

PARISH OF THE ENGLISH MARTYRS Goring Way

20.09.2020

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

The Twenty-Fifth Sunday of the Year

Saturday	19 th	6.00 pm	John Roe RIP
Sunday	20 th	8.15 am	Kathleen Casey RIP
		10.30 am	Neil Halley RIP
		6.00 pm	Polish Mass
Monday	21 st	9.30 am	The Parish
Tuesday	22 nd	9.30 am	Gavin Shepherd RIP
Wednesday	23 rd	9.30 am	Intention of John Adams
Thursday	24 th	9.30 am	Kevin & Tom Corrigan RIP
Friday	25 th	9.30 am	Holy Souls
		12 noon	REQUIEM FOR BREDA GIBSON RIP
Saturday	26 th	6.00 pm	Mike Steere RIP
Sunday	27 th	8.15 am	The Parish
		10.30 am	Michael Farrell RIP



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

TODAY'S READINGS: Isaiah 55:6-9, St Paul to the Philippians 1:20-24, 27, Matthew 20:1-16

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS: Ezekiel 18:25-28, St Paul to the Philippians 2:1-11, Matthew 21:28-32

COLLECTIONS: Church: £327 Holy Places: £260 Thank you for your generosity.

Next Sunday there will be a Second Collection for the Education of Future Priests – please place donations in basket as you leave the church through the West Door

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: **DAVID SCARD** and those whose anniversaries occur about now: Baby George Birks, Kenneth Munro, John Tuohy, Alice Hoppe, Shepherd Wadsworth, Anne Rose, Michael Irving, Ray McGlone, Patricia Knox, Betty Hayes, Mary Empson, Anne Casement, Theresa Steer, Joy Wood, Patricia Brown, Kathleen Tyler, Martine Jackson. *May they rest in peace and rise in glory*

3. FIRST HOLY COMMUNION: The meetings of children with their Catechists resumes on Tuesday of this week in the Barn from 4.30 – 5.30 pm. First Holy Communion Masses will be on Sunday 11th October and Sunday 18th October at 2.00 pm

4. PRAYER GROUPS will be resuming during week beginning 28th September in the church

5. CHOIR PRACTICES will resume on Tuesday 13th October at 7.30 pm in the church, following all relevant guidelines. New (and old) members welcome

5. PLEASE OBSERVE THE ONE WAY SYSTEM throughout the church. In order to maintain social distancing it is most important that we all move in the same direction. Entrance is through the Front Porch and exit through the West Porch. When going forward for Communion please leave by one end of the bench and return by the other end. The Repository will now be open after weekend Masses and entrance is from the West Porch through the Shop Office and into the shop. Only three people in the shop at a time please.

6. THE SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION: 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. 40 DAYS FOR LIFE is a peaceful vigil of prayer and fasting outside abortion facilities worldwide, to pray for an end to abortion. The next campaign runs from 23 September to 1 November. Our local vigil will be held at Brighton. For further details please see www.40daysforlife.com/brighton. (Please would you consider whether you would be prepared to pray at the vigil. For assistance or for more information, please contact Sheridan Lynch at brighton40daysforlife@btinternet.com or 07803047402)

9. MARY'S MEALS: We are now in particular need of Flannels, Soap, Toothpaste and Toothbrushes Many thanks

10. TURNING TIDES (WCHP) HARVEST APPEAL during which items are requested that can be stored and used as needed throughout the year. Please could you donate: Boxer Shorts, Men's Socks, Dish Cloths, Dishwasher Salt, Dishwasher Tablets, Dishwasher Rinse Aid, Shampoo and Conditioner, Tinned Fruit and Veg, Pickles or chutney, Shaving Foam or Gel, Washing Powder, Razors, Herbs, Liquid Soap. Tinned Meat, Rice Pudding and Custard. There is a blue box in the West Porch for your donations. Many thanks in advance

FATHER LIAM SAYS: There was a Latin poem – a sequence to give it its liturgical title – which used to be said or sung before the Gospel at Requiem Masses. It has long been discontinued, presumably because it did not place much emphasis on God's mercy. It focused on God's judgement on us after death and its flavour can be detected in the opening words – O Day of Wrath. It speaks of Jesus seated on the throne summoning all mankind to appear before him to hear their fate. The book of Life is brought out in which the story of all of us is recorded and from which the world will be judged. The poem tells us that whatever is hidden will now be revealed – nothing will remain unpunished.

I was reminded of this dirge when I read recently of some extraordinary events that took place in France eighty years ago and which have only now come to light. A Spanish history student was researching his doctorate on the role of Spanish diplomats in France during the Second World War. He was having a coffee with the son of a deportee to a concentration camp who told him that his parents – who were Jewish – had their baptismal certificates forged in a Catholic Church in Paris to help them to escape from the Nazis to Spain, which was a neutral country. They were recorded as having been baptised in a church which was run by a Spanish Missionary Order – the Claretians. The student, Santiago Lopez Rodriguez, will shortly publish his account of the story in his theses 'The Spanish Foreign Service during the Holocaust in Occupied France'. He is a researcher at the University of Extremadura. He believed that his work might unearth stories of heroism by Spanish diplomats and was totally surprised at the astounding discoveries made.

The Secret Scheme started in 1940 – eighty years ago – as the Vichy Government in Occupied France passed the Statutes on Jews. This was anti-Semitic legislation which historians believe led to the death of about 75,000 Jews who were deported to be killed in concentration camps. Near the Eiffel Tower, the researcher Lopez met a Claretian priest attached to the church, Carlos Tobes Arrabal, who showed him the dusty baptismal entries dating from the Second World War. Here were the fading records of Jews supposedly baptised in that church between 1940 and 1944. The sleight of hand was the work of four priests Gilberto Valtierra, Joaquin Allen, Emilio Martin and Ignacio Turrillas who put their lives on the line to help those Jewish families flee the Nazis. The meticulous records show the forgeries dated from 3rd October 1940 to 12th July 1944 - when the German occupation came to an end. There were four entries in 1940; 68 in 1941; 30 in 1942; 45 in 1943 and 8 in 1944. To disguise the true identities of the Jewish fugitives, their names were changed by the priests. So Levy became Luis, Jacob became Jamie and Moses became Mauricio. The average age of those registered was 33. Lopez, the Researcher, believes the priests were helped by the Spanish Consul, Bernardo Rolland, who knew what the priests were doing. Furnished with their new 'Catholic identities' they were granted Spanish Nationality by the Consul, fooling the French authorities.

All those involved ran high risks. Lopez says: 'the priests were breaking Church law and French law, so if they had been discovered they would have been expelled from France and it would have serious repercussions for the Diplomats'. Together with a journalistic friend, Lopez investigated the story, tracing the relatives of the priests and of those who benefitted from their courage. All the priests died years ago but it seems that the Claretian Order did not want the story of their bravery to be made public – until now. They are an Order dedicated to helping the poor but it did not want it to be publicly known that they were acting against Church law. The last of the four priests died in 1979 but none of them ever said a word about how they saved Jews during the War. However, in 2008 a woman called at the Claretians church in Paris to say: 'I have come to thank you, you saved my parents lives.' No one knew what she meant.

It was the same story when Lopez and his friend traced the relations of those who escaped the Nazis thanks to the priests. The Saporta family – one of whom became Vice-President of Real Madrid football club and another became a distinguished French choreographer - knew nothing of how they evaded the Nazis. Karine Saporta, the choreographer, visited the Paris church to see the papers for herself. 'I was completely surprised. It was incredible. When I got into the church I thought until the last minute it's not going to be my family – but then I realised it was my family,' she said, 'I admire those priests for what they did. Such stories are so terrible and about survival that people are not proud of what they do. That is maybe why my family did not explain it to me.'

None of the relatives of the priests involved knew anything of their exploits during the War and how they had saved more than 150 French Jews from the Nazis.

How many such stories still remain to be uncovered? But uncovered they will be even if we have to wait until the last day – the day not of wrath but of glory, when we will share in the triumph of Christ and glory in his forgiveness.

(Graham Keeley has written about this recently on the 'I' newspaper)