

**Next Sunday, 8<sup>th</sup> December 2024** Advent 2

**Eucharist:** Times and locations as today. We will welcome the Revd Shelagh Jones as our preacher at San Eugenio and San Blas, and David Horton at Espiritu Santo.

**Christmas Day Eucharist:** Espiritu Santo, 6.00pm (24<sup>th</sup> December); San Eugenio – 10.15am; San Blas – 12 noon (25<sup>th</sup> December)

**Carol Services:** Espiritu Santo – 6.00pm Sunday 22nd December; San Blas – Date and time to be announced shortly.

#### A thought for the day

‘Christianity’s goal is not escape from this world. It loves this world and seeks to change it for the better.’ *Marcus J. Borg*

#### A prayer for the week for ourselves

Lord God, you have given us this time and this life to grow up in Christ and lead his life. Make us realise that if he lives in us we can give him to the world, so that your love and peace can be shared by all. Keep alive in us this indestructible hope and guide us on our pilgrim way, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

#### **Contacts**

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

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

Sunday, 1<sup>st</sup> December 2024; **First Sunday of Advent**

#### **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. And welcome to a new Church calendar year. In our 3-year liturgical cycle it is ‘**Year C**’ in which most of the Gospel readings will be from the **Gospel of Luke**. We begin our worship today and each Sunday of Advent with the lighting of a candle on the Advent Wreath. Each candle represents an Advent theme. Advent is a short penitential season symbolised by the liturgical colour **purple**. We prepare ourselves for the coming festival of celebration of the coming of Christ among us as a real human being. We also reflect on the Christ’s present and future comings, the dominant theme of this first Sunday of the season. We

are called to examine ourselves to see whether we are ready to meet the Lord when he comes.

Important information regarding the reception of Holy Communion  
*Holy Communion is distributed in both kinds. If you wish, you may receive in one kind only, but 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.*

Prayer at the Advent Wreath

People of God: awake! The day is coming soon when you shall see God face to face. Remember the ways and the works of God. God calls you out of darkness to walk in the light of his coming. You are God's children.

**Lord, make us one as we walk with Christ today and for ever. Amen.**

Today's readings

Jeremiah 33: 14 – 16 *Keep hope alive*

To a discouraged people the prophet announces: Take courage! A Saviour will come from the house of David. With him honesty and integrity will make a new beginning.

Psalm 25: 1 – 9, with the response:

**To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul**

1 Thessalonians 3: 9 – 13 *Prepare for the Lord's coming*

The Christian hope for the Lord's coming does not lead us to idleness or 'other-worldliness' but to an effective and expectant engagement with life. By growing and living our faith more deeply,

we help to hasten the day when Christ will replace this age with a new and better one.

Luke 21: 25 – 36 *Your liberation is near!*

In vivid apocalyptic language, this passage provides an impetus to strong and forward-looking faith. Even in times of danger, Christians are to keep hoping in the future. They are to prepare to meet the Lord by living lives of love, prayer and vigilance.

Eucharistic Prayer: E (pages 14 – 15), with a Preface for Advent, 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](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**

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

**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, 5<sup>th</sup> December**

**10.30am Eucharist** at Espiritu Santo, Los Gigantes

(Readings: Isaiah 26: 1 – 6; Matthew 7: 21 & 24 – 27)

**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.