

PARISH OF THE ENGLISH MARTYRS Goring Way

6.09.2020

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Arundel & Brighton Diocesan Trust is a Registered Charity No: 25287

The Twenty-Third Sunday of the Year

Saturday	5 th	6.00 pm	Albert Davitt RIP
Sunday	6 th	8.15 am	Canon Peter Phillips RIP
		10.30 am	Michael Butler RIP
		6.00 pm	Polish Mass
Monday	7 th	9.30 am	Kevin Emery RIP
Tuesday	8 th	9.30 am	Holy Souls
Wednesday	9 th	9.30 am	The Parish
Thursday	10 th	10.30 am	Ann McClusky Warbens
Friday	11 th	9.30 am	Max Goldberg RIP
Saturday	12 th	6.00 pm	David Scard (Ill)
Sunday	13 th	8.15 am	Kathleen Casey RIP
		10.30 am	The Parish



SATURDAY: Reconciliation: 10.15–10.45 am & 5.15 - 5:45 pm

TODAY'S READINGS: Ezekiel 33:7-9, St Paul to the Romans 13:8-10, Matthew 18:15-20

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS: Ecclesiasticus 27:30, 28:7, St Paul to the Romans 14:7-9, Matthew 18:21-35

COLLECTIONS: Church: £344 Thank you for your generosity.

Next Sunday there will be a Second Collection for the Holy Places

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS: John Smith, Father Chris Ingle, Eileen Beech, Ian Threlfall, Thomas Duggan, Len Argent, Sister Catherine Lai, Maithé Bennett, Justin Gould, Rose Little, Lelia Murray, Mary Murphy, Anne Steere, Anthony Canneaux, Lawrence Brownlee, Margaret Birch, Lita Yong, Patrick Ryan, Brenda Peazold, Mary Wessel, Gina Palermo, Elizabeth Hoskins, Joan Cutmore, Christine Watson, Gordon Milne, Alfred Deacon, Roni Horstead, Ronnie Tyler, Jenny Begley, Bill Hogg, Breda Schlimgen, Michaela Finn, Winifred Lyons, Yvette Allen, Kerry McStravick, Lydia Van Melsen

2. THOSE WHO HAVE DIED RECENTLY and those whose anniversaries occur about now: Kate Harvey, Maureen Casey, William Middleton, Edward Rees, William Middleton, Edward Rees, Jolanta Strachen, Ted Short, Roy Parker, Desmond Healey, Cyril Price, Pat Hare, Florence Morrell, James Wiley, Dr John Clarke. *May they rest in peace and rise in glory*

3. CHRISTOPHER WILLIAMS has been Chairman of our Parish for over 20 years – ever since Fr John Inglis became Parish Priest. His circumstances are now such that he feels that the time has come for him to step down. I would like to place on record my deepest appreciation for all that he has done for the Parish during all those years. For much of this time he has also been Chairman of the Finance Committee – a post he is also stepping down from.

Perhaps the most hectic year for him as Chairman has been last year when there were many events marking the 50th Anniversary of our Parish church culminating in the Golden Jubilee Mass at which Bishop Richard presided. Another major event – into which Chris put much research and planning - was the installation of 50 solar panels on the church roof. Obviously not much can be achieved in a Parish without the support of the whole community – but Chris gave direction and a sense of purpose to what was required year by year. Hopefully we will find an occasion in the near future where we can – as a Parish – express our appreciation for all he had done. He has certainly made my task as Parish Priest so much easier. Thank you Chris and best wishes to Joan.

4. ENGLISH MARTYRS IS MOVING FORWARD! It is a joy to hear our organists again although we are still not allowed to sing hymns. The church is now open to visitors to see the ceiling and all our other treasures on Thursday and Fridays but this will have to be by appointment only in order to comply with Coronavirus guidelines. Likewise the Barn saw the return of the Worthing Flower Club and next week the bowlers will resume their bowling. All relevant precautions are in place thus making things feel a little different but acceptable.

5. COULD YOU ASSIST AT A WEEKEND MASS? For many weeks now a very small band of volunteers, under the age of 70 years, have been Stewards and Ministers of Holy Communion at the weekend Masses. Such a small band that some are called upon every weekend. If you could volunteer to be a Steward or are a Minister of Holy Communion and are now ready to return to Mass please contact the Office – 01903 242624

6. THE SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION: Father Liam will be hearing Confessions in the Reconciliation Room. The kneeler and chair have been moved and so you may either stand in front of the screen or facing Father Liam. Face masks to be worn.

7. APF RED BOX HOLDERS please return your red boxes for counting. You can leave them in the Front Porch for Teresa to collect and count. If you have difficulty bringing the box to church please phone 243401 and we will arrange collection

8. A NOTE FROM CHRISTOPHER WILLIAMS: 'The parish income has been affected by the lockdown and we thought you would like to have an explanation of the situation. The income has been substantially reduced by closure of the church and also the Barn. Combined, our loss of income may come to approximately £20,000 over a full year. To balance that, we have reduced expenditure significantly, including energy costs, but also other spending. The diocese however continues to charge the parish levy. We have continued to receive gift aid donations where it is paid through the bank, but since the church has reopened for Mass, we have seen an increase overall in offertory income. This has included payments to make up for the missing offertory payments for when the church was closed altogether. Our bank balance will remain in credit, albeit at a lower level than we have become used to over the years.. This means we have not had to either dip into our investment reserves or ask the diocese for an interest free loan

FATHER LIAM SAYS: The Venerable Bede was the outstanding English writer of the early Middle Ages. His works were read by almost every literate person for 1,000 years after his death. He has provided us with much of what we know about the early Church in England. St Boniface, another great English Saint, wrote of Bede when he heard of his death: 'the candle of the Church, lit by the Holy Spirit, is extinguished'. 'It was not unusual for Medieval priests to be called 'Venerable' but Bede has long been so titled. It is an indication of the extraordinary piety and learning of the man. He wrote works, ranging from collections of hymns and lives of the saints to translations of the Gospels and Latin text-books that were used by generations of scholars for 500 years. We rely on his most famous work, his Ecclesiastical History of the English People to tell us about the formative years of the English nation.

Bede was born in Northumbria in 673 and lived his whole adult life in the monastery of St Paul at Jarrow where he became a deacon at 19 and a priest by the age of 30. For the rest of his life – he died in 735 – he devoted himself to mastering all the learning of his day. 'I spent all my life in this monastery' he wrote, 'applying myself entirely to the study of the scriptures.' The library at Jarrow was one of the finest in England containing up to 500 books - an impressive collection at a time when books were extremely valuable. He studied all the Greek and Latin authors available.

He was a pioneer in medieval science with works such as: 'On the Nature of Things' and 'The Reckoning of Time'. He also applied himself to the important and politically sensitive matter of working out the correct way to calculate the date of Easter. Bede is known as the 'father of English history'. He wrote many saints lives, including full accounts of the lives of the early martyrs, Felix, Anastasius and Cuthbert, and short accounts of over 100 others. He did not relate stories about them uncritically, but he searched for original sources and records. His Ecclesiastical History of the English People is an 85,000 word account of the Church in England which runs from Julius Caesar's arrival in Britain to the year 731. He managed to complete the first ever translation of St John's Gospel days before his death.

His works contained important ideas on how Christian Kings and bishops should act. King Alfred used an English translation on the Ecclesiastical History (originally written in Latin) as part of his educational programme when he was attempting to unite the English people in one Kingdom. As the country became more politically united, Bede's writings grew ever more relevant. A new type of script had been developed at Jarrow as the monks worked frantically to meet the demand for copies of Bede's work. His fame spread to the Continent. In the 14th Century the great Italian poet Dante gave a place to Bede in his Divine Comedy.

Some of Bede's forthright thinking about the traditions of the Church led to his being accused of heresy in his lifetime, but this was not taken seriously. The monastery of Jarrow was a recent establishment when Bede joined it. It was close to another great monastery at Monkwearmouth. Both monasteries had to be abandoned due to Viking raids around the year 800. Remains claimed to be those of Bede were discovered in the mid-11th Century and they were removed to Durham Cathedral where they remain. He was recognised as a Doctor of the Church by Pope Leo XIII in 1899.

(I am indebted to Simon Montefiore)