



EL CAMINO



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IGLESIA ESPAÑOLA REFORMADA EPISCOPAL | COMUNIÓN ANGLICANA

BOARD FOR THE FRIENDS OF THE CAMINO, AN ANGLICAN CENTER, SANTIAGO, SPAIN

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THE VISION STATEMENT:
THE ANGLICAN CENTER OF SANTIAGO WILL BE AN ECUMENICAL PLACE THAT OFFERS HOSPITALITY, LEARNING, HEALING, HOPE AND LOVE AND REJUVENATES THE EPISCOPAL DIOCESE IN SPAIN.

A LETTER FROM SPAIN

FRIENDS,

Advent is upon us, and Christmas soon to follow. God is with us, we feel God here in our Cathedral, and certainly as Bishop Don Carlos and I continue our work to complete the vision of an Anglican Center: a place where pilgrims can gather at the end of the Camino and celebrate all the beauty of our faith for years into the future. This year we made so much progress with our visit to England and to Lambeth Palace in July, meeting the Archbishop who wholeheartedly blessed our mission (see the article reprinted here from the Anglican News wire). In addition, I was able to connect with many in the Anglican Communications office and was nothing but proud of how hard we all work to carry on and promote hope throughout the Communion. We left that trip with the sensation that each person is of value from the janitors and secretaries up to our trusted leader at Lambeth. Bless all of you.

Just this month we blessed the Cathedral as a welcome center for pilgrims (see article). Trinity was here to assess prospective sites where the center could be in Santiago. I will enclose a possible picture of one of the sites.

Don Carlos and I will head to the States in late March and early April. Don Carlos will preach and visit three churches to begin to raise our profile and the awareness of the project: Christ Church, Westerly, RI (March 26th), Berkeley, Yale, where he'll interact with students and faculty and celebrate our Mozarabic liturgy for their weekly Eucharist (March 27th, 28th,

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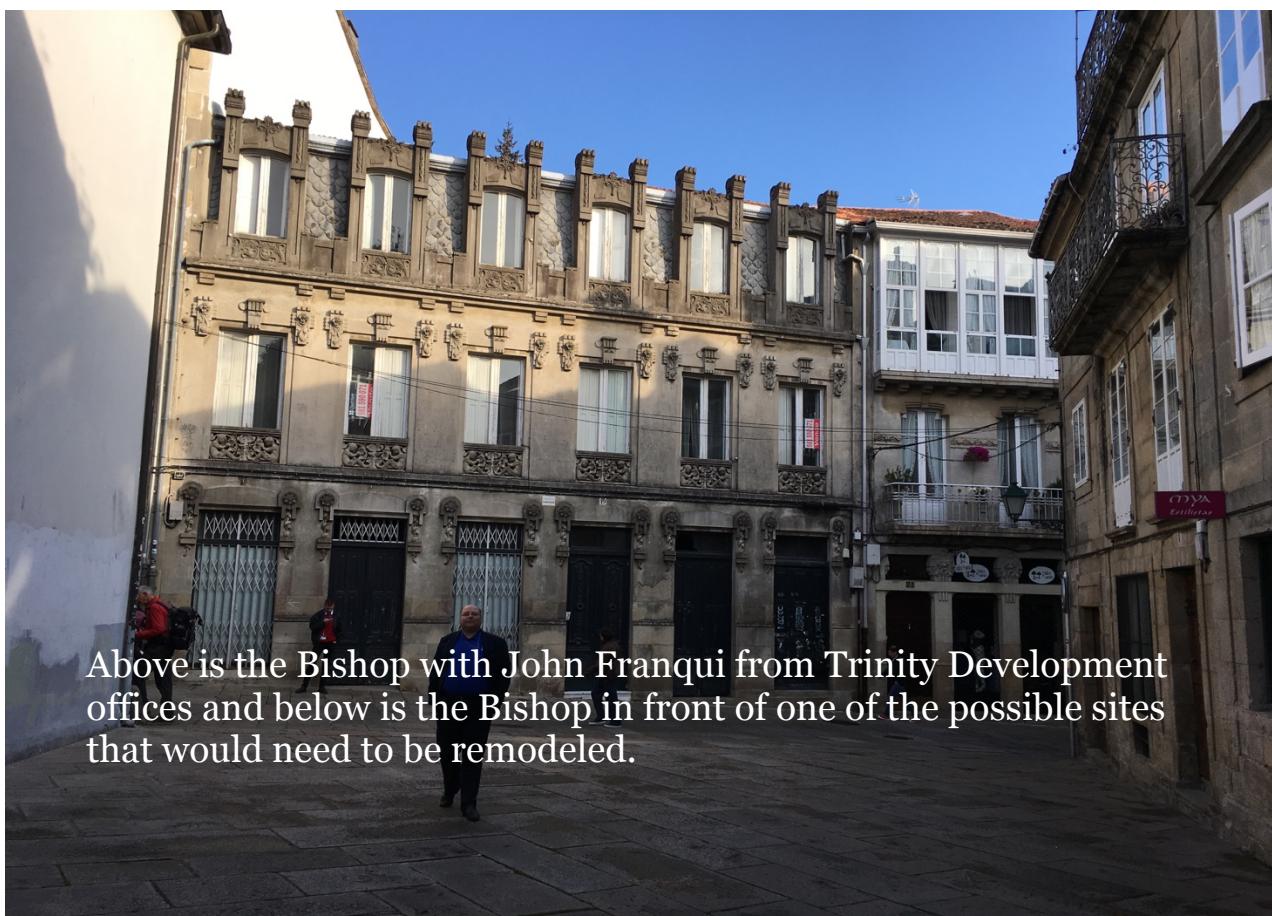


29th), and finally he will preach at St. James, on the Upper East Side on Sunday April 2nd. Doña Ana, his wife, will arrive in New York City, and accompany him for this historic tour. On April 3rd, Father Marek, Father Sean, both from Philadelphia, myself, Dean George from Berkeley Yale, Nancy Mead, board member from Rhode Island, Willem Brans, and Lisa Freedman both from Trinity and the Bishop will convene to interview candidates to raise funds for the capital campaign for the center.

Finally, we are deeply pleased to inform you that the Bishop and I will be going to 815 2nd Avenue to meet with the **Presiding Bishop Curry**, to tell him all of our great news and begin to strategize ways the American church can be involved with the Center in the future.

Abrazos desde Madrid, Feliz Navidad

Revdo. Spencer, secretario de Don Carlos López Lozano



Above is the Bishop with John Franqui from Trinity Development offices and below is the Bishop in front of one of the possible sites that would need to be remodeled.

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AN INTERVIEW WITH DR. FATHER WILLIAM TAYLOR, BOARD MEMBER

William Henry Taylor was the last provost (and first dean) of Portsmouth Cathedral. He was born on 23 December 1956^[1] and educated at the University of Kent, Tübingen, Lancaster and London, from where he was awarded a PhD (SOAS) in Ottoman Syriac Studies. He was ordained in 1984 and began his career as Assistant Curate at All Saints, Canterbury. After this he was the Archbishop of Canterbury's Advisor on Orthodox Affairs at Lambeth Palace and then senior curate at All Saints, Margaret Street, Westminster. He was CMS chaplain in Jordan from 1988 to 1991 and then Vicar of St Peter's Church, Ealing, and Area Dean of Ealing, 1993-98. From 2000-02 he was provost (subsequently dean) of Portsmouth Cathedral. Since 2002 he has been Vicar of St John's Notting Hill and Chairman of the Anglican and Eastern Churches Association. He edited, together with the Roman Catholic priest Michael Prior (1942-2004) "Christians in the Holy Land" (1994), and is the author of "Antioch and Canterbury" (Gorgias Press, 2005). He is a director of Jerusalem and the Middle East Church Association (JMECA) and a Freeman of the City of London.



Thank you Father William for talking to us, in this busy time, as Christmas approaches in Notting Hill. What do you think is the importance of making an Anglican Center in Santiago? Santiago is a pilgrimage centre of great antiquity and authenticity which dates from before the time Christians formulated their present divisions. It is therefore right in the ecumenical 21st century that a new pilgrimage centre will reflect this ancient reality in a new context.

Had you heard of the Spanish Episcopal Church before Don Carlos and I arrived in Notting Hill? If so what did you know of it? My work is ecumenical, and involves working together with Christians of different traditions, principally in the Orthodox strands of Christianity. It was therefore in this worldwide oikumene that I first experienced the Spanish Episcopal Church. I knew it as a church which owed something of its liturgical identity to the Iberian Mozarabic rite, and its more recent partnership with the Church of Ireland.

What do you think the importance is of bringing greater attention to this relatively unknown branch of the Anglican Communion? What do you think of the history of this church as an example of "indigenous Anglicanism" run and created by Spaniards rather than a colonial implant? I would not formulate the question using those terms, as all churches, by definition are “within and beyond” – containing indigenous manifestations of the faith with those which transcend geographical boundaries. Great examples of this are the Churches of the Oriental Orthodox traditions.

Tell us about your interfaith work with the orthodox community and what you feel the importance is of integrating the Orthodox communities with the Anglican community?

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The idea of the Anglican Center is one that would be open to other faiths celebrating with us, creating a worship space that is welcoming to all. What do you think of that? My work is ecumenical within the Christian Church, and only on the margins in inter-faith, with other faiths – principally Islam. Ecumenical work never seeks to integrate Churches but (to use Pope Francis' words in Rome in October) to never do separately that which you can do together. So the idea of a worship space which can be used by all Christians, Anglicans and Orthodox within them, is an ecumenical imperative. It no longer makes economic or theological sense to build worship centers which are exclusively for the use of one Church. Pilgrims using the same worship space in their authentically different traditions is also a great witness to the world.

Tell us something about your background? Where and when you were called to be a priest? Tell us something of your ministry in Notting Hill. I work in Notting Hill, one of the most diverse and vibrant parts of the most cosmopolitan city on earth. My natural context is one which is multi-lingual and multi-ethnic, and where we host the Filipino Chaplaincy for the Diocese of London. I am also Chairman of the Anglican & Eastern Churches Association, the oldest ecumenical organization of the Church of England, founded in 1864. Orthodox Churches are a growing and significant presence in the UK, and it is a joy to work with them. My continuous calling as a priest has its origins and contemporary outworking in my work with these Churches with their rich spirituality.

What do you see for the future of the Anglican Communion? Where would you like to see the church in fifty years? In the era of post truth politics, and the rise of nationalism and xenophobia across the world, global Communions such as the Anglican Communion will have an increasingly important role is speaking truth to power in a prophetic and costly way.

Thank you, Father William. A very merry Christmas to you! And to you, Father Spencer.

“BIENVENIDO TODOS” – ANGLICANS IN SPAIN WELCOME PILGRIMS ON THE CAMINO DE SANTIAGO, OUR PROJECT RECIEVES BLESSING FROM THE ARCHBISHOP OF CANTERBURY, JUSTIN WELBY

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[ACNS, by Gavin Drake] The *Iglesia Española Reformada Episcopal* (the Reformed Episcopal Church of Spain) has stepped up its welcome to pilgrims undertaking the *Camino de Santiago* by dedicating its cathedral in Madrid as a welcome centre. The Church's Bishop, Carlos López-Lozano, consecrated a symbolic tile adjacent to the cathedral's door on Saturday night as a sign of welcome for pilgrims. The move is seen as a step on the Church's own journey to build an Anglican centre in Santiago.

Santiago is considered by many to be the third holiest pilgrimage site in Christendom, after Jerusalem and Rome. Since at least the ninth century, Christians have made the journey to Santiago, on Spain's north-west tip, where Jesus' disciple St James is said to be buried. Earlier this year the Church announced plans for the new Anglican centre in the town, to provide a base from where protestants could celebrate the Eucharist at the end of their pilgrimage.

The IERE is an Anglican Church, but doesn't qualify for provincial status because it has less than four dioceses. Instead, it is one of five independent Anglican churches under the metropolitical authority of the Archbishop of Canterbury. "Pilgrimage is at the very heart of our faith," Archbishop Justin Welby said.

"In recent decades the *Camino* of St James in Spain has grown in popularity but until now, the

Anglican church has not been able to welcome its pilgrims," the archbishop said. "In the Bible we often see Jesus walking with fellow pilgrims and so the prospect of building a centre where pilgrims can be given hospitality is a positive step forward for the church.

"The Anglican Centre in Santiago will bring people together, welcoming all for a common good. I offer my congratulations and thanks to the church for this, a global interfaith religious centre, part of the Anglican Communion in Spain."

Speaking at the service on Saturday, the Bishop of Spain, Carlos López-Lozano, said that "In our blessing of the cathedral today . . . we wish to designate this site as a sacred place for pilgrims from all of the world to be welcomed.

"We, the Spanish Episcopal Church, a proud member of the Anglican Communion, wish to be part of the radical hospitality which defines our faith."

He continued: "Pilgrimage and the *Camino* here in Spain are becoming increasingly important. Up until now there has not been an Anglican welcome centre in Madrid for pilgrims. There is now: a place where pilgrims can be welcomed with a cup of coffee or tea or tapas and a blessing. . .

"The golden shell, a symbol of the

Camino, will now adorn our cathedral, a beacon to the world that we believe pilgrimage is a central part of our faith, that walking on the road as the disciples did on the way to Emmaus, is central to our spiritual journey, a time of reflection and illumination: the idea is that faith is within us – portable –



THE REV'D ALOYSI BUSQUETS, A PRIEST FROM THE *IGLESIA ESPAÑOLA REFORMADA EPISCOPAL (IERE)*, HIGHLIGHTS THE WELCOME TILE AT THE ENTRANCE TO THE ANGLICAN CATHEDRAL IN MADRID, FOR PILGRIMS UNDERTAKING THE *CAMINO DE SANTIAGO*. PHOTO: IERE

something we take with us wherever we go.

"We wish this message to resound throughout the Anglican Communion this Advent, I say to all of you, 'Welcome!' '*Bienvenido todos!*'".

ON BEHALF OF **BISHOP CARLOS LÓPEZ LOZANO**, THE BISHOP OF THE SPANISH EPISCOPAL CHURCH, A PROUD MEMBER OF THE ANGLICAN COMMUNION, WE WISH TO SEND YOU



GOOD WISHES FOR THE NEW YEAR, MAY IT BE FILLED WITH LIGHT AND HOPE AS WE BEGIN TO SHINE OUR BEACON FROM MADRID ON THE IMPORTANCE OF PILGRIMAGE WHICH BEGAN WITH THOSE THREE WISE MEN IN SEARCH OF THE CHRIST CHILD.

¡FELIZ NAVIDAD!