

PARISH OF THE ENGLISH MARTYRS Goring Way

4.10.2020

Father Liam O'Connor, 37 Compton Avenue, Goring-by-Sea, West Sussex. BN12 4UE

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

The Twenty-Seventh Sunday of the Year

Saturday	3 rd	6.00 pm	June Ryan RIP
Sunday	4 th	8.15 am	Peter Sivyer RIP
		10.30 am	The Parish
		6.00 pm	Polish Mass
Monday	5 th	9.30 am	Canon Peter Phillips RIP
Tuesday	6 th	9.30 am	Nora Murphy RIP
Wednesday	7 th	9.30 am	Rose Kenway RIP
Thursday	8 th	9.30 am	Intention of Dianne Walsh
Friday	9 th	9.30 am	Eamon McClusky (Jnr) RIP
Saturday	10 th	6.00 pm	Johannah O'Driscoll RIP
Sunday	11 th	8.15 am	The Parish
		10.30 am	Intention of the Dunne Family
		2.00 pm	First Holy Communion Mass (1)



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

TODAY'S READINGS: Isaiah 5:1-7, St Paul to Philippians 4:6-9, Matthew 21:33-43

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS: Isaiah 25:6-10, St Paul to Philippians 4:12-14, 19-20, Matthew 22:1-14

COLLECTIONS: Church: £288 The Education of Future Priests: £206 Thank you for your generosity.

Next Sunday there will be a **Second Collection for CAFOD Family Fast Day** This may be Gift Aided using the special CAFOD envelopes available in the West Porch

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS: Mick Brouder, 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: FATHER ALBERT VAN DER MOST and those whose anniversaries occur about now: Pamela Simblett, Christopher Vanston, Honora Acrell, Benjamin O'Gorman, Margaret McGuinness, Pauline Cave-Berry. *May they rest in peace and rise in glory*

3. FIRST HOLY COMMUNION: First Holy Communion Masses will be on Sunday 11th October and Sunday 18th October at 2.00 pm

4. PRAYER GROUPS and SPIRITUAL GROWTH: Our Prayer groups are recommencing in the Church.

DIVINE MERCY – 1st Wednesday of the month 7pm. Contact: Verona 07734 208273

PARISH PRAYER GROUP- 1st & 3rd Fridays of the month 7pm Contact: Jane-Anne & Dermot 07765 403883

(Please contact us if you would be interested in a morning prayer group)

MOTHERS PRAYERS - Monday & Thursday Groups Contact: Mary 07889 065356

As we are following COVID guidelines it would be helpful if you can call the group contact you are interested in joining a group. Thank you and we look forward very much to sharing this precious time together.

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

6. 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. However, now that more people are attending Mass at the weekend, those sitting on the left side of the church (Chapel side) may leave through the Front entrance having been invited to do so by the stewards. The Repository is open after weekend Masses and entrance will now be from the Front porch and out through the shop office. Stewards will ensure only three people are in the shop at any one time. *It is essential that we maintain social distancing at all times*

7. FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2021: Is your son or daughter in Year 3 this term? If so, they are at the age where they can start the preparation course for First Holy Communion. Please email the Parish Office so that a letter and application form can be emailed back to you. Please return it to the Parish Office as soon as possible.

8. MARY'S MEALS: We are now in particular need of Serviceable Towels, Toothpaste and Toothbrushes Many thanks

9. 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: Many years ago I went on a school trip to Dublin and we were taken to Trinity College to see one of the most precious books in existence – The Book of Kells. This book is taken from its case every evening and locked in a safe in the vaults. Every morning it is carried to the glass case again and one leaf is turned every day. At least this was the case until recently. A new case now reveals pages that have not been seen by the public for 30 years. The free-standing case comes from the designers of the cases for the Mona Lisa, the British Crown Jewels and the Dead Sea Scrolls. The display case allows every page to be turned on a rotating basis.

Last year the Book of Kells Exhibition generated 12.7 million euros with more than one million people viewing the ninth century manuscript. The exhibition was closed for five months this year due to the Covid-19 pandemic. The illuminated manuscript, which is over 1,200 years old contains the four gospels in Latin and is considered to be one of the world's finest specimens of a medieval manuscript. The new display case reflects the importance and beauty of the Book of Kells. It has been designed to protect the manuscript while providing an enhanced viewing experience for visitors. The famous book has inspired generations of visitors, students and academics and will continue to do as it is preserved with the highest conservation standards and the best technology. The Book of Kells – at least until recently – is not insured. The authorities of Trinity College have felt that the best insurance is to spend a fraction of the premium that would be required on various safety measures.

At a time when civilisation was being threatened in England and mainland Europe by the so-called 'Barbarian invasions', Armagh, the religious capital of Ireland, was the centre of European culture. During the darkest centuries of cultural destruction elsewhere in Europe the scene in Ireland was very different. Its remoteness was its saving grace and Greek and Latin culture continued to flourish there. From Ireland, by way of Iona and Lindisfarne, monks brought Christianity and learning back to the north of England and much of Europe where it was being severely threatened.

At the beginning of this time an unknown Irish monk was writing the Gospels in an abbey at Kells, in Meath, founded by St. Columba. He was one of the world's greatest artists. He adorned his book with a thousand fantasies of intricate design. He poured into his work all the power of his imagination. Artists looking at it today wonder not only at the fertility of his brain but also at the keenness of his eyes. How could a person, without the instruments of our modern age, pen such microscopic designs, so perfect that sections of them, no larger than a postage stamp, show no flaw - when photographed and enlarged – in the intricate interlocking of lines and twists and turns. It was eventually stolen, after many Viking attacks on the monastery, from the Abbey of Kells but it was found two months later, hidden in the earth. The thief had taken it because of its costly gold shrine and so the book, carelessly flung away, was recovered. The ink used was generally of such high quality that it has retained its vividness and intensity ever since. Sometimes an inferior ink was supplied and this has faded. Complaints of bad ink and bad pens are sometimes scribbled on the margins of the manuscript. A sixteenth century student who was copying extracts from the great manuscript was particularly troubled by this.

A jurist – whose name in English would have been Donal O'Davern – though he didn't use English, gave full vent to his annoyance: 'My curse, and God's curse in addition to it, be on the women who have disarranged all my ink, and my colours and my books. And God's curse be on anyone who reads this and who doesn't curse them. My God, this is a bad job!' It seems that certain women had taken liberties with his work. One of them discovered the note he had written and wrote: 'I'm not the woman, Donal!'

Considering its fame, relatively little is known about The Book of Kells. It consists of 339 vellum leaves or folios, each one unfortunately cropped by a nineteenth century bookbinder. It is covered with beautifully formed black ink script with the initial letters picked out in brightly coloured paints and ornamented with fantastic abstract animal and human forms. We know it once had more pages because when Archbishop Ussher bought the book in 1621 he wrote in it that there were 344 folios. In fact it is surprising that so much of the book does survive. The Abbey at Kells, from where it is first known, was plundered by the Vikings at least seven times before 1006. In that year the Book was stolen and when it was recovered its jewel-encrusted cover had gone forever. Viking raids on Ireland began in the 8th century. When the Abbey was dissolved, the Book may have had several owners before being bought by Archbishop Ussher. Oliver Cromwell sold it to the army in Ireland and it was kept in Dublin Castle for five years. In 1661 Charles II presented it to Trinity College where it remains.

We do not know when the book was written or by whom. Every region where Christianity flourished produced Gospels in its own particular style. Few, however, decorated them with such magnificence as the monks of Northern Britain and Ireland where the so called 'Insular' style evolved and flourished. In 563 St Columba, said to be the founder of the Abbey at Kells, left Ireland for Iona in Scotland where he established a monastery that flourished for nearly 250 years. It was truly a gospel-based artistic golden age.