

Anglican Chaplaincy of Costa Almeria and Costa Calida

OFFICERS REPORTS 2022/2023

Chaplains Report

This last year has been a year of growth. Those attending Los Llanos has returned to pre COVID levels. At Mojacar numbers have increased but because of restrictions on visitors, we have not returned to pre COVID levels.

We have returned to Alhambra with a regular monthly service and the numbers are only a little lower than before.

I am most grateful to the Ministry team that have supported me this year in enabling us to have a full programme of services. In February Father Marcus came to us as a long-term locum. He led us through Lent until Easter and will be returning in July until October.

As you will see from the financial report our income has stabilized which gives us a clearer picture of where we are for the future employment of a Parish Priest. The PCC has looked at this and are formulating a response to the Bishop about appointing a new Priest. I am hopeful that we shall be able to employ a "House for Duty" Priest on similar lines to that of Father Hugh Broad.

During the year we have held British Legion services and a memorial for the late Queen. The ministry team have continued to take funeral services and ministered to the sick.

I am grateful to our Churchwarden Pam who has over the last nine years served this parish so well along with Alwyn they have dealt with many behind the scenes situations going far beyond what is required or expected. I am pleased that the PCC have met regularly and have worked together for the good of the parish.

Alan Bennett, Priest in Charge.

Church Warden

After reading Fr. Alan's report I find it difficult to add my more.

Thank you Alan for not only doing this for me but being there, a good ear to listen and a strong shoulder to lean against over all the years we've worked together. It will be ten years at this A.G.M.

I would like to thank Fr. Alan once again, from all in the chaplaincy, for your guidance and dedication in keeping us on the right track and worshipping together.

Our ministry team, Margie Gall, Tony Noble and Alwyn Carter put in hours of preparation to ensure that there is a service at all churches, without them Fr. Alan could not function as he does and we would not have the smooth running of a regular worship. Thank you all.

I am not bowing out of church life entirely, I'm hoping to stay on as a P.C.C. member to share my knowledge and experience where needed.

Pam Carter, Church Warden

Safeguarding (incorporating Health & Safety)

Safeguarding continues to play a key role in the chaplaincy; ensuring that everyone can worship safely. In our chaplaincy Safeguarding has been merged with Health & Safety, so covers both *keeping people safe from physical dangers* (Health & Safety) and *keeping people safe from possible abuse* (Safeguarding).

The chaplaincy reports regularly to the Diocese through the Parish Dashboard. I am pleased to confirm that all required Safeguarding checks are up-to-date and following the last AGM the four new members of the PCC attended the mandatory Basic Awareness training. All other requirements are up-to-date with the exception of offering *Domestic Abuse Awareness* training, which I plan to offer by way of a coffee morning in the early summer.

Health & Safety Risk Assessments have recently been carried out at all three sites.

Sadly our Chaplaincy is not immune from Safeguarding issues and where necessary we work closely with other agencies (e.g. Guardia, local support organisations, social services etc.) to offer the necessary support appertaining to each case. The chaplaincy is also an active member of the *Chaplaincy Safeguarding Officers in Spain forum*, which is proving very useful in terms of bouncing ideas, sharing issues and exploring solutions together.

Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility.

If you feel someone is at risk from possible physical, financial, sexual, spiritual or domestic abuse or you feel someone is falling into self-neglect then please call me on 634 360 875 or email safeguardingcostaalmeriacalida@gmail.com. Any disclosure will be listened to, taken seriously and acted upon – all in the strictest confidence.

Together let's keep our church family safe.

Darren Ellsum, Chaplaincy Safeguarding Officer

Financial Report

The financial statement has been available in all 3 churches for the past few weeks. It was decided not to publish this on online. Copies will be available on the day.

Mojacar Church Report

I am pleased to say we seem to have stabilised in numbers of around 25- 35 attendees each week. Many of our congregation are still snow birds visiting but owing to regulations, for less time. I am pleased to say we have a few new members who have become regular attendees.

We still support our local food bank in both food and money contributions which are gratefully received. We still have the link with our Roman Catholic friends and continue with the joint Christmas service. ***Pam Carter***

Llanos del Peral Church Report

The numbers in the congregation at Llanos remain constant, with the welcome addition during the summer months of holiday-makers and "regulars" who do not live permanently in Spain.

Our monthly Breakfast Club continues to be very well supported with good food and fellowship enjoyed by all.

Three fund raising events have taken place this last year, a summer barbecue with entertainment, a Posh Picnic and a Coffee Morning. All proceeds to church funds. The sale of hand-crafted cards and home-made preserves continues to be well supported every Sunday.

In an attempt to be visible in the community we are still supporting local charities by donations from our weekly refreshments. These include Alzheimer's Society, Cancer Research, Harmony, Age Support and the Zurgena Infants School. Our next donation will be to the 'Walk for Life' charity. The walk will take place in Arboleas on the 29th April when the more active among us will be participating and the rest providing support and encouragement.

We continue to maintain a successful and much appreciated Food Bank thanks to the generosity of our congregation and the hard work of the FB Team sorting, bagging and delivering to the Zurgena Town Hall. **Jackie Simpson**

Aljambra Report

At Aljambra we hold a monthly Eucharist which we try and keep it to the second Thursday of every month. Aljambra has a good relationship with the AGUAVIVA Evangelical church in Albox that has services for the Peruvian Christians.

We support them with a monthly food bank, this is from donations from the congregation, either with food or euros. This is given to Pastor Argentino for him to distribute throughout his congregation

This year's Three Kings Aljambra gave all 17 children ranging from 3 months to 11 years of age a present, we also provided 7 households with a box of all necessary goodies to give them a hearty lunch or dinner.

We will be doing the same again for next year's Three Kings, but this time we hope to give more household a box of goodies. If you feel that you could help in any way nearer the time, I will gladly accept your donation, whether it be an unused toy, food either tinned, bottled, carton or a monetary gift, I thank you.

Also to help the children celebrate Easter they all received a traditional bag of treats.

Our message from Aljambra; the door is always open and a warm welcome awaits you. **Janet Yerrell**

Electoral Roll

Over the last year the numbers have changed slightly with four people being removed and five being added. This brings the number on the roll to 67. **Alwyn Carter**

Archdeaconry of Gibraltar Synod

The Annual Synod was held in Calpe between 31st January and 3rd February, this was the first face to face meeting since covid and it was a joy to see old and new faces. Apart from the day to day business we were treated to some very soul searching bible studies and presentations on caring for our clergy, the importance of safeguarding inside and outside our churches, it is a pain but a necessity for the safety of our congregations. We also had a presentation on the Church of England's environmental aims. It is hoped that the church will attain zero emissions by 2030. The most popular presentation was the one received from Peru, our diocese has a very close relationship with the Anglican Church and it always wonderful to hear how they are increasing their congregations under very difficult circumstances.

A new three year period begins now and elections will take place at our AGM on 2nd May. I would be honoured to continue representing the chaplaincy for the next three years if it is your will.

Blessings to you all. ***Tony Noble***

Chaplaincy Safeguarding Policy Statement

Chaplaincy Name	
Safeguarding Officer Name	

Safeguarding Policy Statement

In accordance with the Diocese in Europe's Safeguarding Policy, our Chaplaincy is committed to:

- Promoting a safer environment and culture.
- Safely recruiting and supporting all those with any responsibility related to children, young people and vulnerable adults within the church.
- Responding promptly to every safeguarding concern or allegation.
- Caring pastorally for victims/survivors of abuse and other affected persons.
- Caring pastorally for those who are the subject of concerns or allegations of abuse and other affected persons.
- Responding to those that may pose a present risk to others.

The Chaplaincy will:

- Endeavour to create a safe and caring place for all.
- Have a named local Safeguarding Officer to work with the incumbent and the Chaplaincy Council to implement policy and procedures.
- Safely recruit, train and support all those with any responsibility for children, young people and vulnerable adults to have the confidence and skills to recognise and respond to abuse.
- Where possible, ensure that there is appropriate insurance cover for all activities involving children and vulnerable adults undertaken in the name of the chaplaincy.
- Display in church premises and on the chaplaincy website the details of who to contact if there are safeguarding concerns or support needs.
- Listen to and take seriously all those who disclose abuse.
- Take steps to protect children and vulnerable adults when a safeguarding concern of any kind arises, following House of Bishops' guidance, including notifying the Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser (DSA) and local child and/or adult services immediately.
- Offer support to victims/survivors of abuse regardless of the type of abuse, when or where it occurred.
- Care for and monitor any member of the church community who may pose a risk to children and vulnerable adults, whilst maintaining appropriate confidentiality and the safety of all parties.
- Review the implementation of the Safeguarding Policy, procedures and practices at least annually.

Date adopted / reaffirmed by the Chaplaincy Council	
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Chaplain Name		Chaplain Signature	
Churchwarden Name		Churchwarden Signature	
Churchwarden Name		Churchwarden Signature	