

Lent reading and reflection John's 2021 Lent course, 'Walking with Jesus through the Gospel of Mark' (in 8 weekly sections) is still available on our website. You will find the link on the home page.

Good Friday, 29th March, 3.00pm at San Blas:

The Liturgy of the Cross, joint with the San Blas Roman Catholics.
All welcome.

A thought for the day

'We have been invited – even now, even today, even this moment – to live consciously in the communion of saints, in the Presence, in the Body, in the Life of the eternal and eternally Risen Christ.'

Richard Rohr

A prayer for the week for ourselves

Patient and merciful God, you do not condemn us, but raised up Jesus your Son above us and among us to lift us up from our guilt and sorrow. With him, and in gratitude to you, let us be grace and goodness to one another. Help us to *lift up* the fallen and broken hearted, to bind their wounds and to let them become fully human and free as your sons and daughters in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

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Walking together in faith

Sunday, 10th March 2024

Fourth Sunday in Lent

(Mothering Sunday)

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. We are reminded in our liturgy today of how God loves the world so much that he came among us as one of us through the human life of Jesus. If this message is true, how could we possibly be indifferent to it? If we deeply believe that God finds us lovable, how could we not put our trust in him? He does not compel or impose himself on us, he just invites us. God wants to nurture and to care for us and to let that be an example of how we treat others. Such thoughts are appropriate for Mothering Sunday. We give thanks today for all mothers and for all that 'mother' means in our life experience: all who have nurtured, loved and cared for us and helped us to be who we are. At its best, a mother's love is a living example of the love of God.

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

Numbers 21: 4 – 9 *A bronze serpent, a pointer to the cross*
The people of Israel in the wilderness were losing faith in God and were resorting to faith in themselves, with potentially disastrous consequences. In that chaotic situation, God acted and provided a focus (the bronze snake on a staff), as a sign of his saving involvement with them.

Psalms 107: 1 – 3 & 17 – 20, with the response:

O give thanks to the Lord, for his love endures for ever.

Ephesians 2: 1 – 10 *All is grace*
Paul claims that it is by grace alone that we have been saved. Thus our salvation is not the *result* of any good works of ours, rather, our good works are the response to the good news of our salvation.

John 3: 14 – 21 *Saved by the cross of Christ*
John portrays a world that is already lost, one that lives according to its own 'lights' which give no light at all. The situation parallels that in the camp of Israel (1st reading). John reuses the imagery. God enters a situation of chaos to provide a means of hope. He presents Jesus lifted up on the cross as a sign of God's faithful and saving love.

Eucharistic Prayer: B (pages 8 - 9) The Preface includes a Lenten addition. 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

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, every day this week except Monday.
Thursday opening at 11.30am. Come and look for the bargains!

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, 14th March

Eucharist at Espiritu Santo, Los Gigantes
(*Readings*: Exodus 32: 7 – 14; John 5: 31 – end)

Friday, 15th March

Annual General Church Meeting at San Blas

Beginning with a said **Eucharist at 10.15am** (the business part will begin at **11.00am**). All who are on the church Electoral Roll are requested to attend. Apologies please to Marisha if you are unavailable.

Next Sunday, 17th March Lent 5

Eucharist:

Times and locations as today.

*(Readings: Jeremiah 31: 31 – 34; Psalm 51 (selected verses);
Hebrews 5: 5 – 10; John 12: 20 – 23)*