

February 2023, Casa Bob, Calle Cardon, 76

It has been some time since I last wrote, and so I apologise, but it has been a little busy, both on the church front and personally.

I have to say Advent and Christmas on the island was delightful. We had a small but enjoyable gathering for the Advent reflections at the home of Lynne Angus, who welcomed us with wonderful hospitality not to mention lovely cake. We had a wonderful Christmas Fayre, and our sincere thank to Sue Thronber and her incredible helpers for the event. While Piedra Alta was closed, we were welcomed into the home of Anne and David Reed in El Roque, and we managed to fit well over 20 people into their room and were wonderfully blessed to be able to worship there.

The Carol service with Communion, on Christmas Eve in Corralejo, saw well over 100 people attend and for the first time we held an informal Carols with readings in Caleta de Fuste. The Christmas morning service held in Casa Bob was a small but faithful gathering. All in all, it was a wonderful time of fellowship in Christ.

We returned to the UK for a week to celebrate Christmas with our family in mid-January. On our return, we had our youngest son, wife and 4year old granddaughter come and stay for a few days. Then last week we headed to Calpe on the mainland to attend the Archdeaconry Synod. It was lovely to meet fellow Chaplains and representatives from across Spain, Portugal, and Morocco and our church representatives will be compiling the report in the coming days, which will be available on the website.

So, you can see, it has been a busy start to the year, and now we are heading towards Lent and I wanted to let you know what we are offering. There will be a 5-week Lent course. It is something I have drawn from the book 'Lentwise, Spiritual Essentials for Life' by Paula Gooder, and it will be called 'Conversations on a Journey.' Sessions will be held on Tuesdays, at the home of Lynne Angus, commencing on 20th February 1.30-2.30pm and on Wednesdays, commencing on the 14th February at the home of June and Frank Boughtflower, between 4-5pm. The material will also be available for home use for those not able to get to the in-person sessions.

I will also be running 'The Bible Course' from the Bible Society on Fridays, at Casa Bob. This will commence on Friday 23rd February. Sessions will run 11.30 -12.30. It is an 8-week course and there will be a break for Good Friday. This will only be available as an inperson course. The course aims to help us get the most from the Bible and to show that the Bible is one big story, starting with Genesis through to Revelation. I will be asking people to sign up for this course so I can make sure I have sufficient materials for it.

There will also be a daily calendar for personal use throughout Lent, which will have a reading to reflect on each day.

In addition to the usual services and events, the following will take place,

13th February Pancakes at Casa Bob's, from noon, fellowship and food

14th February Ash Wednesday Service at the home of Ann and David Reed, 10.30

16th February Bishop Robert's Visit to the Chaplaincy,

itinerary for the day at Casa Bob

11.30am meeting with **council members only** 12.30am midday communion, **open to all**

1.30pm lunch, open to all.

18th March Chaplaincy Council meeting Casa Bob

28th March Maundy Thursday Service, at the home of Ann and David Reed, 10.30

29th March Good Friday Service, at the home of Ann and David Reid, 3pm.

31st March Sunrise Service on Puerto Lajas beach at 7.30 am (sunrise is 7.48am)

Should you be on the island and unable to attend church, I am more than willing to bring communion to you at home, just let me know

Wishing you a fruitful and blessed Lent

Love and prayers

Anne x
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