

PARISH OF THE ENGLISH MARTYRS Goring Way

3.03.2024

Father Liam O'Connor, 37 Compton Avenue,

Goring-by-Sea, West Sussex. BN12 4UE

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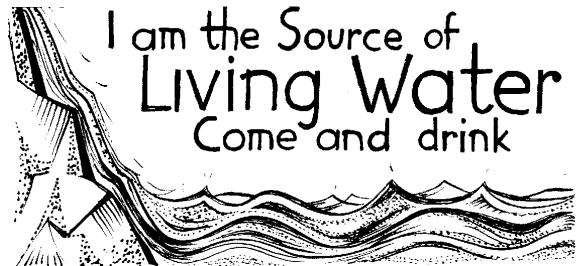
Deacon Gary Bevans 01903 503514

Safeguarding Rep. Anne Niven 01903 242624

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

The Third Sunday of Lent

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|-----------|------------------|-----------------|--|
| Saturday | 2 nd | 6.00 pm | Deceased Members of the Slattery & Bailey Families |
| Sunday | 3 rd | 8.15 am | Intention of Ella Doll |
| | | 10.30 am | The Parish |
| | | 3.00 pm | Holy Hour |
| Monday | 4 th | 9.30 am | Intention of Juliette Clifford |
| Tuesday | 5 th | 6.00 pm | Jimmy McCann RIP |
| | | 7.00 pm | Choir Practice |
| Wednesday | 6 th | 9.30 am | Tony Casey RIP |
| Thursday | 7 th | 9.30 am | Colleen Pratt RIP |
| Friday | 8 th | 9.30 am | Alfonso Dibiasse RIP |
| | | 10.00 am | Stations of the Cross |
| | | 11.30 am | REQUIEM FOR ELLEN PHELAN RIP |
| Saturday | 9 th | 10.00 am | INVITED Lent Course |
| | | 6.00 pm | John Roe RIP |
| Sunday | 10 th | 8.15 am | The Parish |
| | | 10.30 am | Mary Haugh RIP |
| | | 3.00pm | Holy Hour |



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

TODAY'S READINGS: Exodus 20:1-17, 1 Corinthians 1:22-25, John 2:13

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS: 2 Chronicles 36:14-16, 19-23, Ephesians 2:4-10, John 3:14-21

COLLECTIONS: Church: £388 Digital Collection: £78 CAFOD Fast Day: £877

Thank you for your generosity.

Next Weekend there will be a Second Collection for Flowers for this church. (Please see Note 6)

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS: David Lancaster, Jim Simpson, Camilla Jane, Sophie Abbott, Michelle Diett, Helen Gillespie, Harold Forrest, Maria Brooks, Sarah Johnstone, Tony Kearney, Ella Doll, Paul Curd, Lola Samengo-Meehan, Maureen House, Joan Wand, Samuel Bezants, Thomas Boylan, Terry Stanley, Glenn, Helena & Vittorio Villa, Lena, Ken Harvey, Sienna Coates, Brian Caplin, Valerie Halley, Pat Duggan, Tony Grana, Sister Raymond, John Smith, Ian Threlfall, Lelia Murray, Mary Murphy, Brenda Peazold, Mary Wessel, Gordon Milne, Alfred Deacon, Roni Horstead, Ronnie Tyler, Michaela Finn, Winifred Lyons, Yvette Allen, Kerry McStravick, Lydia Van Melsen

2. THOSE WHO HAVE DIED RECENTLY: **MARY JACKSON** and those whose anniversaries occur about now: Anna Kelledy, Olive Pickthall, Eileen Godfrey, John Roe, Michael O'Rourke, Brian Jackson, David Davies, Marion Ray, Margaret Sullivan, Kathleen Shortt, John Gomez, Rosina Curtis, Julian Mokrski, Alfonso Dibiasse. *May they rest in peace and rise in glory.*

3. ROSARY FOR PEACE IN THE HOLY LAND will be prayed on Saturday 9th March at 5.00pm. Please put the date in your diary and make a special effort to come and pray for peace.

4. ST. PATRICK'S NIGHT 'HOOLEY' in aid of our Parish Project, will take place on Saturday 16th March at 7.00 pm in the Barn. Irish Step Dancers, three course traditional Irish Supper – Bacon & Cabbage - Homemade desserts, Irish Coffee, Bar, a Sing-a-long and Raffle. Come and enjoy an evening of fun, good food music and dance. Donations of Raffle prizes would be appreciated. Tickets on sale after all Masses **this** weekend: Adults £10.00, Children £5.00

5. WHEN DID YOU LAST VISIT THE REPOSITORY? We now have a selection of Mother's Day, St Patrick and Easter cards in the shop together with the beautiful handmaid cards, the money from which, goes to the Parish Project in Kalingalinga.

6. CHURCH FLOWERS: We all enjoy coming into church and finding beautiful arrangements of fresh flowers on the altar, for which we thank our 'flower ladies'. It will be especially lovely when we reach the end of Lent and will be greeted by the Easter flowers as we were at the end of Advent by the Christmas flowers. Please be generous in helping to pay for these and all the flowers throughout the year.

7. LENTEN ALMS BOX is the Box on the wall just inside the front porch. During Lent, we are asked to focus more intently on "almsgiving," which means donating money or goods to the poor. In this case, the money collected is sent to nuns in enclosed orders.

8. THE BIG WALK CHALLENGE is being taken up by Charles Hutchin. The Challenge is to walk 200 Kms (about 124 miles) ... 5km on each of the 40 days of Lent. If you wish to support his efforts, please donate to CAFOD by searching "Charles Hutchin" on the "Just Giving" website.

9. THE LENT SERVICE OF RECONCILIATION will take place here on Thursday 21st March at 7.00pm. If you will be unable to come there are posters in the porches with details of services being held elsewhere in the Deanery

10. DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:

Saturday 16th March – St Patrick's Night 'Hooley' – 7.00 pm
Thursday 21st March – Lent Service of Reconciliation – 7.00 pm
Thursday 28th March - Mass of the Lord's Supper – 8.00 pm
Friday 29th March - Solemn Liturgy of the Lord's Passion – 3.00 pm
Saturday 30th March - The Solemn Vigil of Easter – 8.00 pm
Sunday 31st March - Easter Sunday – Mass at 8.15 and 10.30 am

11. MARY'S MEALS COLLECTION POINT is one of the small boxes under the notice board to the right in the Front Porch. It now costs £19.15 to feed one child for a year! Your donations will always be much appreciated.

12. TURNING TIDES: Everyday items are always needed: Coffee, Sugar, Long-life Milk, Carton juice - large and small, Ketchup, Brown sauce, Marmalade, Jam, Cooking Oil, Hot Chocolate, Tinned Ham, Corned Beef, Tinned Fish, Tinned Meat and Vegetarian Meals. Many thanks to all who are able to help.

FATHER LIAM SAYS: Easter Sunday this year in on 31st March – about as early in the year as it is possible to be. British Summer Time will begin that morning. But the Season of Easter continues until 19th May – Pentecost Sunday - 50 days after Easter. The Easter Season is the longest of all the liturgical Seasons because it is the most important. Lent – the time of preparation for Easter – is almost as long as Eastertide itself.

On Palm Sunday we are reminded of Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem. He comes humbly, riding on a donkey but acclaimed by great numbers of people as the prophet from Nazareth – the long-awaited Messiah. This triumph, however, will within days be followed by treachery, torture and death. Is this why Jesus came? The purpose of the incarnation was not to bring about the barbarianism of death by crucifixion. He came not to be put to death but to reveal the love of God for us – a love without reserve: 'I have come that you may have life and have it to the full.' Love is the key to all God's dealings with us.

The whole of creation is a work of divine love. God created all of us and all that exists, out of love. To show that love of God the Son took upon himself our human nature and lived on earth as our brother. There is nothing he will not do for everyone of us, even to accepting death – death on a cross. The cross stands at the very heart of Christian faith as the supreme symbol of God's unfailing love for us – a love that was not conquered by his death but a love that conquered suffering and death. And he is intent on sharing the triumph of his Risen life with us. It is the revelation of that love that is commemorated and celebrated as we give thanks and praise, especially during the Sacred Triduum – Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Holy Saturday – culminating in the Easter Vigil. In the actual celebration of these three great days the Easter Vigil, though last in time, comes first in its significance. Apart from Easter, Good Friday would literally have been a dead end. Holy Thursday too can only be understood in the light of Easter. The Last Supper would really have been the last.

Scripture sometimes speaks of Christ's Resurrection in terms of Jesus rising from the dead and sometimes in terms of the Father bringing Jesus through death to a new and glorious life. His Resurrection means that his life and death were so approved by God, his Father, that he was brought by God through death and is seated at God's righthand. Easter is also the celebration of our liberation. We are indeed in need of salvation. There is, for example, the ever-present destructive power of sin. Sin is not just the violation of a law imposed on us by God, or by the Church, just to test our obedience. One of the most common words which the Bible uses for sin is the Greek word 'hamartia'. It is a word associated with archery and it means 'missing the target'. Sin occurs when we knowingly and willingly go off-target in the way we live our lives and so cease to live authentically. Sin is a destructive force in our lives when we fail to be true to our real selves, to others and to God.

Along with sin, there is of course that final and fatal threat to our lives – death. Death with its apparent finality threatens to consign us finally to darkness. It threatens to bring to nothing all our deepest hopes and desires. Easter celebrates not only the triumph of Jesus but our liberation as well. Our faith sees Jesus as representing all humanity. His victory over sin and death is the pledge and guarantee of the ultimate victory which God will give over sin and death. The Risen Jesus is the 'first to rise from the dead', the 'first to be born from the dead' and the first fruits of all who have fallen asleep'.

The power of God manifested in the Resurrection of Jesus ought not to be seen just as belonging to the past. The power of the Risen Christ is present in our own lives and in our world. Easter belongs not just to the past, Jesus no longer lives in the past. Even in our battered and bruised Church the power of the Risen One is still here. In the words of St Paul: 'With God on our side, who can be against us?'. (Rom 5:31)