

### Grand Christmas Draw result

The total raised was 2,836 Euros. **Many thanks** to all who participated, by organizing and donating prizes, selling and buying tickets, including those who contributed without taking part in the Draw.

### A thought for the day

‘The day when a person is baptised is more important than the day a person is ordained a priest or a bishop.’ – *Raymond E Brown*

### A prayer for the week for ourselves

God our Father, you have opened heaven to us to strengthen us with the bread of life and to fill us with the Holy Spirit. Make us new and call us away from our certainties and attachments. Send us out to go forward without fear on the road of justice and peace, that we may be your beloved children together with your faithful Son, our Saviour and Lord, Jesus Christ. Amen.

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

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### ***Walking together in faith***

Sunday, 7th January 2024      **Baptism of the Lord**

#### **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 we celebrate the Lord's Baptism, which brings the season of Christmas to a close. At Christmas we celebrated the mystery of God manifested in a child, a child born to a particular family and part of a particular people. During the Epiphany season which we now begin, we celebrate that this child is manifested to all peoples and has come as Saviour of the whole world. Today he is manifested as the Son intensely loved by the Father, with the Spirit resting on him to guide him. Now he can begin his mission. In this Eucharist we ask our Lord to make us more aware of how we too, through baptism, are beloved sons and daughters of the Father, and how the fire of the Spirit should inflame us to be partakers in the ministry of Jesus in our own time and place.

Important information regarding the reception of Holy Communion  
Holy Communion is distributed in both kinds. You are, of course, welcome to receive in one kind only. 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 this Diocese. **If you require gluten-free bread, please let us know before the service begins.**

#### Today's readings

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Genesis 1: 1 – 5 *Let there be light....and life!*

The creation story depicts a situation where, after the creation of heaven and earth, there is a watery waste within which there is a possibility of life, as long as the action of God through the Spirit enables it. This pattern is frequently repeated in the story of God's people and is a feature of Jesus' baptism.

Psalm 29: 1 – 4 & 8 – 10, with the response:

**The Lord shall give his people the blessing of peace**

Acts of the Apostles 19: 1 – 7 *'Did you receive the Holy Spirit?'*

There is no indication here that public manifestation of the gifts of the Spirit is necessary to confirm that true baptism has taken place, but this passage does show that a reception of the Holy Spirit is a necessary element of Christian baptism and, therefore, of Christian life.

Mark 1: 4 – 11 *'With you I am well pleased.'*

While it is an understatement to say that the relationship of the Father and the Son is unique and uniquely intimate, it is legitimate to observe that God's words over Jesus are echoed in our own baptism. We are baptized into Christ; we become members of his body: we too are God's beloved children.

Eucharistic Prayer B (pages 8 – 9) with a Preface for the Baptism of the Lord, followed by the Lord's Prayer and Communion (page 21)

#### **Church financial giving**

A collection is taken during the Offertory.

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

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% at no 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)

#### **Our Charity Shop in Los Gigantes**

Open 10.00am to 2.00pm – every day except Sunday

**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, 11<sup>th</sup> January

10.30am Eucharist at Espiritu Santo, Los Gigantes

(Readings: I Samuel 4: 1 – 11; Mark 2: 1 – 12)

#### **Next Sunday, 14<sup>th</sup> January** *Epiphany 2*

#### **Eucharist:**

Times and locations as today

(Readings: 1 Samuel 3: 1 – 10; Psalm 139; Revelation 5: 1 – 10;  
John 1: 43 - 51)

*(Apologies for the cancellation of last Sunday's service at Los Gigantes because of New Year's Eve activities in the square.*

*Advance notice of further cancellations in Los Gigantes due to the Carnival: Sundays 25th February and 3rd March)*