



November, 2023,
Casa Bob, Calle Cardon, 76

Greetings. May the peace and love of Christ rule in your hearts.

Here we are, 6 weeks after having arrived on the island and we feel we are settling in reasonably well. The process has been helped by the arrival of our possessions from the UK. Woodside Cargo did a wonderful job, and we were quickly reunited with our things once they arrived on the island. I was slightly worried when 26 boxes landed in our lounge that we had brought too much, but it is remarkable how much was packing and how little were things!! The result is that Casa Bob now feels much more our home.

As well as settling into Casa Bob, I have been trying to settle into the role of Chaplain and get my 'head' around how things work here. As I mentioned in my first letter, a small group of volunteers were to meet to look at the responses to the questionnaire. This group has met and together have put together some actions that will be brought to the Chaplaincy Council meeting at the end of this month. That said, some of you will already have noticed some slight changes in the way things are done. For instance, we are once again offering wine from the 'common cup' during communion; although, to meet the needs of those for whatever reason prefer, to receive from a single cup, this option continues to be available. Wherever possible, I will try to find ways to hold the diverse nature of the chaplaincy together, although I realise that this will not always be the case, but hopefully with prayer and careful consideration, together we can build on the good foundations that have already been laid.

I have also met with those who take a role in leading worship and with Derek Brough, our Safeguarding Officer. In response to this I have facilitated some Safeguarding training sessions, at Casa Bob. If anyone has any questions or concerns over Safeguarding, please do talk to Derek, as we all have a part to play in ensuring our Chaplaincy is a safe place for everyone.

Since arriving, I have commenced short services on Zoom (on my working weekdays) of morning and evening prayer at 9am and 9pm, and also a Tuesday evening bible reflection at 7pm. While these have not been taken up by large numbers, those who do join have found them helpful and supportive and I would whole heartedly encourage others to give them a go, when time and internet connections permit. The monthly prayer walk around the Wolf Patton Labyrinth, above El Cotillo, will continue to take place on the first Friday of each month.

Looking forward, the annual Christmas Fayre will take place at Casa Pablo's, La Capellania, (Tamaragua) on Saturday 9th December between 10am and 1pm. This is organised, once again by Sue Thornber, on behalf of Fuerteventura Against Cancer and the Church, please do come, if you are able, or if you have items to donate, please bring them to church or contact me and I will try and arrange collection.

As we head to Advent, it has been my tradition to write and hold a Advent gathering. This year, Lynne Angus has agreed to host our Advent gathering, at her home, in Caleta de Fuste. The gathering will take place at 1.30pm on Fridays, starting on 1st December and I am told there is the possibility of cake! For those who cannot make this, the material will be available for personal reflection. The sessions are centred around those who come to see Jesus and it is called, Coming to the Manger.

If at any time you want to have a chat, please feel free to contact me, by email or phone, I am always happy to do so and should you be on the island and unable to attend church, but would like home communion, I will be happy to oblige. Finally, if you do not wish to receive these more frequent update letters about the Chaplaincy, please let me know, and I will make sure your details are removed from our circulation list.

Many thanks to all who have made Chris and I so welcome in the first weeks here, and we hope to get to know many more of you over the coming months.

Much love and prayers

Anne x

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