

Services during March 2019

Nazaret

Church of Nuestra Señora de Nazaret March 3, 17, 31 **10:00 AM**

Puerto del Carmen

Church of Nuestra Señora in the harbour, Old Town March 3, 10, 17, 24, 31 **12:30 PM**

After the Sunday Service you are invited to coffee (or any other beverage) and fellowship at Restaurante El Asador in Puerto del Carmen.

Playa Blanca

Church of Nuestra Señora del Carmen March 3, 10, 17, 24, 31 **5:00 PM**

Principal Church contacts

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Safeguarding Officer	Robin Wardle robinsilvesterw@gmail.com	928 987951

The Parish is currently in Interregnum.



ANGLICAN PARISH
ST. LAURENCE IN LANZAROTE

Our Monthly Newsletter – March 2019



A very warm welcome to everybody!

Our mission is to serve the Anglican and English speaking people – both residents and visitors – in Lanzarote.



Please spread the word about our congregations and services and visit our website on www.lanzarotechurch.com



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DIOCESE IN EUROPE

THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND

Monthly Message by The Ven Geoffrey Arrand

There is a lot of sadness around. There is bewilderment. Some just don't know what is happening or why. There is anger and blame. It is all their fault. If they had acted differently, things would have been different. Inevitably there has been taking of sides, recrimination and anger. That always happens. Brexit has been and still is a truly awful experience. I am not sure how much people in the UK realise how it impacts on British nationals living overseas.

Now let me say from the outset that I have listened to arguments from both sides and I am not in the business of rushing to judgement. That is neither my role nor my responsibility. I come here to exercise the cure of souls, albeit for only a couple of months. That being so, then it is my responsibility to try to heal the hurt that is around. I do have my own political view and it is strongly held but that cannot get in the way of the charge laid upon me to reconcile and heal divisions, whether they be personal, ecclesiastical or political.

The second Sunday here, I preached on some words given to me by a close friend: "God bless this mess." Just think of your parish or church community, whether that be here or back home. How often have things happened that have caused conflict, hurt and division? In every parish for which I was ever responsible it happened. I spent hours as an archdeacon dealing with such things in various parishes. Conflict, hurt, tensions, pain, anger, all these things are part of the experience of every Christian now and down the ages.

My word to you is simply this. When things happen that cause division, tension and anger, then go back to the basics of your faith. Love and forgiveness. Jesus came to show God's love for us. Whilst we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. God is Love, he loves us with limitless love and he calls us to love one another. Let's not pretend that that is easy because it's not. It is really hard to let go of hurt and anger and a sense of injustice. When you find it hard, just look at the cross and remember how hard it was for Jesus to go through all that and continue to love. To love and to forgive. We are called to be a forgiving people. How often do we forgive if we are wronged, seven times? asked someone of Jesus. No, seventy times seven was the answer.

We are called to be a people of Love and Forgiveness. This is not negotiable. It is the simple basic truth at the very heart of the good news. I always try to remember that God loves the other person as much as he loves me, he loves the remainder and the leaver with equal passion.

I do understand that some will say that this is just pious claptrap. Well, if you know of a better way, do stop me and tell me. Mankind has tried anger, revenge, warfare in the name of truth and justice, apportioning blame and finding scapegoats. All that ever led to was more pain, more suffering and more division.

Love and forgiveness are the hardest of all to live by. Master those and you will truly inherit the Kingdom of God which, in God's great plan, is rather more important than Brexit or not...

Geoff

News and Events in March 2019

A warm welcome to all our congregations, visitors and friends!

Our locum since February and all through March is the Venerable Geoffrey Arrand.

Ash Wednesday

A service of Holy Communion with the Imposition of Ashes will be held on Ash Wednesday, 6th March, at 12.30 pm in the church in Puerto del Carmen.

Apostles Lunch

Our February apostles lunch, to which everyone is welcome, will be at 1.30 pm on Tuesday, 12th March, at Treat Café Bar (Punta Limones, Playa Blanca - behind the Spar shop near the ferry port).

There will be a 3 course meal with vegetarian option

Starters - A selection presented on large platters in the centre of the table

Mains – Beef stew and dumplings with Mash

Desert – Choice of the day cheese cake

The price will be 18€ to include a choice of tea or coffee

Live Music from 3pm!

Please contact Polly Price (polly@apafin.com) for further information or to sign up.

Mothers' Union

Please contact Marilyn Forder for further information at 928 513480.

The March meeting / AGM is on the 11th March at 2.30 pm at the home of Marilyn Forder.

There are no meetings from April until September.

Mothers' Union will recommence in October 2019.

Safeguarding

The protection from harm of children and adults who may be vulnerable is of paramount importance to us. We will not tolerate abuse in any form. We comply fully with the requirements of the Diocese's Safeguarding Policy.

Gift Aid Scheme

As a Parish we are self-sufficient and do not receive any grants or help from the Diocese. If you are a UK tax payer, please consider giving your collection in one of the Gift Aid envelopes available at the door at each service.