



ADVANCE INFORMATION FOR LOCUMS ST. GEORGE'S CHURCH TAORMINA, ITALY

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GETTING HERE

Travel:

The nearest airport to Taormina is Catania “Fontanarossa”, so please arrange your flight to arrive in Catania. All year it is served by British Airways and Easy-Jet from the U.K, but during the tourist season there may be other airlines.

Locum chaplains are responsible for all their travel expenses to and from the chaplaincy. We kindly request you to make your own way to and from the airport in Catania with the airport bus which arrives and leaves from the Bus Terminal just a few yards down from the church and the cottage. Tickets cost approximately 9 Euro per person.

If you wish, we will arrange for a taxi to collect you on arrival at Catania airport for the journey to the chaplaincy cottage in Taormina (The taxi-driver will hold a board with either your name or that of St. George's written on it). The cost of the taxi is approximately Euro 80 (as opposed to the Euro 120 if you pick up a taxi outside the airport). If you wish us to book a taxi for you, then please let the Church Secretary know your flight number and arrival time in advance. To check bus departure times: <http://www.interbus.it> The timetable varies from month to month according to the holiday periods, so that there will be many more during the spring and summer months.

It is advisable to consult the chaplain who precedes/succeeds your period of stay before booking your flights. Thank you.

IMPORTANT

During your trip out, in the event of a hold-up lasting two or more hours, please contact either Sylvia Moschella or Susan Vinciguerra, who will advise the verger of any flight changes and/or delays. Here are their home and mobile phone numbers:

Sylvia Moschella:

home- 0039 0942 654066

mobile- 0039 346 5913 443

Susan Vinciguerra:

home 0039 0942 58722

mobile 0039 320 1159 364

Alternatively, leave our numbers with a member of your family and contact them, in case of delays, asking them to inform us.

Health Documents:

For EU Citizens:

European Health Insurance Card. Apply online at: www.dh.gov.uk/travellers or phone 0845 606 2030; or by post, with forms available from the post office.

For Non-EU Citizens:

Proof of total Health coverage for your stay in the country which should include your trip to and from Italy for both the Chaplain and his wife. *The Diocesan authorities insist that the Chaplains and their wives, whether EU or Non-EU citizens, are fully covered for any and all eventualities.*

Police Registration:

For EU Citizens:

Only if your stay with us exceeds ninety (90) days will it be necessary to register at the local police station the day after your arrival. In that case, you will be requested to produce your passports, four passport size photographs and the Bishop's Licence.

For Non-EU Citizens:

Generally this will apply to citizens of the U.S.A.; Canada; Australia & New Zealand residing in their own countries; contact should be made with your nearest Italian Embassy for full details, but in theory you are allowed to enter and stay in this country for up to 90 days, as tourists, on your passports with no visa required. Once in Taormina, no registration at the local police station is necessary. Be aware that police requirements can vary considerably from place to place within Italy irrespective of what information you

have been given by the Italian Embassy in your home country.

Citizens of South Africa and all other countries specified on the above-mentioned website will have to apply for an Entry Visa. For those requiring an entry visa then you will probably have to provide the following: a set of four passport size photographs per person, valid credit cards with photocopies, comprehensive health insurance covering you while you are in Italy, and finally the Archdeacon's Letter of Guarantee in the original and the Bishop's Licence.

For full information on visa requirements please refer to the website of the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs (English version)

http://www.esteri.it/visti/home_eng.asp

Note in URL: between *home* and *eng* there is a lower hyphen:)

Important Note for Non-EU citizens:

To obtain the Archdeacon's Letter of Guarantee you will need to supply the Archdeacon with your full name (and that of your wife) exactly as they appear on your passport(s), together with the Taormina arrival and departure dates. Please email the Archdeacon, giving him your full home address enabling him to mail the Letter directly to you. (Only originals are accepted).

Welcome

Thank you for coming to our Church on locum duty, we hope you will enjoy your stay with us.

The congregation of St. George's Anglican Church is small – we are about 15 adults and 2 grandchildren, with just 5 adults living locally. During the tourist season, from May to October, the holidaymakers swell our numbers to around 20 – 25.

Taormina is built terrace-like on a hill, but the town centre where the church is situated is on a level and shops, supermarket, fresh fruit/veg. market and Post Office are within a short walking distance. There is a cable car about 50 yards from the church which will take you down to the beach and sea front.

Church Council Officers

Churchwardens

Una Scaletta, Catania,
T: 0039 9571 77348
E: unaesanti@gmail.com

Norma Mazza, Taormina
T: 0039 0942 24826
E: santo3eum@gmail.com

Treasurer

Sylvia Moschella, Taormina
T: 0039 0942 654066

Secretary

Susan Vinciguerra, Taormina
T: 0039 0942 558722
E: churchsecretarytaormina@gmail.com

Ecumenical Officer

Norma Mazza, Taormina
T: 0039 0942 24826

Verger

Salvatore Galeano
T: 0039 0942 21270

ACCOMODATION

Advance Information for Locums
St. George's Church – Taormina, Italy

St. George's provides an attractive cottage attached to the Church, running off the Vestry. It consists of living room, bedroom with en-suite shower-room, kitchen and a second toilet next to the Vestry for the use of visitors to the church. There is a sofa-bed in the living room and an extra fold-away single bed stored in the corridor. The cottage is well supplied with linen, towels, hairdryer, iron and kitchen equipment.

The Vestry can be used as a study. The cottage is fully centrally heated and air conditioned. The "ON/OFF" switch for the central heating is the far right-hand one in the box of switches on the wall behind the vestry door.

Outside the kitchen there is a large terrace overlooking the Straits of Messina and Calabria. There are fine views and a pair of binoculars is available in the apartment.

During your stay with us, we are responsible for heat, lighting and **local** telephone calls. Automatic emergency lighting, in case of power failure, has been installed.

There are automatic lights in the garden along the paths. The buttons can be found beside the gates and outside the kitchen entrance to the flat. The lights turn off automatically after some minutes.

Telephone

**The telephone number at the cottage is:
(00 39) 0942 23859**

The cordless telephone will receive calls when taken into the vestry and church as well as on the kitchen patio. Should the phone not work a new set of rechargeable batteries may be needed.

All telephone calls inside Italy *must* be prefixed with their district code (including the 0). This also applies to all incoming calls *from* abroad.

For calls outside Italy please use a phone card. In practice these are not now sold as "cards", but rather as slips like a till slip. They can be purchased from the Tabac opposite the top gate and in the newspaper shop at the beginning of the Corso Umberto on the right-hand side after the arch that leads into the town. This allows you to call other countries for a much-reduced fee (approximately 5 euro for 3 hours talking time). You can buy cards which are either "Europe only" or "world-wide". Please ensure when you leave there is at least 2 hours credit remaining on the card(s) you are leaving for the next Chaplain.

To use the card

1. Dial the "Numero Verde", which is in a box down the left-hand side of the card. Press GREEN. You will then hear a recorded message telling you to dial the "Codice Cliente" number followed by the "PIN".
2. Dial these two numbers, which are near the top of the card, followed by "Hash". You will then hear another recorded

message telling you to dial the number you want.

3. Dial the number you are calling, remembering to preface it with 00 followed by country code (44 for UK), but omitting the initial 0 on the called number, followed by “Hash”.

4. You will then hear a message telling you how many minutes call-time you have left on your card. You will then, hopefully, hear the ringing tone at the other end!

Internet Access

We have installed wi-fi (TIM) in the cottage and vestry/study, but because we cannot in any way afford to bear the costs ourselves, **we kindly request our locum chaplains to contribute 30 euro per month towards the cost** (payable to the church treasurer Sylvia Moschella at the beginning of the month). This amount is equivalent to just moderate use of internet café facilities.

Connection details:

Network Name: TIM-29588345

Wi-fi Password:

You will find this on the underside of the modem.

The modem is on the bookshelf near the sofa, with the instructions next to it. The connection details are also located on the bookshelf. The modem is plugged in near the telephone; we ask you **not** to unplug it, since it seems to be working perfectly; it’s better to go on the principle of “if it works, don’t try and fix it!”

There is a button on the back of the modem which can be pushed in and then out if it is necessary to re-set.

Television

There is a flat screen television in the cottage – various channels are available in the English language, including BBC World News.

The television has capability for subtitles in the English or Italian languages when available. The dish system offers many channels.

Household Information

You will find a good supply of towels and bed linen in the hall cupboard and there are blankets in the chest in the bedroom. Table linen (place mats and table napkins etc.) are to be found in the chest of drawers by the sofa and hall cupboard. Kitchen linens are in the kitchen drawers.

First Aid equipment is provided and kept in the Kitchen/Hall cupboard; there is a small selection of household tools for emergency repairs in there as is also an electric iron. An emergency sewing kit can be found in the coffee table drawer. Clothes drying frame and ironing board are to be found in the corridor.

Automatic Gate Opener

For the automatic opening of the upper gate, the phone is placed to the left of the kitchen door. The intercom does not work but you can pick the phone up and push the button to open the gate. Note this will open the gate and requires you to check to see who has come in. The lower gate is not opened in this way.

Rubbish



The city of Taormina started a new system in 2019 for rubbish recycling removal. On the refrigerator is the list of the daily (except Sunday) items accepted for removal. The rubbish is collected in the winter months from 8pm to 4am and summer months 10pm to 4am daily. Items are to be placed just outside the lower gate. They only collect the items as listed for the day.

Heating the Church

The Verger turns on the church heating at around 7:00/7:30 on Sunday mornings during the winter. For services other than the Sunday Eucharist, if Salvatore is not available, the Chaplain should place the church lever in the ON position in time to heat the building sufficiently and when everyone has left, switch it off.

Emergency Lighting

Emergency lighting has been installed which automatically kicks in should here be a power failure at any time of day or night and regardless of lights being on or off. They will switch off automatically once the normal power is restored.

Mail

This is delivered to the green letter box on the top gate. Any mail for the church can be left on the vestry/study table.

To use the normal postal services (stamps etc.), you will need to go to the Post Office at Porta Catania. Arm yourselves with a numbered ticket; the ticket machine is inside the Post Office to the left of the entrance. Note: The Post Office is closed

on Saturday afternoons and the afternoon of the last working day of the month.

Some Do's and Don'ts

The cottage is a smoke-free area.



Please treat the cottage as your home, we hope you will be comfortable, and leave it as you would wish to find it. Various specific cleaning jobs are explained in the shower and kitchen areas. You are also asked to make sure that the toilet near the vestry/study is kept clean. If you wish to have the services of a cleaner during or after your stay, please let us know and we can arrange it at a cost of 30 euros a time.

If something in the cottage is not working properly, please inform the verger Salvatore or a church member as soon as possible in order that it can be repaired with minimum delay. Please replace all light bulbs and batteries when they fail.

If something gets broken, then please tell us so that it may be replaced.

For Health and Safety reasons we do not allow animals inside the cottage. Please **do not feed** any stray cats or dogs found in the garden. The chaplain or his wife who come after you may be allergic to cat hairs, etc. The stray animals should not be allowed to enter the church where they leave their mark - this is unpleasant for all concerned.

Please be sure to **always** lock up the church, cottage and gates when leaving the premises. Please be as careful as you would be at home.

Shopping

Taormina's main shopping area is the Corso Umberto. This can be reached from the upper gate, turning right and when you get to the arch – Porta Messina – turn left to pass under it and continue along that road. If you turn right at Porta Messina, and take the road to your left looking down, towards the up-coming traffic, there is a small food shop (Alimentari) on your left and a baker's at the bottom, next to the church of St. Pancras (San Pancrazio).

Between these two shops, there is an alleyway (passage) and steps up to your left. Walk up and you will find a market for fresh fruit and vegetables/meat/fish etc. This market is open on weekdays, but only in the morning.

Shopping hours generally are from 08:30 to 13:00 and 16:30 to 20:00, Monday to Saturday. This varies slightly, depending on the season, on Sundays and national holidays.

There is a small supermarket called SIMPLY, at the other end of Corso Umberto (where the Post Office is) and up to the right.

Every Wednesday morning there is a small local market selling, shoes, clothes, household items and fresh fruit and vegetables. It is located in Piazza von Gloeden (a residential area up past the Simply supermarket).

Banks are open Monday to Friday from 8:30 to 13:30 and generally from approximately 14:45 to 15:45 in the afternoons, some staying open longer, but

they are closed over the weekend and on national holidays.

There are a few International newsagents in town, the main one being just past the Porta Messina on your right.

Getting Around

For visiting places on the island, there are numerous travel agencies in town that provide guided air-conditioned bus tours.

If you wish to rent a car, again there are different possibilities in the town, but you should be aware that parking is a big problem over here, but parking space in a nearby parking lot can be arranged.

Local bus services leave from the Bus Terminal just down the road to the left from the top gate of the church: some interesting towns and villages are on the various routes and it is a cheap and interesting, even if time consuming, way of getting around. You are advised to check the departure/arrival times at the Bus Terminal before you make definite plans. You can get supplies of current Interbus/Etna company timetables from the ticket kiosk at the Terminal, but not copies of the Buda company or local municipal bus route timetables.

Taormina's main bathing area is readily reached by Cable car, which is situated just up the road from the cottage. The beach of Mazzarò is the first one coming off the cable car; the other is Isola Bella which you can reach turning right along the main coastal road and walk a couple of hundred yards. (For the faint hearted – be warned that there are 134 steps down to the beach here!). Other beach

establishments further along the road often run a shuttle service from the car park at the lower Cable car station. There is also a bus service from San Pancrazio down to the beach at Mazzeo.

Should you plan to stay overnight in a hotel/pensione anywhere in Sicily, please ensure that you have some form of official photographic identification with you – passport or ID. Hotels are required by law to register their guests, so you will be asked for formal identification on arrival.

Emergency Services

Police: 113

Fire: 115

Ambulance: 118

Address of Church and Cottage

Chiesa Anglicana San Giorgio
Via Pirandello 24, 98039 Taormina
(ME), Sicily, Italy.

Tel: 0039 0942 23859

St. George's website:

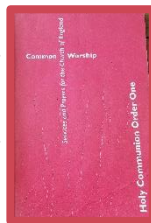
www.anglicanchurchtaormina.it

DUTIES AND SERVICES

Eucharist:

Sundays at 11am.

Every Sunday there is a service of Holy Communion with four hymns. Common Worship Order One is used, from the red pew booklet. Services for Feast days and other special occasions are usually held after consultation with the members. The westward altar position is the usual practice. Please note that where there is a choice the traditional form of the Lord's Prayer is always used.



There are two Hymnals available, "The New English Hymnal" and "Ancient and Modern Revised".

St. George's has a very large supply of every kind of vestment – it will therefore be unnecessary to bring any with you unless you happen to be particularly large or tall.

The Chaplain is responsible for the laundering of the albs and surplices etc. when necessary.

Chalice Assistants: Valerie Bailey or Susan Vinciguerra – usually at least one of them will be present at the service.

Lesson readers: Sylvia Moschella, Norma Mazza, Una Scaletta.

Bear in mind that several of our regular worshippers and many of our visitors do not have English as their mother tongue; so, it would be appreciated if you could speak loudly and clearly! An indication of the page numbers in the red booklet, throughout the service, is also welcome.

It has been noticeable that when an appeal is made before the offertory hymn, pointing out that St George's receives no outside financial help from London or anywhere else, our collection plate is appreciably heavier!

Should the Treasurer or other Church officer be unavailable, the Chaplain is asked to take the collection plate into the flat after the Service and count it later at his leisure and fill in the details in the register.

The Treasurer is responsible for the purchasing of candles, wafers, communion wine and other necessary items.

It would be appreciated if the Chaplain could ensure that there are some flowers/greenery in the two vases on the gradine, behind the Altar, except of course, during the Lenten period.

The Chaplain shares with the Verger the care and ordering of the Altar linen etc. We ask the Chaplain to be responsible for the laundering of the soiled purificator and lavabo towels used during the service. If preferred, he can sterilize the chalice weekly with boiling water.

Music:



There is an electronic organ in the church but no regular organist (Una Scaletta or Kim Dye will play when available). It can be a good idea to ask if any visitor plays the piano/organ and would be willing to help.

Hymn CDs are available for use with the Music Centre which has a remote control allowing the chaplain to punch in the hymn numbers and turn the music on and off as necessary. Please make sure that the volume is turned up high so that everyone can hear the music. The remote control, together with a cross reference for all the hymns and hymn books is available in the desk drawer in the vestry/study.

Please ensure that the control is never left unattended in the church but is always safely kept in the desk drawer.

Joint Anglican/Lutheran Services:

We have developed a regular pattern of worship together with the Lutheran Congregation. The Service is currently held on the third Sunday of each month at 11am, except for the month of August. Palm Sunday (with Blessing and Distribution of palm crosses) and Easter Day (with Lighting of the Paschal Candle) are always joint services. We use the service booklet "Anglican-Lutheran Eucharist" for the joint services. Normally we sing two hymns in German and two in English, with each chaplain preaching a short sermon in his own language.



You will need to contact the Lutheran Pastor, at least a week prior to the Service with the details he or she will need to compile and print a pew sheet. Give him details of the two English hymns, simply quoting numbers from "blue book" (A & M Revised) or "green book" (New EH), and the references for the NT reading and the Gospel. The agreement is that one reading is read in English and printed in German; the other read in German and printed in English.

As a further gesture of unity, it is appreciated if the Lutheran Pastor is invited to distribute the wafers whilst the President, you, distributes the wine.

The church secretary can provide the Lutheran Pastor's contact information.

Ministry to Visitors

During the tourist season, which lasts usually from Palm Sunday to the end of October, there are many foreign visitors attending the Services. This provides an excellent opportunity for Ecumenical co-operation and international fellowship. There is a very good relationship with other local churches.

It is our custom at St. George's to offer our visitors wine, soft drinks and crisps in the front garden after the Sunday Service; please make sure there are enough of these refreshments, and paper cups, available and prepare the trolley (kept behind the screen at the back of the church, where you will find various items) before the service.

In the notices please draw the attention of visitors to the Visitors Book, as well as the History of the Church, postcards, English language books, and magnets with an Icon of St. George available for sale.

Please open the church for a few hours each day whenever possible, for the benefit of the occasional visitor, but do not leave it unattended. If anything goes missing, it would be hard to replace it!

Sometimes visitors appreciate being able to phone and call in by arrangement for pastoral visit.

It is not unusual for holidaymakers to call from such diverse countries as Italy, Germany, Austria, UK, Australia, New Zealand, USA, Canada, Switzerland, France, Finland, Sweden, North Africa and, increasingly, countries in the Far East. Usually we expect 10 – 15 visitors each day during the summer. There are CDs

with music for use in the music centre which will provide a welcome background. There are postcards of the church for sale and a donation box at the main door.

Occasional Services

Occasionally there is a baptism, wedding, blessing or funeral to perform. The local members will let you know if there is need for pastoral or sick visiting.

Wedding blessings and Baptisms should be entered in the relevant registers, which are to be found in the drawer of the desk in the vestry/study, as well as in the Service Register. Funerals are to be entered in the Service Register only.

Current fees are displayed on the notice board in the vestry/study.

Local and Ecumenical Contacts

Many useful contacts have been made with the Taormina people; it is vitally important that the Chaplain maintains and develops these relationships. The Chaplain will be invited to attend Ecumenical Services – more information will be provided by our Ecumenical Officer Norma Mazza. We would appreciate some help in distributing notices to publicise events whenever necessary. (The hotels and travel agencies are usually covered by members of the congregation.)

Please email prior to your arrival and bring a photograph of yourself to display on the outside notice board. Thank you. Church Secretary will print times of services for the notice board.

Verger's Duties

Our verger, Salvatore Galeano, lives across the road from the church, opposite the bottom gate. His duties include keeping the Church clean, handing out the service books, putting up the hymn numbers, ringing the bell before the Service and generally tidying up afterwards. Salvatore also arranges the Altar frontal and prepares the Chaplain's vestments in the vestry. He prepares the chalice and paten, covered by burse and veil, on the table in the vestry for the priest to arrange on the altar as and when he wishes. He fills the wafer box and wine and water cruets, and puts them, together with the lavabo bowl and towel, on the Credence table. He keeps the candlesticks and Cross clean, and places them on the Altar.

The Verger keeps the garden tidy and waters it to the best of his ability. However, if the Chaplain and/or spouse are keen gardeners, any help would be greatly appreciated. The plant pots on the balustrade of the terrace are usually in need of watering.

WHEN YOU LEAVE

Cleaning

Please make sure the cottage is clean and tidy. Dispose of all rubbish. Change the beds, turning the mattresses over and putting on **clean mattress covers (you can do this the day before you leave)**, sheets and pillowcases. If you are leaving in the morning, please put one load of

washing in the machine and start the cycle. Fold the remaining dirty bed linen and towels and place them in a pile on the small yellow stool in the kitchen. If you are leaving later in the day please hang the completed wash on the line outside if good weather, or on the drying rack indoors, and put the second load in the machine and start the cycle.

If you prefer, we will arrange for a cleaner to come in and make the cottage ready for the next priest on the locum rota, for which we ask, from you, a contribution of 30 euros. The cleaner will also change the beds, hang out the washed sheets and towels and start a new washing cycle with the remaining dirty linen.

We ask you to de-frost the fridge, if necessary, a few days before leaving.

Keys



Please make sure that all keys are returned to Salvatore, our Verger.

Supplies

If the next Chaplain is arriving within 48 hours of your own departure please ensure that there is a supply of basic minimums in the cottage, enough, perhaps, for a light supper and breakfast the next morning.

Chaplains' Logbook

Please leave a record of significant events or points you wish to pass on in the Logbook. We also welcome a "Report" from you on your time with us which we can post on our website.