

A thought for the day

‘I believe – if I am to believe Jesus – that God *is* suffering love. If we are created in God’s image, and if there is so much suffering in the world, then God must also be suffering. How else can we understand the revelation of the cross? Why else would the central Christian logo be a naked, bleeding, suffering divine-human being?’

Richard Rohr

A prayer for the week for ourselves

Loving Father, we thank you that your Son Jesus has been with us in this Eucharistic celebration as the servant of us all. Help us to recognise him also in the people and events of our daily lives. May he fill our hearts and give us his courage to understand and accept others, to accompany them on the road of life, to suffer their pains, to rejoice with their joys and to carry each other’s burdens, that he may be with us now and for ever. Amen.

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Walking together in faith

Sunday, 20th October 2024 **Twenty First Sunday after Trinity**

(29th Sunday in Ordinary Time)

The Sunday Eucharist:

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

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

6.00pm **Espíritu Santo**, Los Gigantes

Welcome to everyone to our worship. In our liturgy today we consider how it is not those seeking places of honour and privilege who are great according to the standards of Jesus. It is those who know how to serve. To serve is the Christian’s ‘career.’ The servant is at the disposal of all, understands the weaknesses of others and sees them in himself/herself. To serve is often painful, but only those capable of sacrificing (literally, ‘making sacred’) themselves for others and not running away from difficulties have something to contribute to the world. They accept to be like seeds that die to give life. Let us ask Jesus who is with us here to help us serve with him.

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. Intinction (dipping the wafer bread into the chalice) 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:

Isaiah 53: 4 – 12 *The suffering servant*

This 'suffering servant song' reflects the agony of the people of Israel in their enforced exile (6th century BC). The passage provides essential background to Jesus' self-understanding as the Servant who gives his life as a ransom for many (today's Gospel reading). Much of Christian language about the death of Jesus is inspired by this chapter.

Psalms 91: 9 – 16, with the response:

Lord, you are my refuge and stronghold in whom I put my trust.

Hebrews 5: 1 – 10 *Jesus, our suffering high priest*

The writer tells of the uniqueness of Jesus whose priesthood stands far superior to any purely human priesthood. Yet this Jesus offers up intensely human tears and, by his obedience to the Father's will, provides an example for us to follow.

Mark 10: 35 – 45 *Serving with Jesus*

We might be tempted to snigger at the spiritual shallowness displayed by James and John (and by the jealous reaction of the other ten disciples). But the challenge laid down by Jesus here is just as taxing for us. How far do we *really* model our lives on Christ the servant? How far do our Church structures mirror the expectations of Jesus in this passage?

Eucharistic Prayer: B (pages 8 – 9), with an alternative preface for a Sunday in Ordinary Time, followed by the Lord's Prayer and Holy Communion (page 21).

Church financial giving

A collection will be taken during 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

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

Open this week Monday to Saturday, 10.00am to 2.00pm
(12.00 – 2.00 on Thursday)

Monday, 21st October

10.30am Church Council meeting at San Blas

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, 24th October

10.30am Eucharist at Espiritu Santo, Los Gigantes

(Readings: Ephesians 3: 14 – 21; Luke 12: 49 – 53)

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, 27th October Last Sunday after Trinity

Eucharist: *Times and locations as today*

(Readings: Isaiah 55: 1 – 11; Psalm 19; 2 Timothy 3: 14 – 4: 5;

John 5: 36b – 47) *'Bible Sunday' optional theme*