

## Services during January 2017

### Nazaret

Church of Nuestra Señora de Nazaret      January 8 and 22      **10:00 AM**

### Puerto del Carmen

Church of Nuestra Señora in the harbour, Old Town      January 1, 8, 15, 22, 29      **12:30 PM**

### Playa Blanca

Church of Nuestra Señora del Carmen      January 1, 8, 15, 22, 29      **5:00 PM**

## Principal Church contacts

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ANGLICAN PARISH  
ST. LAURENCE IN LANZAROTE

## Our Monthly Newsletter – January 2017



**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](http://www.lanzarotechurch.com)**

DIOCESE IN EUROPE

THE CHURCH  
OF ENGLAND



## **A Message by the Venerable Geoffrey Arrand**

### **A new priest for the parish.**

I was delighted to hear that you have a new priest. I was interested to hear that he was “a bishop’s appointment” and had to ask what that meant. Apparently it means that you take what you are given!

To reflect a little on taking what you are given start at the Last Supper. Jesus sent some disciples to prepare for the meal and when he arrived at the table with all of the twelve he took what he was given, the bread and wine. It was not bread that he had made or wine he had created, it was simply what he was given. What he did with it and through it was extraordinary.

As a parish you will receive Father Peter as the priest given to you. This can be uncomfortable and challenging but he is God’s gift to you at this moment. Some of you may already know him a little, most of you not at all. Take him as the gift you are given. Remember too that he is taking you as a gift, he doesn’t know many of you, he doesn’t know how things work or how folk behave. It’s a two way road. Both sides take what they are given.

Having taken bread that was given Jesus blessed it. He prayed over it that God’s grace would imbue it and work through it. In the same way you must bless God for Fr. Peter and pray that His grace will work in and through him and all of you. You may not always agree with him, or he with you. It may not always be smooth and easy but it is through Peter and you, all working and praying together that God’s will may be done here.

Then Jesus broke the bread. He broke it because that’s the only way bread is of any use, broken and shared. Paul taught us that “we who are many are one body, for we all share in one bread”. We are not good at being broken. We are not good at give and take. So often we want the whole loaf, everything our own way. There needs to be an acceptance of brokenness, the brokenness which comes from self denial. The acceptance that I will not have it all my own way because I must accept that others have their needs too and their needs and likes are every bit as important as mine. That is true for both priest and people. Sometimes that will hurt. That is brokenness.

Only when the bread was broken could Jesus share it. Only in the sharing did they discover what “this is my body” really meant. Together they would experience rejection and failure, together they would experience resurrection and new life in the Spirit. With Fr. Peter you will have much to share and in the sharing I hope that you will discover new life in the Spirit.

**(Geoffrey Arrand, locum in December 16 & January 2017)**

## **News and Events in January 2017**

### **A very Happy New Year to all our parishioners, visitors and friends!**

The Parish has reached the last stage of its three-year long interregnum. The Venerable Geoffrey Arrand and his wife Margaret will be with us until the 24th January.



We are delighted to announce that the Rev Peter Ford, currently the sub-Dean and Port Chaplain of Gibraltar, has been appointed Priest-in-Charge of our Parish of St Laurence with effect from 25th January 2017. His formal licencing by our Archdeacon, the Venerable Geoffrey Johnston, will take place in the church of Nuestra Señora in the harbour of Puerto del Carmen, Old Town, at 12.30 pm on Saturday, 12<sup>th</sup> February.

### **The Apostles Lunch**

The Apostles Lunch in January, which is a monthly informal social occasion to which all are welcome, will be at 1.30pm on Wednesday 18th January. Details of the venue will be announced at all services.

### **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. This increases your gift to us by some 25% at no cost to you. Thank you.

### **Mothers Union**

The next Mothers Union meeting is on the 9 th January 2017 at 2 pm at the home of Marilyn Forder. Telephone number for more information is 928513480.

### **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. As a chaplaincy within the Diocese in Europe, we comply fully with the requirements of the Diocese's Safeguarding Policy.