

Parish OF THE ENGLISH MARTYRS Goring Way

21.03.2021

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

Presbytery 01903 242624 / Church repository 01903 506890

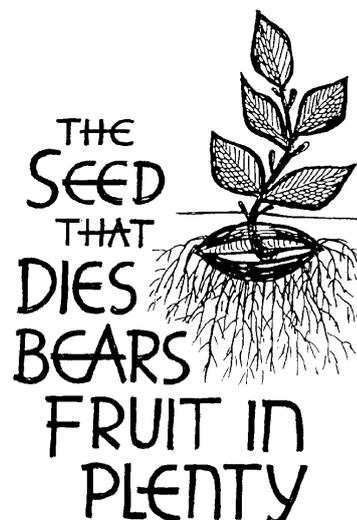
Email: emgoring@english-martyrs.co.uk Website: www.english-martyrs.co.uk

Deacon Gary Bevans 01903 503514

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

The Fifth Sunday of Lent

Saturday	20 th	6.00 pm	Christine Rickford RIP
Sunday	21 st	8.15am	Don MacDonald RIP
		10.30 am	John Smith RIP
		6.00 pm	Polish Mass
Monday	22 nd	9.30 am	The Parish
Tuesday	23 th	9.30 am	Anne O'Halloran (ill)
Wednesday	24 th	9.30 pm	Kathleen Corrigan RIP
		10.00 am	Stations of the Cross
Thursday	25 th	9.30 am	Maureen Richards RP
		11.00 am	REQUIEM FOR LAWRENCE BROWNLEE RIP
Friday	26 th	9.30 am	Veronica Walker RIP
		10.00 am	Stations of the Cross
Saturday	27 th	6.00 pm	Deceased Members of the McStravick & Headon Families
Sunday	28 th	8.15 am	Joan Kenneally RIP
		10.30 am	The Parish



SATURDAY: Reconciliation: 10.15–10.45 am and 5.15 – 5.45 pm
(In order to follow Covid-19 Guidelines please remain standing in the Reconciliation Room)

TODAY'S READINGS: Jeremiah 31:31-34, Hebrews 5:7-9, John 20:20-30

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS: Isaiah 50:4-7, Philippians 2:6-11, Mark 14:1-15:47

COLLECTIONS: Church: £352 The Hospice in Kalingalinga: £800 Thank you for your generosity.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS: Anne O'Halloran, Tony Grana, Sister Raymond, Liz Harvey, John Smith, Mick Brouder, 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, 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: LAWRENCE BROWNLEE and those whose anniversaries occur about now: Mary Wilds, Darryl Cox, Gerry Potter, Anthony Hoppe, Michael McCarthy, Bernard Nutland, Donna Jackson, William Clarke, Joyce Sims, Daisy Kinch, Maureen Sullivan, Raymond Earl, Stephen Paris.
May they rest in peace and rise in glory

3. CONFIRMATION 2021 will be celebrated in the Autumn. If you are in Year 10 or above and are considering joining the Confirmation course, via zoom, please email the Office (emgoring@english-martyrs.co.uk) for an Application Form. The course will be starting on Thursday 15th April.

4. FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2021 CLASSES will resume on Tuesday 20th April in the Barn.

5. EASTER SERVICES:

Date	Day	Service	Time
Sunday 28 th March	Palm Sunday	Saturday	6.00pm
		Sunday	8.15 am & 10.30 am
Thursday 1 st April	Maundy Thursday	Mass of the Lord's Supper	6.00 pm
Friday 2 nd April	Good Friday	Solemn Liturgy of the Lord's Supper	12.00 noon 3.00 pm
Saturday 3 rd April	Holy Saturday	The Solemn Vigil of Easter	6.00 pm
Sunday 4 th April	Easter Sunday	Masses	8.15 am & 10.30 am

6. THE LENTEN ALMS BOX is in the front porch next to the main door. The proceeds are sent to the Contemplative Orders of women in the Diocese

7. TURNING TIDES (WCHP): Items needed: Cereal bars, Tinned Meats, Gravy, Tinned Rice, Tinned Custard, Cooking Sauces, Tea, Coffee, Washing Powder, Shampoo, Shower Gel, Pump Hand Soap, Sanitizer Sprays, Floor cleaner, Toilet Bleach, Washing-up brushes, Men's razors, Deodorants, Sleeping Bags Many thanks to those who are so generous in their donation

FATHER LIAM SAYS: The ceremonies of Holy Week and Easter will be very different this year. The Bishops of England and Wales have given us guidance on what to omit and how to adapt. As you know we have been required to make alterations in our celebration of Mass for many months now. For instance, there are no Bidding Prayers as we are encouraged to keep the Mass shorter than usual, or no Sign of Peace or reception of Holy Communion from the chalice for reasons of safety. Nor is congregational signing allowed.

This year the Mass on Holy Thursday will not include Washing of the Feet nor be followed by the removal of the Blessed Sacrament to the Good Shepherd Chapel and there will not be Veneration of the Blessed Sacrament after Mass. Normally this Mass is celebrated 8.00 pm – it will be at 6.00 pm this year.

The bishops suggested that the Good Friday Service could be held twice so we will have the Solemn Liturgy of the Passion at 12 noon as well as at 3.00 pm so as to ensure that we don't get excessive numbers as might otherwise be the case. The church will be sanitised between the two services. The Services will be shorter than usual. For instance there will be no individual veneration of the Cross nor will there be congregational participation in the Gospel of the Passion. Even singing by choirs is not allowed until some weeks after Easter. We have recorded the Stations of the Cross and this will be relayed a number of times before and during Holy Week. We propose also to record the 12 noon celebration of the Solemn Liturgy on Good Friday so that those who feel unable to come can participate in it in their homes from 6.00 pm.

The Easter Vigil is the ceremony that is perhaps most affected by the directives. There will be no lighting and blessing of the fire. People will gather for Mass as they would on an ordinary day. There is no ceremonial lighting of the Easter Candle. It is to be lit before Mass begins. There will be no procession with the candle and no lighted candles for the congregation and no sprinkling with Holy Water. We have no baptisms or Confirmations. This Mass will also be held at 6.00 pm. It makes no sense to wait until dusk as there is no ceremony of fire and light. The clocks change this coming weekend. Palm Sunday will be low key. Even though there will be no congregational singing there will be music played and the reader or some designated person will sing the Alleluia at Easter when our church will be resplendent with Spring flowers.

The strangeness of our situation as a worshipping community is most evident perhaps at Easter. But at least we are able to have these celebrations even though our numbers are down and our ceremonies are restricted. We are in a much better situation than we were 12 months ago when all public Masses and services were forbidden – from mid-March until early July.

With more and more people being vaccinated the next weeks will hopefully bring ever increasing improvement to our lives – providing we continue to act responsibly. By the Autumn maybe most people will feel able to participate more fully in our worship. We ask God to help us to emerge strong from this experience.

We must remember however that the difficulties we are still going through are much easier than the difficulties most of the world's population have been regularly experiencing. Apart altogether from material deprivations, much of the world wide family of Catholics have been unable to gather for Sunday Mass on a regular basis ever in their lives. In much of the Catholic world there is such a shortage of priests that they can only rarely gather for the celebration of the Mass. It is unfortunately the case that that situation is not going to get better any time soon.

In the early Church we don't seem to read in the Letters of the Apostles, of any situation where the Christian community was deprived of participating in the Eucharist because there was no one to preside at the Table of the Lord. Wherever there was a Christian community they celebrated the Eucharist. It didn't occur to them that the one presiding needed to go to college for several years before he could break bread with them or that he had to be unmarried and had to be dependent on the community for board and lodgings. They earned their living as everyone else did – as St Paul himself and the others did. Why should our way of operating be so different from that of the early Church? How long would the early Church have survived if it tried to operate from the same model as we attempt to do? But of course, even under the most fierce persecutions the early Church grew and flourished. They must have done something right!

There is a painting called 'The Wedding Feast at Cana' which might illustrate our situation. It was painted by Gerald David who died just about 500 years ago – in 1523. It shows fourteen figures, not one of whom is looking at anyone else. No one is even looking at Jesus, who at this stage had not begun his public ministry. He would not have been known by many at Cana. St John, who tells us of the event seems to imply that Jesus was invited only because his mother was. The painting depicts the moment of confusion and alarm as all the guests at the feast suddenly realise that they have drunk all the wine. It was at this moment that Jesus replenishes the wine and re-energises the guests. We must keep our eyes on him. 'Jesus did this, the first of many signs, at Cana in Galilee. He revealed his glory and his disciples believed in him' (John 2:11)

Stations of the Cross from English Martyrs will be available on-line from 10.00 am on Friday of this week. Stations of the Cross for children will also be available.