you prefer. To receive from the chalice, please drink (sip!) from it. We ask you not to dip the wafer bread into the chalice. It is more infection risky and is not approved in the Diocese in Europe. **If you require gluten-free bread, please let us know before the service begins.**

### Today's readings

Joshua 24: 1 – 2a & 14 – 18 *God's people choose the Lord*

The Israelites of old are conscious that they owe their freedom and their country to God's liberating love. They choose to link their destiny to that of God and to serve him faithfully.

Psalms 34: 15 – 22, with the response:

**O taste and see that the Lord is gracious.**

Ephesians 6: 10 – 20 *Strength in the Lord*

Using military imagery, Paul's people show how the Church can face opposition with confidence, proclaiming the gospel entrusted to it, knowing that God's ultimate victory is assured.

John 6: 56 – 69 *Do you choose Christ or not?*

The graphic language of Jesus as presented by John places a choice before the disciples. Many leave. But Peter, representing those who remain faithful recognises in Jesus the words of eternal life and makes the choice to stay with him.

Eucharistic Prayer: F (pages 16 – 17). We omit the optional short responses but include the following affirmation: 'Christ is the bread of life: **When we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim your death, Lord Jesus, until you come in glory.**'

The Lord's Prayer and Holy Communion follow (page 21).

A collection will be taken at the Offertory.

If you are a UK taxpayer, please consider using the Gift Aid envelope provided, or available at the back of church. It would increase your donation by 25% with no extra cost to you.

Contributions at any time are also most welcome by bank transfer to either our euro or sterling accounts. For security reasons the details have had to be withdrawn from the pew sheet. Please contact our treasurer Gwen Furmston, in church (San Eugenio) or by email to [sgfurmston@gmail.com](mailto:sgfurmston@gmail.com)

We are a completely self-supporting Chaplaincy. Your generous giving is very important to us and much appreciated, helping us to maintain an Anglican presence and ministry in south Tenerife.

### Our Charity Shop in Los Gigantes

With so many volunteers currently away, the shop is open on Fridays only during August: 10.00am – 2.00pm Apologies for the inconvenience.

Every Tuesday San Blas church is open from 11.00am to 12 noon for private prayer or for someone to chat or pray with you, or just come and find peace and rest for a while. Coffee available.

### Thursday, 29<sup>th</sup> August

**Eucharist: 10.30am** at Espiritu Santo, Los Gigantes  
(Readings: 1 Corinthians 1: 1 – 9; Matthew 24: 42 – 51)

Every Friday at midday, all are welcome to meet over coffee (or whatever you prefer) at the Kiosco restaurant in San Blas commercial centre (middle square). An opportunity for regular St Francis church members and others to meet in a friendly and informal way.

**Next Sunday, 1<sup>st</sup> September** Trinity 14

**Eucharist:** Times and locations as today.

(Readings: Deuteronomy 4: 1 – 2 & 6 – 9; Psalm 15; James 1: 17 – 27;  
Mark 7: 1 – 8, 14 – 15 & 21 – 23)

*There will be some variations in service arrangements during John's holiday (5<sup>th</sup> September to 2<sup>nd</sup> October). The details will be available from next Sunday and also posted on church notice boards and our website.*