

## PARISH OF THE ENGLISH MARTYRS, Goring Way

23.10.2016

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: 252878

### Thirtieth Sunday of the Year

Saturday	22 <sup>nd</sup>	6.00 pm	Pamela Andrews RIP
Sunday	23 <sup>rd</sup>	8.15 am	The Parish
		10.30 am	John Woods RIP
Monday	24 <sup>th</sup>	9.30 am	John Stitt (ill)
		3.30 pm	Mother's Prayers
Tuesday	25 <sup>th</sup>	12.30 pm	REQUIEM FOR MARY MARGARET McGUINNESS RIP
		7.30 pm	Mary Sherlock RIP
Wednesday	26 <sup>th</sup>	9.30 am	Holy Souls
Thursday	27 <sup>th</sup>	9.30 am	Michael Welsh RIP
Friday	28 <sup>th</sup>	9.30 am	Holy Souls
Saturday	29 <sup>th</sup>	6.00 pm	Patrick Murphy RIP
Sunday	30 <sup>th</sup>	8.15 am	The Parish
		10.30 am	Martin William Evans RIP



**SATURDAY:** Exposition with Benediction: 10.00 - 11.00am. Reconciliation: 10.15 – 10.45 am & 5.15 - 5.45 pm

**TODAY'S READINGS:** Ecclesiasticus 35:12-14, 16-19; 2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18; Luke 18: 9-14

**NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:** Wisdom 11:22-12:2; 2 Thessalonians 1:11-2:2; Luke 19:1-10

**COLLECTIONS:** Church: £565 Thank you for your generosity.

This weekend there will be a Second Collection for MISSIO. Gift Aid in special MISSIO Envelopes ONLY

**PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:** Monica Nichols, Valerie Halley, Lottie-Mae, Gearoid McNamara, Gordon & Ann Milne, Finlay, Alfred Deacon, Ester Park, John Little, Marie Garselis, Roni Horstead, Krissie White, Eileen Godfrey, Ronnie Tyler, Jenny Begley, Paula de Mello, Bill Hogg, Andrew Kennedy, Ted O'Brien, Breda Schlimgen, Michaela Finn, Ann Wesley, Winifred Lyons, Yvette Allen, Leslie Lee, Joan Jacobs, Kerry McStravick, Gerry Potter, Lydia Van Melsen, Donald MacDonald, Edna Catley

**2. THOSE WHO HAVE DIED RECENTLY:** JOHN (JACK) LITTLE and those whose anniversaries occur about now: Eva Madden, Maureen Wynn-Davies, Helena Vulic, Laurence McCarthy, Keith Adams, Walter Leach, Zaza Field, Canon Bernard Thom, Patricia Hennessy, Patricia Ferin, Reginald Mosely, Constance Clark, Kathleen Hope, Giuseppina Pryke, Jean Murphy, Roy Bellm

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

**4. MISSIO:** This Sunday, the Holy Father invites all Catholics to contribute to a special collection for Missio, his official charity for overseas mission. World Mission Sunday is a special day that unites Catholics all over the world in prayer, celebration and care for the mission of the Church. By supporting World Mission Sunday you are directly helping missionaries in Rwanda and around the world to help heal the broken-hearted. **Please Gift Aid by using the envelopes provided by Missio (not the church 2<sup>nd</sup> collection envelopes)**

**5. CONFIRMATION 2016/17:** If you are in Year 10 or above and considering being Confirmed next year you are invited to join our preparation programme that will be starting soon. Please collect an application form from the Sacristy and return to the Parish Office as soon as possible

**6. A COURSE FOR NEW CATHOLICS:** A new **Journey in Faith** course will start on Monday 7th November at 7.30pm in The Priest's House, 37, Compton Avenue. This is a course introducing the Catholic faith and will be of interest to those wanting to be in full communion with the Catholic Church or those wanting to refresh their knowledge of the faith. Sheets with further details in both porches.

**7. DO YOU ENJOY SINGING?** New members will be most welcome to join our Parish Choir. We shall be learning new music for part singing and to lead the congregation. Rehearsals begin on Thursday 3rd November from 7.30 – 8.45 pm in the church. For further information please contact Margaret – 01903 504316

**8. SUNDAY LUNCH (2 COURSES)** will be served in The Barn on Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> November at 12.00 noon in aid of the Society for the Protection of the Unborn Child SPUC. Tickets will be on sale after all Masses this weekend. Price Adult £7.50 and a Child £4.00. Donations of Raffle Prizes would be gratefully received and could be left in the Sacristy.

**9. TRADCRAFT** will be on sale after all Masses this weekend

**10. HAVE YOU VISITED THE REPOSITORY RECENTLY?** We have a wide array of Christmas Cards, Advent Calendars & candles, cribs, diaries and items suitable for little Christmas Presents

**11. KSC RACE NIGHT** will be held on Saturday 19th November at Durrington Community Centre. Fish & Chips Supper, Raffle and Bar. For further details please see posters in both porches.

**12. MARY'S MEALS:** We are now in particular need of Pencil Cases, Colouring Pencils Flannels and serviceable Towels. Many thanks to all who so generously contribute to these backpacks

**13. WORTHING CHURCHES HOMELESS PROJECTS** Today Worthing Churches Homeless Projects helps over 1,400 people each year with up to 58 people in our night accommodation services. Urgent needs includes: Men's jeans and underwear - specifically sizes small and medium, jeans size 32 and below. Furniture and Single bed linen suitable for men. Supermarket items needed: Coffee, Sugar, Squash, Fruit juices, Biscuits, Any cleaning products, especially Washing powder and Toilet Rolls. Many thanks to all those who help in this way.

**FATHER LIAM SAYS: A little over 500 years ago the world was transformed** as never before. Europe had discovered that the world was a far bigger place than ever imagined. So many European countries were, overtime, to gain control of vast territories. It was the beginning of the age of colonisation on a huge scale which, in the short term, brought immense wealth and influence to certain strata of the conquering powers. The Spanish, Portuguese, Dutch, French, British and Belgians built huge empires with repercussions that are still with us. The Europeans were able not only to explore the world but to dominate it. The territorial conquests of those powers brought terrible suffering in their train. There was a price to be paid for the rising standard of living enjoyed by the privileged segments of the populations of the colonising nations from the sixteenth centuries onwards.

Spain's fortunes were linked with the discoveries of Columbus. In 1498 AD, after some rather disappointing exploits, he began exploring what is now northern Venezuela. He came across locals wearing strings of pearls around their necks. He discovered a set of islands with astonishingly rich oyster beds. Sacks filled with pearls, 'some as large as hazelnuts, very clean and beautiful' were shipped back to Spain, generating fortunes for the captains and crews who brought them home. The pearl bonanza was followed by the discovery of gold and silver as they moved on to Central and Southern America where they came into contact with civilisations such as the Aztecs and the Incas. 'The Indians' as Columbus wrongly called them 'do not have arms and are all naked and of no skills in arms and so cowardly that a thousand would not stand against three.' They had watched with wonder at one banquet as Columbus showed them the accuracy of a Turkish bow and demonstrated the power of a Lombard cannon and of a spingard – a heavy gun capable of piercing armour. The new arrivals were proud of their instruments of death and disdainful of those whose territories they had violated. 'They are fit to be ordered about and made to work, plant and do everything else that may be needed and build towns and be taught our customs', Columbus wrote. From the beginning the local populations were identified as potential slaves and violence quickly became standard. On the island of Cuba in 1513 AD villagers who arrived to present the Spanish with gifts of food, fish and bread 'to the limit of their larder' were massacred 'without the slightest provocation' in the words of the dismayed observer. 'I saw cruelty on a scale no living being has ever seen or expects to see' wrote the Spanish friar Bartolomé de las Casas of his experiences in the earliest days of European settlement. He was writing a report designed to inform those back home of what was happening in the New World. What he saw was only the beginning as he wrote in his horrific account of the treatment of the 'Indians' in his 'Historia de las Indias'.

The native populations in the Caribbean and the Americas were devastated. Within a few short decades of Columbus' first voyage the numbers of the Taino people fell from half a million to little more than 2,000. This was in part due to ferocious treatment by those who began to style themselves as 'conquistadors' or conquerors. The indigenous population fell victim in large numbers to the diseases that were brought from Europe. The inhabitants of Tenochtitlan were decimated by highly contagious outbreaks of smallpox to which they had no resistance. Famine followed as agricultural production, for which they were largely responsible, collapsed. In Guatemala, again around 1520 AD, a severe epidemic of smallpox was followed by a deadly outbreak of measles.

Hernan Cortés, whose expedition resulted in the death of the Aztec ruler Moctezuma and the collapse of the Aztec Empire, stopped at nothing to enrich himself. 'I and my companions' he told the Aztecs 'suffer from a disease of the heart that can be cured only by gold.' Cortés and his men seized the Aztec treasures, pillaging 'like little beasts, each man utterly possessed by greed.' Exquisite items were looted, including 'necklaces of heavy gems, anklets of beautiful workmanship, wristbands ... and the turquoise diadem that is the insignia of the ruler, reserved only for his use. They took everything.'

That was not enough. The nobility and priesthood of Tenochtitlan, the Aztec capital, were massacred during a religious festival. The Spanish force went berserk, chopping off the hands of the drummers before attacking the crowd with spears and swords. The sea lanes to Europe now became thick with heavily laden ships from the Americas. Albrecht Dürer was stunned by the quality of the craftsmanship of Aztec treasures he saw exhibited in 1520 AD. 'Nothing I have seen in all my days rejoiced my heart so much as those things.' He says the objects he saw included a sun entirely of gold and a silver moon both six feet in width, marvelling 'at the subtle ingenuity of the men in those distant lands who had created them.'

The Spanish King Charles V was also King of Naples, Sicily and Sardinia as well as of territories in Burgundy and the Low Countries. With unlimited funds flowing back across the Atlantic he was the dominant figure in European politics and was styled the Holy Roman Emperor. He was a nephew of Catherine of Aragon, wife of Henry VIII. Henry made himself a very powerful foe when he sought to sideline the niece of the powerful Emperor.

*My thanks to Peter Frankopan, author of 'The Silk Roads'*

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