

Lent reading and reflection You may like to follow John's 2021 Lent course, 'Walking with Jesus through the Gospel of Mark' (in 8 weekly sections) on our website. You will find the link on the home page. The course can be followed by reading the text and/or watching the video recording, which is accompanied by graphics produced by Alex Macarno, our web designer. Each section is followed by some questions to ponder. Apologies, the 'voice' speaks without pausing between questions!

A thought for the day

'Jesus wanted his followers to know that the journey they would make involved knowing and enlivening the teachings he advocated. In other words, Jesus was cautioning them, "If you decide to give yourselves to what truly counts in this life, it will cost you."' - *Joyce Rupp*

A prayer for the week for ourselves

Loving and patient God, we thank you for Jesus your Son. He has spoken to us words of power and encouragement. He has given himself to us as our food for the journey of life. May he be our companion on the way that we may not stumble and fall. May he lead us through trials and lapses as we grow and transform into the people you desire us to be. May we, in our turn, support one another on the way by the grace and power of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

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***Walking together in faith***

Sunday, 25th February 2024

**Second Sunday in Lent**

**The Sunday Eucharist:**

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

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

*The 6.00pm celebration at Espiritu Santo, Los Gigantes is cancelled due to the Carnival events taking place immediately in front of the church.*

Welcome to everyone to our worship. Today, we may consider how our lives are always under pressure to conform to short-termism. It is hard for us to focus on priorities beyond what is immediate to our own personal needs. Peter's response to Jesus in the Gospel is entirely human and instinctive. His plans do not include the pain and disorientation of the great suffering that Jesus predicts. But Jesus demands of his followers an entirely new mindset, a long-termism which looks to the future fulfilment of the kingdom of God which will lead us to deny ourselves and take up our cross. He is calling us to see ourselves as dead to our old life and the will that directed it, and alive to a new life that shares in his risen life.

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

Genesis 17: 1 – 7; 15 – 16 *God's covenant with Abraham*  
Abram becomes Abraham, meaning 'the father of a multitude.' God's promise to Abraham and Sarah was particularly demanding of their credulity, but God is always faithful. The promises of God for our future should be sure enough for the way we live our present.

Psalm 22: 23 – 28 & 30 – 31, with the response:  
**The kingdom is the Lord's, and he rules over the nations.**

Romans 4: 13 – 25 *Justified by faith, not law*  
The power of a promise to change the future, and thus the present, is fundamental to Paul's argument here. Thus, my behaviour is the direct result of my belief in God's promise for my future. My motivation is a product of a relationship with God, not a written code.

Mark 8: 31 – 38 *The condition of following Christ*  
Three times in Mark's Gospel Jesus predicts his coming Passion, and each time he is misunderstood by the disciples. Jesus repeats that they must take up their cross, they must share his suffering, if they expect to share his glory. As his followers, this is our path too.

Eucharistic Prayer: E (pages 14 – 15) with the extended Preface for Lent. The Lord's Prayer and Communion rite follow (page 21).

#### ***Church financial giving***

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%.

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, Los Gigantes**

Open 10.00am. to 2.00pm, Monday to Saturday.

Come and look for the bargains!

#### **Monday, 26<sup>th</sup> February**

10.30am Church Council meeting at Callao Salvaje.

**Due to the Los Gigantes Carnival**, it is much regretted that the Eucharist at Espiritu Santo church is cancelled today, as also on Thursday, 29<sup>th</sup> February and next Sunday, 3<sup>rd</sup> March. The next services in Los Gigantes will be on Thursday, 7<sup>th</sup> March and Sunday, 10<sup>th</sup> March.

**Next Sunday, 3rd March** Lent 3

**Eucharist:** times as today at **San Eugenio** and **San Blas**.

(Readings: Exodus 20: 1 – 17; Psalm 19; I Corinthians 1: 18 – 25;  
John 2: 13 - 22

Thank you to everyone for making Bishop Robert and Helen so welcome last Sunday. They much enjoyed their brief time with us.