

Parish OF THE ENGLISH MARTYRS Goring Way

8.05.2022

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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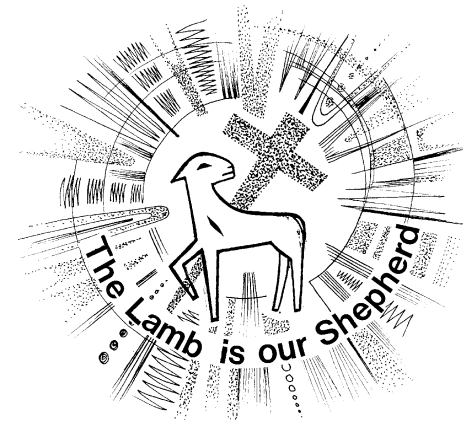
Deacon Gary Bevans 01903 503514

Safeguarding Rep. Anne Niven 01903 242624

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

Fourth Sunday of Easter

Saturday	7 th	6.00 pm	Intention of John Mayock
Sunday	8 th	8.15 am	Ann, Bernard & Catherine Bandy RIP
		10.30 am	The Parish
Monday	9 th	9.00 am	Bill & Nell O'Keeffe RIP
Tuesday	10 th	9.30 am	Jane Melhuish RIP
		7.00 pm	Choir Practice
Wednesday	11 th	9.30 am	Reg Marshall RIP
Thursday	12 th	9.30 am	Ian Sellars RIP
Friday	13 th	9.30 am	Roger Davis RIP
Saturday	14 th	6.00 pm	Jean Norton RIP
Sunday	15 th	8.15 am	The Parish
		10.30 am	Dr Maria Kuczynska RIP



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

TODAY'S READINGS: Acts of the Apostles 13:14. 43-52; Apocalypse 7:9. 14-17. John 10:27-30

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS: Acts of the Apostles 14:21-27; Apocalypse 21:1-5. John 13:31-35

COLLECTIONS: Church: £384 Digital Collection: £ Thank you for your generosity.
This weekend there will be a Second Collection for the Education of Future Priests (Gift Aid)

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS: Mike Ahern, Barbara Howard, 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: Brendan Casement, Mercedes Barranco, Lucy Cocking, David Toley, Greta Clarke, Margaret Edwards, John Bernardi.
May they rest in peace and rise in glory

3. WELCOME TO ANY VISITORS to our Parish this weekend. We do hope that you have enjoyed your stay

4. MARY'S MEALS COLLECTION POINT for the next three weeks will be the box in the Front Porch next to the main door. Mary's Meals are no longer able to ship Back-packs but they are continuing to feed 2,058,099 children every day, in 19 countries around the world and so funds are always urgently needed. We, as a parish, have sent 5,235 backpacks but now they can only accept money. Amazingly it costs just £15.90 to feed one child for a year! Your donation will be much appreciated.

5. RED SHIRTS: William Clarke and Dominic Winton have volunteered to be Red Shirts for the Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes later this year. In addition, they will be doing a bike ride to the Brighton Viewing Tower and back this Sunday and are looking for sponsorship. Your help will be greatly appreciated. Many thanks to those who purchased the delicious cakes in the Barn after last Sunday's 10.30 Mass.

6. EDGE YOUTH GROUP will be meeting next Sunday, 15th May, in the Barn, from 6.00 until 7.30 pm. All young people 11+ welcome. Contact Niall for more information nfarrell@stromeros.co.uk

7. PARISH CELEBRATIONS FOR THE QUEEN'S JUBILEE will take place on Saturday 4th June from 2.00 – 5.00 pm. It will take the form of a 'Street Party' held in the Barn, Courtyard and the Presbytery Garden. You will be asked to sign up to bring some party food – some but not all 1950's style! – and if anyone would like to organise some games for the children that would be most helpful. If you are able to help or have any helpful suggestions to make it a fun afternoon please contact Anne in the Office – 01903242624. Please put the date in your diary and join the parish in celebrating.

8. PRAYER PARTNERS are sought for our six First Holy Communion children. Please sign against the symbol for the child of your choice on the poster on the wall at the side of the Church. We pray for these children who are preparing to receive their First Holy Communion on Sunday 12th June.

9. GRANDPARENTS DAY – Wednesday 8 June at West Grinstead 11am to 3pm. Our Annual Pilgrimage to the Shrine at West Grinstead for Grandparents and all those who fulfil this role in so many different ways. The day begins at 11am with coffee available from 10.30am. This is always a joyous day of celebration with Bishop Richard and friends from across the Diocese. Further information and sign-up details can be found on the Diocesan website under events W: <https://www.abdiocese.org.uk/diocese/events> If you would like to find out more please contact E: katherine.bergin@abdiocese.org.uk

10. 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: Whatever the outcome of the tragic events that have been taking place for the past number of years in Ukraine, especially in recent months, Russia and the Russian Orthodox Church will both emerge with tremendous loss of respect for the shameful war waged against the people of the Ukraine. The Russian Orthodox Church is closely allied to the Russian State and its leadership has fully supported the murderous aggression of the Kremlin government.

The Orthodox Church broke away from the Catholic Church about a thousand years ago when the Patriarch of Constantinople and the Papacy acrimoniously parted company. There had been a series of unfortunate events that resulted in growing tension between the Western Church centred on Rome and the Eastern Church centred in Constantinople. That has lasted to the present day. The big issue has been the authority of the Bishop of Rome and how that authority was exercised. Eventually the breach happened. But on the theology of the Eucharist, the Sacraments and on virtually everything except the Papacy there is much common ground between the Orthodox Church and the Catholic Church.

Since the break occurred the Orthodox Church has split into many national churches, such as the Greek Orthodox, The Russian, the Ukrainian Orthodox and many more. Over them the Patriarch of Constantinople continues to have a Primacy of honour, but no real authority. The Russian Orthodox Church – because it now has by far the largest membership has for some years been acting as if it should be afforded greatest influence within the Orthodox family, especially in view of the fact that the membership of the Orthodox Church of Constantinople has greatly declined in numbers. There is a huge inclination within Orthodoxy towards nationalism. The Ecumenical Patriarch of Constantinople made a great effort in 2016 to bring the various Orthodox Churches closer together. He convened the Great Council in Crete to enable Orthodoxy to speak with one voice as The Orthodox Church but the Patriarch of Russia would not take part which was a great tragedy.

During Covid many Orthodox leaders were pre-occupied with defending their Religious Convictions against imagined conspiracies. Since the beginning of the War in Ukraine, the various Orthodox leaders have been almost paralysed by division among themselves and by their isolation from the outside world.

Pope Francis has worked hard to deepen ties with the Orthodox Church. He and Patriarch Bartholomew of Constantinople have given common witness to the hugely important task of protecting our planet. In 2016 Pope Francis held an historical meeting in Havana with Patriarch Kirill of Russia. But the Patriarch of Moscow is close to Putin and has supported the Ukraine invasion and linked it to a battle against gay rights parades. Putin claims to be a practicing Russian Orthodox Christian and his invasion of Ukraine is, for him, a crusade to reclaim sacred and God-given territory. President Putin and Patriarch Kirill have both used the 'historical and spiritual unity' between Russians and Ukrainians as a pretext for a war of conquest against a neighbour. Defenders of Putin's plunder claim that 'holy Russia' is defending itself from attack by a morally decadent West.

Many Russian Orthodox Christians at every level of church life have publicly protested against the invasion of Ukraine. Russian orthodox bishops have been conspicuously absent from such protests. By contrast hundreds of extraordinarily brave Russian Orthodox priests have publicly condemned the sins of their country's leaders. But those most courageously clamouring for justice and solidarity with the Ukrainian people have been non-ordained Russian Orthodox Christians. They have shown the leaders of the Church what witness to gospel and martyrdom for the truth looks like.

In 2020 Patriarch Kirill of Moscow consecrated the Main Cathedral of the Russian Armed Forces,. A list of memorable battles and wars is flanked by images of Angels. It commemorates three recent 'triumphs' in particular 'Peace in Georgia in 2008', 'The Return of Crimea in 2014' and 'The Fight Against International Terrorism in Syria'. An empty space is left in which future 'victories' can be inscribed. The Cathedral soars 95 metres in height. As well as the icons and angels on the walls there are scenes from battles interspersed with biblical texts. The message is clear. God is with Holy Russia in its battle against evil. This is the same message that Patriarch Kirill proclaims. He insists that what is now happening in Ukraine is not an invasion or a conflict caused by Russia. It is about the unity between Ukrainians and Russians who are 'both threatened by the West. The battle against the West is a battle against evil. Apparently there is no provision in law for Russia to be expelled from the United Nations. Many people feel that the Russian Orthodox Church should be expelled from the World Council of Churches. But, perhaps there have been too many schisms.