

PARISH OF THE ENGLISH MARTYRS Goring Way

7.04.2024

Father Liam O'Connor, 37 Compton Avenue,

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

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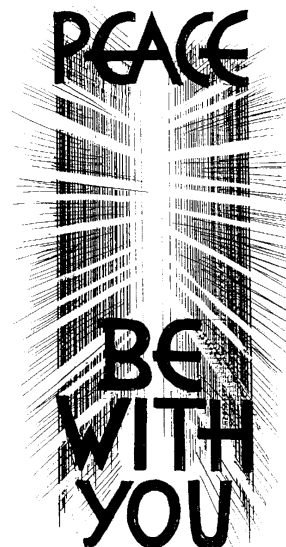
Deacon Gary Bevans 01903 503514

Safeguarding Rep. Anne Niven 01903 242624

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

Second Sunday of Easter

Saturday	6 th	8.00 pm	Anne & Mike Steere RIP
Sunday	7 th	8.15 am	The Parish
		10.30 am	Krissie White RIP
		3.00 pm	Holy Hour
Monday	8 th	9.30 am	Helena Cebo RIP
Tuesday	9 th	9.30 am	Muriel Burns RIP
Wednesday	10 th	9.30 am	Petter & Wells Families
Thursday	11 th	9.30 am	Intention of Kevin & Jennifer Cummings
Friday	12 th	9.30 am	Tony Curtin RIP
Saturday	13 th	6.00 pm	Isobel Youngs
Sunday	14 th	8.15 am	Father John Daley RIP
		10.30 am	The Parish



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

TODAY'S READINGS: Acts 4:32-35, 1 John 5:1-6, John 20:19-31

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS: Acts 3:13-15, 17-19, 1 John 2: 1-5, Luke 24:35-48

COLLECTIONS: Holy Places: £340 Thank you for your generosity.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS: Peter Honiball, Richard Wells, David Lancaster, Jim Simpson, Camilla Jane, Sophie Abbott, Michelle Dielt, Helen Gillespie, Harold Forrest, Maria Brooks, Sarah Johnstone, Tony Kearney, Ella Doll, Paul Curd, Lola Samengo-Meehan, Maureen House, Joan Wand, Samuel Bezants, Terry Stanley, Glenn, Helena & Vittorio Villa, Lena, Ken Harvey, Sienna Coates, Brian Caplin, Valerie Halley, Pat Duggan, 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: BOB CHAPPELL, Frank Shave, Mary Mawe, Kathleen Cregan, Laura, Ray McGuinness, James Morrell, Father Stephen Tynan, Helena Cebo, Muriel Burns, Michael O'Brien, Sabina Concannon, Mary Rains, Joan Gibbs, Maureen Holland, Herbert Hasney, Gerry Donnelly. *May they rest in peace and rise in glory.*

3. A VERY BIG THANK YOU on behalf of the Parish to all who helped make the ceremonies of Holy Week and Easter possible – the Flower Arrangers, Musicians, Stewards, Ministers of the Word and of Holy Communion. Also a personal and huge 'thank you' for your very generous Easter offerings

4. PRAYER PARTNERS are sought for our 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 9th June.

5. PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE ABORTION LAW: There are postcards in both porches to complete and post to your MP asking them to vote in support of the amendments to the Criminal Justice Bill to lower the abortion time limit for the unborn child from 24 weeks down to 22 weeks. Please write the name of your MP and post to House of Commons, London SW1A 0AA.

6. THE PROMISE OF THE FATHER is an exciting new course for Arundel and Brighton Diocese in support of the Word Who is Life Pastoral Plan. The course is free and aims to help us to live our lives empowered by the Holy Spirit. It is held over seven sessions, each with a speaker (including Bishop Richard Moth and Father Graham Ricketts) and small group discussions and starts this Wednesday the 10th April and will run to the 23rd May. See poster in church porches The Promise Of the Father promises to be an exciting, enriching and God willing, a life-changing experience for everyone. Spaces in the venue and online are limited so early booking is essential, so please book now using the link below to avoid disappointment. You can find more information on the course and book your place here: <https://www.catholicparishofworthingandlancing.co.uk/the-promise-of-the-father>

7. A CONCERT will be held next Sunday 14th April, in the Barn, after the 10.30 Mass to raise funds for three of our young people who will be travelling to Lourdes - Emily as a Red Shirt, William as a Young Helper, and James as an Adult Helper. The concert last year was amazing! James will speak at all the Masses this weekend.

8. ST GEORGE'S NIGHT 'DO' will take place on Saturday 20th April at 7.00 pm in the Barn for Chestnut Tree House Children's Hospice. There will be a 'Delicious Supper' and Raffle. Raffle prizes will be gratefully received. Tickets will be on sale this weekend price £10.00 for adults and £5.00 for children or from Teresa 01903 529260

9. THANK YOU to all who supported Charles Hutchin on the Big Lent Walk. He raised £465 for CAFOD by walking over 300 kms (186 miles)

10. ROSARY FOR PEACE AND JUSTICE IN THE HOLY LAND will be prayed on the second Saturday of every month at 5.00pm. The next one is on April 13th Please put the date in your diary and make a special effort to come and pray for justice and peace.

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: Tomorrow– 8th April, we celebrate the Feast of the Annunciation of the Lord. As it so happens that is also the first Monday of the new Tax Year. Back in history these two events were long connected with each other. This year the connection was totally coincidental. Normally the Church celebrates the Feast of the Annunciation of the Lord on 25th March. As we celebrate the birth of Jesus on 25th December there has been a long tradition in the Church of celebrating the Annunciation nine months earlier in honour of the fact that Mary conceived the Child Jesus by the power of the Holy Spirit on the occasion of the Annunciation. However, a Council of the Church held in Toledo in Spain in the seventh century ordered that the feast be kept on 18th January. The purpose of this ruling was to provide against the inconvenience of celebrating the Annunciation in Lent. And, of course, the date of the commencement of Lent can vary by a matter of several weeks from year to year.

This year 25th March fell in Holy Week so the Feast of the Annunciation is delayed by two weeks. It could not be celebrated in Holy Week, nor in Easter Week because of the importance of these two weeks in our celebration of Christ's Passion, Death and Resurrection. The earliest day therefore on which it could be celebrated this year is on 8th April. It is not unusual for the Feast of the Annunciation to be detached from its official date of 25th March with the result that the feast does not always get the importance it deserves. Perhaps the Council of Toledo made a wise decision fourteen centuries ago. By fixing a date in mid-January everyone knew exactly when the important feast would be observed. How many of you knew that tomorrow is the Feast of the Annunciation

For many centuries New Year's Day was observed on the Feast of the Annunciation. It was called Lady's Day in honour of Our Lady. But the Feast is now regarded as a Feast of Our Lord which is why it is called the Feast of the Annunciation of the Lord. The very names given to several months of the year should alert us to the fact that something strange is afoot. September, October, November and December are so named as these were the seventh, eighth, ninth and tenth months of the year in ancient times. Our January and February would have been the eleventh and twelfth months leaving March as the first month of the New Year.

The new Tax Year would have coincided with the beginning of the New Year. That is why even today the Tax Year begins when it does. In fact it used to begin several days earlier but the calendar changed from the Julian Calendar dating to the time of Julius Caesar to what became known as the Gregorian Calendar. Over the centuries the Julian Calendar – which was reasonably accurate to begin with – had deviated by ten days from the real Solar calendar. A difference of eleven and a half minutes a year had grown so large over the centuries that Pope Gregory XIII decided that something had to be done. In those days such a huge change could only have been attempted by the Pope and he introduced his calendar in 1582 – 1,600 years after Julius Caesar devised his calendar in 45 BC.

The Great Schism dividing Eastern Christianity from Rome was already nearly 600 years old when the Gregorian Calendar was introduced so the East would have nothing to do with it. Russia only adopted the 'new' calendar in 1918 after the Revolution. Greece waited until 1923 and China followed suit in 1949. When Gregory introduced his calendar, the Reformation was well under way and non-Catholic countries had no desire to follow Rome's way. Queen Elizabeth I came to the throne in 1588 – just six years after Gregory's Calendar. Until 1752 Lady's Day was New Year's Day in England – when contracts were renewed and taxes were levied. But in 1752 England and its colonies adopted the Gregorian Calendar and in that year the beginning of the Tax Year in England was moved eleven days to 6th April where it has remained ever since. How accurate is the Gregorian Calendar now? After 436 years it differs from the Solar year by only 6 seconds.

Every time we say the Hail Mary we recall the Annunciation. This prayer is sometimes called the Angelic Salutation as the Angel Gabriel greeted Mary with the words: 'Hail, full of grace'. (Luke 1:28) The Angelus is a meditation on this central mystery of our faith – 'Christ among you, your hope of Glory' (Colossians 1:27) But in the Easter Season the Angelus is replaced by a prayer expressing joy in the Resurrection – 'Queen of Heaven, Rejoice, Alleluia'.