

## Parish OF THE ENGLISH MARTYRS Goring Way

7.11.2021

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

Presbytery 01903 242624 / Church repository 01903 506890

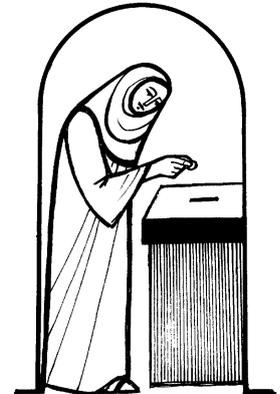
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Deacon Gary Bevans 01903 503514

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

## Thirty-Second Sunday of the Year

Saturday	6 <sup>th</sup>	6.00 pm	Michael Murphy RIP
Sunday	7 <sup>th</sup>	8.15am	Ernie Howse RIP
		10.30 am	Mary T Devine RIP
		<b>3.00 pm</b>	<b>SERVICE IN PRAISE OF CREATION</b>
Monday	8 <sup>th</sup>	9.30 am	The Parish
Tuesday	9 <sup>th</sup>	9.30 am	Deceased relatives of Grazika & Inga's family
		<b>7.00 pm</b>	<b>Choir Practice</b>
Wednesday	10 <sup>th</sup>	9.30 am	Reg Marshall RIP
Thursday	11 <sup>th</sup>	9.30 am	Anne O'Halloran RIP
Friday	12 <sup>th</sup>	9.30 am	Ryan O'Toole RIP & Family
Saturday	13 <sup>th</sup>	6.00 pm	Mary Stone RIP
Sunday	14 <sup>th</sup>	8.15 am	John Iago RIP
		10.30 am	The Parish



**SATURDAY:** Reconciliation: 10.15–10.45 am and 5.15 – 5.45 pm

**TODAY'S READINGS:** 1 Kings 17:10-16; Hebrews 9:24-28; Mark 12:38-44

**NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:** Daniel 12:1-13, Hebrews 10:11-14,18, Mark 13:24-32

**COLLECTIONS:** Church: £335 Digital collection £ Thank you for your generosity.

**This weekend there will be a Second Collection for the Retired Priests' Fund (Gift Aided) Please see Note 5**

**PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:** Ken Harvey, Sienna Coates, Kathleen Brennan, Chris Judge, Brian Caplin. Siobhan Isaacs, Valerie Halley, Pat Duggan, Tony Grana, Sister Raymond, Liz Harvey, John Smith, Mick Brouder, Eileen Beech, Ian Threlfall, Thomas Duggan, Len Argent, Sister Catherine Lai, Justin Gould, Rose Little, Lelia Murray, Mary Murphy, Margaret Birch, Lita Yong, Patrick Ryan, Brenda Peazold, Mary Wessel, Gina Palermo, Joan Cutmore, Gordon Milne, Alfred Deacon, Roni Horstead, Ronnie Tyler, Bill Hogg, Breda Schlimgen, Michaela Finn, Winifred Lyons, Yvette Allen, Kerry McStravick, Lydia Van Melsen

**2. THOSE WHO HAVE DIED RECENTLY:** FATHER ROBERT ELLIS, ELIZABTH HARVEY and those whose anniversaries occur about now: Elizabeth Holding, Benjamin Dixon-Smith, Margaret Hanson, Leslie Lee, Francis Fisher, Billy McCann, Brian McHale, Phillip Horsfall, Edward Hetherington, Elvira Fleming, Patricia Thompson, Bernard O'Connor, Helenja Kamieniecka, John Biddles, Thomas Eze. *May they rest in peace and rise in glory*

**3. PLEASE REMEMBER** to be sure to follow the COVID rules, masks, hand-sanitiser, social distancing, taking all papers away with you, hymn books returned to either porch AND, most importantly, going to Holy Communion row by row – out one end of the bench and back by the other end.

**4. A SERVICE IN PRAISE OF CREATION,** to coincide with 'COP 26', will take place this Sunday at 3.00 pm. It will be a feast of singing and readings followed by refreshments in the Barn.

**5. THE RETIRED PRIESTS FUND** – there are thirty-two (and rising) retired priests in our diocese, many of whom are cared for in Nursing Homes. The diocese exercises its duty of care through your generous response to this collection and the need increases year on year so please help!

**6. WORTHING DEANERY MASS FOR THE DECEASED CLERGY OF THE DEANERY AT ST MICHAEL'S** We are looking forward to welcoming all the Deanery Parishes, and the Priests and the Deacons of the Parishes, to the Worthing Deanery Deceased Clergy Mass on Monday the 8<sup>th</sup> November at 11am which we are hosting at St Michael's. You are so welcome to join us for the Mass as we gather to pray for all our Deceased Clergy and give thanks for their great ministry amongst us and pray that they may rest in the peace of the Lord.

### 7. DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:

Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> November – Parish Meeting – 7.00pm in the Barn

Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> December – Celebration Supper – 7.00pm in the Barn in aid of the Parish project

Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> December – Lunchtime Special – 12.00 noon in the Barn in aid of the Parish Project

Friday 17<sup>th</sup> December – Friendship in the Barn Christmas Lunch – 1.00 pm in the Barn

**8. NOVEMBER – IS THE MONTH FOR HOLY SOULS:** The usual ‘November envelopes’ are available in both porches for those wishing to remember their loved ones at the Altar. Any donations will go towards offering Masses for the Holy Souls. Please fill in and hand in to the Sacristy as soon as possible.

**9. ENGLISH MARTYRS CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL OPEN DAYS** – If your child’s date of birth is between 1st September 2017 and 31 August 2018, they are eligible to start school in September 2022. English Martyrs Catholic Primary School has two Open Days for prospective parents, on Monday 15th November and Monday 29th November, at 9.30am and 5.30pm. The School is located in Derwent Drive, Worthing, BN12 6LA. Further details can be found at [www.englishmartyrs.w-sussex.sch.uk](http://www.englishmartyrs.w-sussex.sch.uk). Parents are more than welcome to ring the school on 01903 502868 for more information. The closing date for applications is 15th January 2022.

**10. PACT: Operation Elf:** Bishop Richard writes: ‘In the last part of this difficult year, we can begin to look forward to the celebration of the birth of Christ at Christmas. For those families where a parent is in prison, Christmas can be a particularly painful time. Through Pact’s Operation Elf, parishes and individuals can support prisoners to give a gift to their child, sharing a little love and joy and strengthening the family bond. This simple act can nurture the hope that redemption and a fresh start is possible.’ Register at [parishaction@prisonersadvice.org.uk](mailto:parishaction@prisonersadvice.org.uk), buy a Gift card with the value of £10, and post to PACT. Full guidance and details at [www.prisonadvice.org.uk](http://www.prisonadvice.org.uk) Thank you.

**11. THE REQUIEM FOR JOAN WILLIAMS** will take place on Tuesday 16th November at 2.00pm

**12. TURNING TIDES (WCHP):** Items needed: Cereal bars, Sugar, Coffee, Small Juices, Cooking Oil, Squash, Carton Milk, Crisps. also Hand Sanitisers, Liquid Soaps, Shampoo, Toilet Rolls, Kitchen Rolls, Toilet Cleaner, Washing Powder, Washing Liquid, Cream Cleaner, Black Sacks, Sandwich Bags, Ante-Bac Spray, Cereal Bowls, Small Tents, Bath Towels. Single Duvets. Men’s Jeans, Jogging Bottoms, (Small/Medium) Men’s Boxers (New please) Many thanks to those who are so generous in their donations.

**13. MARY’S MEALS:** Once again you are asked to keep all your generous donations to Mary’s Meals until the problems of the delivery of the packs have been overcome. It would seem that the problems with transport and distribution of goods is not confined to Great Britain! When the backlog has been overcome we look forward to receiving all your offerings.

**FATHER LIAM SAYS:** Advent begins in three weeks’ time. This year throughout the Catholic world parishes will be devoting the four weeks of Advent to preparing for the Synod. Pope Francis is inviting the whole Church to embark on this two-year journey which will culminate when a representative number of Bishops from the Universal Church meet in Rome armed with the fruits of our reflections. What we do between now and Christmas in all of the Catholic parishes is the most important part of the whole process.

Synod means walking together. It is not about Bishops walking together but it is important that they do. It is about all of us – all the baptised – reflecting together on what we are about and how best to achieve what God has called us to do. It isn’t just a two-year exercise. Synodality is meant to be the way that the church works. It is about walking together, working together. It is at the very heart of the gospel. Jesus compared the church to the vine. Jesus is at the centre giving life to all. The branches reach out bringing the life of Jesus to every part. St. Paul again and again compares the church to a human body, composed of innumerable parts. He stresses that each part of the body is indispensable. Many parts are invisible and undetectable but are necessary for the proper functioning of the whole body. Even when one part – one cell – is malfunctioning, all the other parts are affected. The church is meant to work together because it has been called together by God to carry out the task entrusted to it.

This season of Advent as we set out on this project of Synodality is vital to the whole process of the Synod. We are being asked to reflect together, to pray together, to listen to one another and to the gospel, and to share our reflections with those of the other parishes and ultimately with the insights of all other Catholic communities throughout the world. Why go to all this bother? Because we are not doing very well just now. The church is never doing very well. We are a malfunctioning body. We are a church of sinners. It is good to remind ourselves of that. But it is not enough. We are meant to do better. We live in difficult times but we also live in wonderful times of inventiveness and possibilities. The thriving companies are those that seize the opportunities that exist. They create new opportunities to achieve their ends. The church is the greatest enterprise in the world’s history. After two thousand years it is still growing and flourishing in many parts of the world. The church is not a spent force. We have Christ’s guarantee that he is with us until the end of time. Synodality is about aligning ourselves to Christ who said “I am the way, the truth and the life”. We are followers of the Way. This is how the first Christians wished to be known as the Acts of the Apostles tells us. We read there how Saul set out “to arrest and take to Jerusalem any followers of the Way, men or women, that he might find”. (9:2) When Saul became Paul he tells us how when his little group of believers in Ephesus were being persecuted by those who “began attacking the Way in public he took his followers apart” (19:9). At that time Paul says “a serious disturbance broke out in connection with the Way” (19:23). Paul says “I even persecuted the Way to death and sent women as well as men to prison in chains” (22:4).

To be followers of the Way is a great privilege. We should reflect more on how we could follow it more faithfully and encourage our fellow travellers as we journey together.