
El Corazón

From the Anglican Chaplaincy of St George, Malaga
Volume 6, No. 7, July 2026

Hello and welcome once again to the July edition of El Corazón.

As the weather really starts to warm up, we hope you enjoy this edition of El Corazon.

Inside this edition:

- [Fr Louis](#) Talks about a special anniversary for him
- [Michael](#) begins to look at four Military Personnel who are buried in the War Grave Section of the English Cemetery
- [Colin](#) talks about Ignatius of Loyola, Founder of the Society of Jesus
- [David](#) looks back on another successful Gala dinner and what that means for St George's
- As ever, there are full details of all the upcoming services and events.

You can scan the QR code on the right to stay absolutely up to date with news, events, and services.

Mike and Jo Eaton



ALL ARE WELCOME

St. George's is part of the Diocese in Europe within the Church of England.
Fr. Louis Darrant, Chaplain

There's always a lot going on at St George's!

Want to be among the first to know?

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<https://stgeorgesmalaga.com/maillinglist/>

or join our WhatsApp group using the QR code:



A Word in Season

Fr. Louis Darrant



This month is the anniversary of my ordination as a priest and these words from Monica Furlong ring as true as ever:

I am clear what I want of the clergy.

I want them to be people who can by their own happiness and contentment challenge my ideas about status, about success, about money, and so teach me how to live more independently of such drugs.

I want them to be people who can dare, as I do not dare, and as few of my contemporaries dare, to refuse to work flat out (since work is an even more subtle drug than status), to refuse to compete with me in strenuousness. I want them to be people who are secure enough in the value of what they are doing to have time to read, to sit and think, and who can face the emptiness and possible depression which often attack people when they do not keep the surface of their mind occupied. I want them to be people who have faced this kind of loneliness and discovered how fruitful it was, as I want them to be people who have faced the problems of prayer. I want them to be people who can sit still without feeling guilty, and from whom I can learn some kind of tranquillity in a society which has almost lost the art.

I want other things too, which you can probably imagine for yourselves, but what I want most to stress now is that what I think is very dangerous is when the clergyman (sic) becomes so desperate that he is driven to trying to beat the layman (sic) at his own game.

Whereas the layman longs so much to be shown how to break out of the iron grip of a society which cuts people off from one another, makes love difficult to practise, and which tries to tell him that his spiritual life is something unimportant.

Monica Furlong

Extract from The Parson's Role Today, a paper given at the Wakefield Diocesan Clergy Conference, April 1966.

SO NOW YOU KNOW



HISTORICAL JOTTINGS usually relating to St. George's Church, Malaga.

*The 45th in a series prepared for your interest and enjoyment by
Michael Edwards*

I notice in my English pocket diary that this year the date for Remembrance Sunday is Sunday, 8th November.

I for one, over many years, have attended the Memorial Eucharist Service at St. George's followed by the Service in the War Graves Section of the adjoining English Cemetery. As you probably know, we in Malaga have four war graves that are overseen by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission.



The four war graves of the fallen in the Second World War in the English Cemetery, Malaga.



The White Ensign, the flag of the Royal Navy.

During this Annual Graveside Service our Chaplain says prayers, the Legion Flag Bearers lower and raise their banners, the Last Post is sounded, the local Royal British Legion Representatives say their pieces in honour of the fallen, wreaths are laid and last but not least, the names of the four men honoured and remembered with their respective military services are read out. I for my part relative to these four men am aware that they served in the Royal Navy, The Royal Air Force and The Royal Australian Air Force. However I don't know which part of the world they all came from, the circumstances surrounding their respective fatal wartime situations and how it was that they all came to their final resting

place in the English Cemetery in Malaga. In my next few Jottings I will record some of this information I have found. So if you like me would welcome this, please stay with me and read on.

I commence my findings with the eldest of the four military men who died, Commander **Wallace Douglas Stranack**, Royal Navy, (7643454). He was born on the 7th December, 1895.

According to the English Cemetery Burial Records he died on the 23rd July, 1941 at the age of 45 and was buried in this Cemetery after the war on the 2nd April 1946. His official grave number is 505F. Hitherto, he was buried in the local Municipal Cemetery at Marbella.



The Burial Register also records that his occupation was "Paymaster" and that he was a married man. Commander Stranack was the son of Wallace and Kate Stranack and the husband of Grace Stranack of Southsea in Hampshire, England.



HMS Thunderer (1912).
An Orion-Class Super
Dreadnought Warship.

I have noted from his recorded data that he joined the Royal Navy at the age of 18 in 1913 and accorded the rank of Paymaster Lieutenant on the 15th July of that year.

One year later, in 1914, at the tender age of just 19, he was to be found on the HMS Thunderer (1912), an Orion-class "super-dreadnought", the last major warship ever built for the Royal Navy on the River Thames, London by Thames Iron Works.

A photo of a Royal Naval Officer in the uniform of a Paymaster Lieutenant during the First World War.

She, with a complement of between 750 to 1,100 officers and crew, played a key part in April, 1914 of the 2nd Battle Squadron of the Grand Fleet during the First World War and remained with her sister ships, Orion, Conqueror and Monarch throughout. She was present with this Squadron at the Battle of Jutland on 31st May, 1916 firing 343mm shells having seen action earlier in 1915. She was decommissioned in 1921 and finally served as a cadet ship until 1926.



Battle of Jutland on the 31st,
May, 1916.



HMS Manchester (late 1930's)
Gloucester Sub class, Town
Classlight Cruiser.

I now fast forward Commander Stranack's Naval career to the Second World War when we find him on HMS Manchester with a complement of about 800 on the 23rd July, 1941. On this day he was one of 26 fatalities when the ship was hit by an Italian aerial torpedo which blew a 60ft long hole in her hull and caused other serious damage.

The ship at the time was escorting an eastbound Malta convoy. Commander Stranack was one of three Paymaster officers killed. Of the 26 officers and ratings who died, 13 were listed as Missing, Believed Killed, and the remainder were buried at sea. Commander Stranack it seemed had an initial burial in Spanish territory because his body was washed ashore near Malaga some time later. HMS Manchester was a Town-class light cruiser built for the Royal Navy in the late 1930's, one of 3 ships in the Gloucester subclass.



An illustration of the
uniform of a World War 2
Royal Naval Commander.



The Battle of Cape
Spartivento.

Just a few of her engagements were such that at the start of the Second World War in 1939, she was initially deployed with the East Indies Station, later moved to the Norwegian Sea, took part in the Battle of Cape Spartivento and later patrolled the southern reaches of the Arctic Ocean.



Alas HMS Manchester was lost on another Malta convoy one year later in the August when she was torpedoed once again this time by two Italian motor torpedo boats off the coast of Tunisia. Casualties were limited to the death of 11 men. The vessel was scuttled at this final stage of her wartime history and most of the ships' company who got ashore were interned by the Vichy French.

To conclude this Jotting I can tell you that on Commander Stranack's gravestone it states by way of an epitaph the words, "ENGLAND EXPECTS THAT EVERY MAN THIS DAY WILL DO HIS DUTY".

I find these words written on stone here in the English Cemetery to be most telling as they are in such close proximity to another gravestone and another British Sailor, namely Vice-Admiral Horatio Nelson 's Assistant Secretary, none other than William Mark. What do you think?

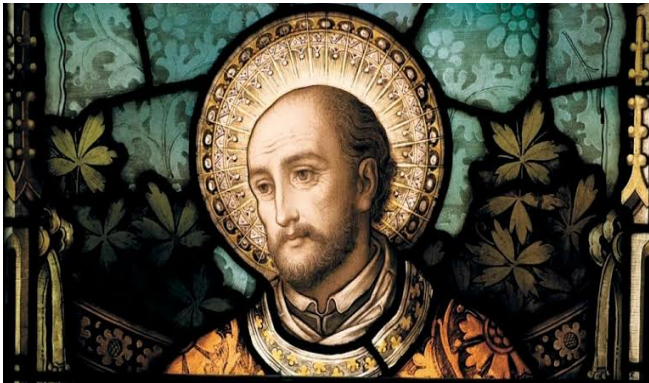


The Remembrance Badge "Lest We Forget" often used by The Pompey Pals Organisation.

SO NOW YOU KNOW MICHAEL EDWARDS.

JULY NOTABLES

Ignatius of Loyola, Founder of the Society of Jesus, 1556.



The younger son of a Basque nobleman, Ignatius was born at his family's ancestral castle at Loyola in north-east Spain. He served as a page at the court of King Ferdinand V of Castile, and later entered military service, being seriously wounded at the French siege of Pamplona in 1521. During his lengthy convalescence (his leg never properly healed and he was left with permanent limp) he read the life of Christ and biographies of various saints.

The result was that he resolved to devote himself to the spiritual life. He went on pilgrimage to Montserrat (near Barcelona) where he hung up his sword over the altar and exchanged clothes with a beggar. He then spent about a year at nearby Manresa, first working in a hospital there, then living as a hermit in a cave.

He studied Thomas a Kempis' *The Imitation of Christ* and it was probably during this year that he wrote the *Spiritual Exercises*, a manual of Christian prayer and meditation which has subsequently been used and valued by Christians of many denominations and traditions.

After a pilgrimage to Rome and Jerusalem, he returned to Spain in 1524 and studied at the universities, of Barcelona, Alcalá and Salamanca (where he fell foul of the Inquisition because of his unauthorised preaching). He went on to Paris to continue his studies and it was there in 1534 that Ignatius and a group of his students (including Francis Xavier) vowed to go as missionaries to Islamic Palestine. In 1537 the group, now ten in number, finding that war prevented them travelling beyond Venice, offered their services to the Pope. By 1540 they had been ordained and with papal approval formed the Society of Jesus, with a vow of personal obedience to the Pope in addition to the traditional three monastic vows. Ignatius was elected the first general of the order and in the remaining fifteen years of his life saw the order grow a hundred-fold and to be in the vanguard of both the Counter Reformation and the missionary work of the Roman Catholic Church.

He died on the 31st July 1556. His prayer has become treasured by Christians of all traditions.

Teach us, good Lord, to serve you as you deserve;
to give and not to count the cost;
to fight and not to heed the wounds;
to toil and not to seek for rest;
to labour and not to ask for any reward;
save that of knowing that we do your will;
through, Jesus Christ our Lord.

*(Adapted from "Saints on Earth" a biographical companion to Common Worship – Darch & Burns
Published by Church House Publishing)*

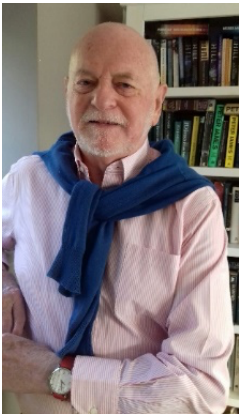
St Ignatius Loyola is commemorated in the CofE Common Worship Lectionary on July 31st

Major feasts this month:

July 3rd St Thomas, Apostle;

July 22nd St Mary Magdalene,

July 25th St James, Apostle



Colin Somerville



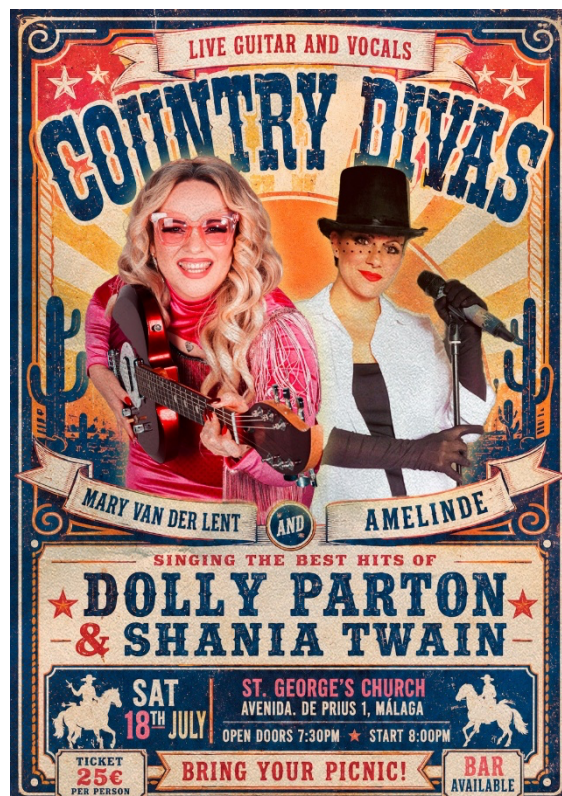
May 2026

WHAT'S ON AT ST GEORGE'S

**Dolly Parton & Shania Twain on the same night?
It's all here at St George's!**

Saturday, July 18th
St George's Church, Málaga
Gates & Bar Open 7.30pm. Concert 8.00pm

Tickets €25. Details & Bookings [here](#)
THIS IS GOING TO BE ONE FUN NIGHT



<https://stgeorgesmalaga.com/events/>

Fund Raising Gala Dinner



St George's Anglican Church held a fund-raising dinner in the gardens of Malaga's English Cemetery on 4 June.

The dinner for 80 raised **€14,500** toward the restoration of the church built in 1856.

St George's plans to add kitchen facilities to a newly constructed vestry, allowing it to stage events and raise money to fund its expanding charitable work.

The restoration is part of a drive by Father Louis Darrant to emphasise the church's role as inclusive spiritual hub for the English-speaking communities of Malaga and beyond. Plans are afoot to employ Father Louis "full time" rather than "part time," to take on a part-time musical director and start a children's choir, among other initiatives.

"I was so thrilled by the generosity of our guests," said Father Louis. "It renews my faith in what we can achieve when we work together as an inclusive community "

The project, which will cost in the region of €300,000, is set to be approved by the church council in the second half of 2026. St George's is hopeful that its application for financial assistance from the Malaga City Council will be approved for as much as 50 percent of the cost, according to Aitana Riordan, leader of the restoration team. Renderings of what it will look like are included below.

The church also plans to replace the roof, floor, windows, plumbing, electrics, sewage connections and install a children's area, climate control and completely update the Sanctuary to reflect the neo-classical origins of the building. The architects are Alejandro Infantes and Javier Muñoz Godino from Estudio Veintidos.



Photos by Carlos Ruiz Valle

Guests were entertained by Vienna-based mezzo-soprano Stella Grigorian and pianist Damian Whiteley, a Malaga-based pianist who will perform his acclaimed one-man show “Mozart and Me” at the church on Oct. 3.

Guests dined on gravlax, rare roast beef, gammon and green salad, provided at cost by Torremolinos-based restaurant The Carvery. Desert was theatrical with large bowls of trifle marched to tables by black-clad servers accompanied by Handel’s Zadok the Priest, the anthem written for British coronations. An after dinner auction raised €2,300.

The dinner was underwritten by generous donations of €1,500 each from three members of the congregation and De Cotta Law. The rest of the money was raised from donations by guests who attended the dinner, which marked the beginning of a fund raising campaign to pay the church’s share of the restoration costs.

Should any readers like to make a donation to the church fund, please use this QR code.



PB 08. PROPUESTA
 AMPLIACIÓN Y RESTAURACIÓN DE LA IGLESIA DE ST. GEORGE
 EN EL CENOTAFIO INGLÉS DE MÁLAGA
 PROMOTOR: ST. GEORGE'S CHURCH IN MÁLAGA
 EQUIPO: estudio venetia
 TÉCNICO: venetia

St. George's Chaplaincy Worship Centers and Services

Malaga



**St George's Church,
Av.de Priés 1, Malaga
Sundays, 11.30 AM**

Salinas



**Church of the Sagrado Corazon de Maria,
Salinas, Archidona
Saturdays, 11.30 AM
2nd and 4th Saturdays of the month**

<https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/8530/>

<https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/8488/>

GETTING IN TOUCH

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