

Statement from Fr. Miguel to the English community

Dear Rob and community:

I'll be in Spain until the morning of 24 December. I would like to thank you for all the donations that the English-speaking community has made to the parish of Tavira. But more important than the money is seeing your friendly, Christian presence in our community. You are not a separate community, but already a full part of the Catholic Christian community of Tavira. Your presence is a joy. It would be important if we could publicise the English Mass in the parish of Tavira more strongly among the English-speaking community. Through your contacts or the local English-language newspapers, we could organise our celebration so that it reaches more people who are unable to live and express their faith in a language they master.

Regarding the various needs of our parish. The huge number of old churches that haven't had any maintenance work in the last 50 years is a lot. Next to the church of Santiago, it would be important to gradually help restore the interior altars, as well as interior painting and good, energy-saving lighting. Outside, we need to restore the building opposite [Centro Paroquial], which is essential for catechesis and the parish school, as well as the yard, which needs better, accessible toilets and a beautiful garden. Outside of the church of Santiago, work is urgently needed on the church of São Brás. I think these are the most important needs for the parish at the moment.