

# Parish OF THE ENGLISH MARTYRS Goring Way

10.04.2022

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

## Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

Saturday	9 <sup>th</sup>	6.00 pm	Intention of Frances and Thomas Boylan
Palm	10 <sup>th</sup>	8.15am	The Parish
Sunday		10.30 am	Cilla Bannister RIP
Monday	11 <sup>th</sup>	9.30 am	Deceased members of the Cleere Family
Tuesday	12 <sup>th</sup>	9.30 am	Eugene Ryan RIP
		<b>6.30 – 9.00 pm</b>	<b>Choir Practice</b>
Wednesday	13 <sup>th</sup>	9.30 am	Peter Curran RIP



<b>Holy Thursday</b>	14 <sup>th</sup> April	<b>8.00pm</b>	<b>Mass of the Lord's Supper</b>	<i>Deceased Members of the McCluskey Family</i>
<b>Good Friday</b>	15 <sup>th</sup> April	10.00 am	<b>Family Stations of the Cross, especially for children followed by Children's Confessions</b>	
		<b>3.00 pm</b>	<b>THE PASSION OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST</b>	
		7.30 pm	<b>Stations of the Cross followed by Confessions</b>	
<b>Holy Saturday</b>	16 <sup>th</sup> April	<b>8.30 pm</b>	<b>Easter Vigil &amp; First Mass of Easter</b>	The Parish
<b>Easter Sunday</b>	17 <sup>th</sup> April	8.15 am	<b>Mass</b>	<i>Father Robert Ellis RIP</i>
		10.30 am	<b>Mass</b>	<i>Liz Harvey RIP</i>

### NO EXPOSITION OR CONFESSIONS ON HOLY SATURDAY

**TODAY'S READINGS:** Isaiah 50:4-7, Philippians 2:6-11, Luke 22:14-23:56

**NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:** Acts of the Apostles 10:34.37-43; Paul to the Colossians 3: 1-4; John 20: 1-9.

**COLLECTIONS: Church: £280 Digital Collection: £117 Thank you for your generosity.**

*Good Friday is a day of fasting and abstinence. There will be the usual collection for the Holy Places*

### THE COLLECTIONS AT THE EASTER VIGIL AND EASTER SUNDAY MASSES ARE YOUR PERSONAL GIFTS TO FATHER LIAM (GIFT AIDED)

**PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:** John Mayock, Terry Stanley, Glenn, Ken Ellis, Helena & Vittorio Villa, Peggy Gallagher, Lena, Ken Harvey, Sienna Coates, Kathleen Brennan, Chris Judge, Brian Caplin, Valerie Halley, Pat Duggan, Tony Grana, Sister Raymond, John Smith, Mick Brouder, Ian Threlfall, Thomas Duggan, Len Argent, Rose Little, Lelia Murray, Mary Murphy, Margaret Birch, Lita Yong, Brenda Peazold, Mary Wessel, 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** and those whose anniversaries occur about now: Sabina Concannon, Mary Rains, Joan Gibbs, Herbert Hasney, Gerry Donnelly, William McGlynn, Patricia Jones, Mary La Roche, John Clarke, Margaret McCarthy, Vincent Devereux, John Russell. *May they rest in peace and rise in glory.*

**3. JIM WHITE RIP:** The requiem Mass for Jim is on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> April at **2.15 pm** at St Michael's, Hayling Rise.

**4. TWELVE VOLUNTEERS** for the Washing of the Feet ceremony on Holy Thursday are required. Please put your name on one of the lists in either Porch

**5. EASTER POSTERS** have once again been supplied by our local Knights of St Columba. If you would like to display one in a prominent window of your home, as an act of witness at Easter, they are available in the porches.

**6. YOUR OFFERINGS AT THE EASTER MASSES** are your personal gift to Father Liam. (Gift Aid applies) If you are not Gift Aiding, special Easter Offering envelopes are in the Porch. If you will be away for Easter you might like to use these envelopes to make your gift either beforehand or afterwards.

***It is recommended that we continue to wear masks, use hand-sanitiser, 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.***

**7. EASTER CARDS** are now available in the Repository. All proceeds go to the Parish Project in Kalingalinga

**8. 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

**9. ST GEORGE'S NIGHT 'DO'** will take place on Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> April following the 6.00pm Mass and the money raised will go to the Chestnut Tree House Children's Hospice. There will be a 'Fish and Chip' a Raffle and Singsong. Raffle prizes will be gratefully received. Tickets will be on sale this weekend price £8.00 for adults and £4.00 for children or from Teresa 01903 529260

**10. EDGE YOUTH GROUP** will be meeting this Sunday, 10<sup>th</sup> April, in the Barn, from 6.00 until 730 pm. All young people 11+ welcome. Contact Niall for more information [nfarrell@stromeros.co.uk](mailto:nfarrell@stromeros.co.uk).

**11. FORMATION FOR 'WELCOMING AND INCLUDING EVERYONE'**. A huge thank you to all who stepped up to become Stewards in our churches during the pandemic. Now is the time to consider moving forward and to reflect on how we can enable our Parish and Church communities to reach out to welcome and include everyone. This Formation enables attendees to explore how this can be achieved through scripture, as well as raising the awareness of different groups and their needs who could feel marginalised. If you are interested in finding out more, please contact Bernie: 01903 268260

**12. TURNING TIDES (WCHP):** Items needed: Carton Milk, Honey, Fruit Juices, Tinned Vegetarian Meals, Tinned Meals, Pot Noodles, Pasta in Sauce, Instant Noodles, Small Carton Juices, Coffee, Cooking Oil, Cling Film,. Many thanks to those who are so generous in their donations. (Sadly we are no longer able to deliver clothes and other such goods).

**FATHER LIAM SAYS: In the very early Church,** the Easter Vigil was a rather uncomplicated ceremony. It was celebrated at night. Obviously, you might say! Yet many of us have clear memories, especially if we have been altar servers seventy odd years ago, of it being celebrated entirely in Latin on Holy Saturday morning, with scarcely any congregation. Yet some people still yearn for a return to how the Liturgy used to be celebrated.

From the very first every Eucharist took place at night and the Eucharist was a weekly celebration. It was celebrated at night because most of the people could not assemble during the day. Mass was celebrated on Sunday – not on the Jewish Sabbath. That was a revolutionary decision. The early Church decided that their special day was not to be the Saturday, the seventh day, but the first day of the week. The day of the Lord's Resurrection. Much of the known world was then ruled by the Roman Empire and Christianity was outlawed. Sunday was an ordinary working day, Christians could not take the morning off, so the Eucharist was celebrated in the evening just as the Last Supper had been.

At an early stage the celebration of Baptism became an important part of the Easter Vigil. In Baptism the believers passed from death to life (Col:2,12) Baptism was sometimes known by the name 'illumination' and the baptised were called 'the illuminated'. Light is the dominant theme of Easter. We tend to forget how hard it was to get light going. All lights were extinguished on Holy Thursday in the places where Christians worshipped. They were not allowed to have church buildings. Darkness spoke of the suffering and death of Jesus. Light was not used in the commemoration of the Passion on Good Friday. Light was needed for the celebration of the Easter Vigil. People got a flame going by rubbing flint stones together. Christians saw light coming from the flintstones as a symbol of Christ, the Light of the World, emerging from the stony sepulchre.

I well remember, as an altar server back in 1950 or so, seeing the priest laboriously getting a light going from flintstone. Matches were not allowed. Of course, light was needed for the celebration of every Sunday Eucharist. But the light ceremony at the start of the Easter Vigil developed into having a brilliant fire burning. They used every means they could to mark out this special event. The darkness of the night was dispelled by Christ, the light of the World.

The Easter Candle developed to represent the Risen Christ leading and enlightening his people. Easter is the fulfilment of the Jewish Passover. When the people of Israel travelled through the wilderness from slavery to freedom they were guided at night by the pillar of fire. Much of their journey took place at night to avoid detection by their enemies. This was the inspiration behind the Pascal Candle.

As the Pascal Candle is carried into the dark church the congregation light their candles from one another and ultimately from the Easter Candle. Christ is the source of our life. St John in his gospel loves to emphasise that Christ is the light that conquers darkness. He speaks of the glorious light that shines on every person coming into the world. (John 1:9) The Pascal Candle features in every baptism, irrespective of the time of the year, as Baptism is seen as the Paschal Sacrament where the Risen Christ shares his new Life with us. The Paschal Candle is also lit at every Funeral Mass to symbolise our eternal sharing in Christ's life and light

But the most solemn ceremony of the Pascal Candle is at the Easter Vigil. A new candle is used every Easter and is lit at all Sunday Masses during the fifty days of the Easter Season. In Jewish reckoning each day ends at sunset. So the first day of the week began at sunset on Saturday. Our Easter Vigil begins after sunset, which is always later than 6.00 pm. So our Easter Vigil Mass is at a different time to every other Saturday. It is not like any other Saturday!

In the course of centuries, the Easter Vigil underwent many changes. When the Eucharistic Fast was extended to midnight, evening Mass could no longer be said. We were forbidden to eat any food or to drink even water from midnight if we wished to receive Holy Communion – and that applied to the priest also. This is why we had the absurdity of the Easter Vigil taking place in a virtually empty church or Cathedral on a Saturday morning. The Council of Trent had forbidden the celebration of the Eucharist after midday. Pope Pius XII decreed that the Easter Vigil must take place after sunset. It is restored and recognised again as the high point of the Liturgical Year and 'the solemnity of solemnities.'

***It is recommended that we continue to wear masks, use hand-sanitiser, 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.***

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