

PARISH OF THE ENGLISH MARTYRS, Goring Way

29.01.2017

Father Liam O'Connor, 37 Compton Avenue, Goring-by-Sea, West Sussex. BN12 4UE

Presbytery 01903 242624 / Church repository 01903 506890

Email: emgoring@english-martyrs.co.uk Website: www.english-martyrs.co.uk

Deacon Gary Bevans 01903 503514

Arundel & Brighton Diocesan Trust is a Registered Charity No: 252878

The Fourth Sunday of the Year

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| Saturday | 28 th | 6.00 pm | Kath Pritchard RIP |
| Sunday | 29 th | 8.15 am | Paul Roe RIP |
| | | 10.30 am | Anne Steer's Intention |
| Monday | 30 th | 9.30 am | The Parish |
| Tuesday | 31 st | 9.30 am | Juliette Barnette Bates RIP |
| Wednesday | 1 st | 9.30 am | James Murphy RIP |
| | | 7.00 pm | Divine Mercy Prayer Group |
| Thursday | 2 nd | 7.30 pm | Bob Cooper RIP |
| Friday | 3 rd | 9.30 am | John Stitt RIP |
| | | 11.00 am | REQUIEM FOR BERYL SNADDEN RIP |
| | | 7.30 pm | Prayer Group |
| Saturday | 4 th | 6.00 pm | Jessica Forte RIP |
| Sunday | 5 th | 8.15 am | The Parish |
| | | 10.30 am | Jim Olliver RIP |
| | | 6.00 pm | Polish Mass |



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

COLLECTIONS: Church: £523 Collection at Unity Service: £145 Thank you for your generosity.

Next Sunday there will be a Special Collection for The Lourdes Pilgrimage Fund
(SPECIAL GIFT AID ENVELOPES available in both porches)

TODAY'S READINGS: Zephaniah 2:3, 3:12-13; 1 Corinthians 1:26-31; Matthew 5:1-12

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS: Isaiah 58: 7-10: 1 Corinthians 2:1-5: Matthew 5:13-16

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS: Molly Symonds, Deacon Pat Moloney, Roy Pritchard, Marie Davidson, Yvonne Carter, Monica Nichols, Lottie-Mae, Gearoid McNamara, Gordon & Ann Milne, Finlay, Alfred Deacon, Ester Park, 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 and those whose anniversaries occur about now: Freddie Griffin, Mary Corcoran, Donal O'Connor, Henry Major, Richard Chesterton-Samuels, Gladys Murphy, John McLening, John Crowley, Lawrence Connelly, Dirk Van Melsen, Edith Baker, Sheila Curties, Eileen Baynton, Lisa Parkes, Irene Miles, Catherine Fuller, Pauline Leyder

3. THE INDUCTION OF THE NEW HEADTEACHER of English Martyrs Catholic Primary School will take place here during the 10.30 am Mass this weekend. Please make every effort to attend as on this occasion we, the Parish, undertake to support Dr Helen Townsley in her new position. Children who attend English Martyrs are asked to wear their uniform for this important occasion.

4. ST. VALENTINE'S EVENING CANDLELIT DINNER will take place on Saturday 11th February to raise funds for the Parish Project, the hospice in Kalingalinga. This very popular event will include a three course meal, Bar, music and raffle. Tickets are £7.50 each and will be on sale after all Masses **next** weekend.

5. WOMEN'S DAY RETREAT will take place on Saturday 18th February from 9 am until 4pm in The Barn. The day will be led by Geoff and Gina Poulter. The day will start with Breakfast and Tea/ coffee will be provided. Lunch time will be a shared lunch. Please see posters and leaflets in the porches for further details. Contact Anne-01903-242624 if you would like to join us.

6 PRAYER PARTNERS are sought for our twenty-two First Holy Communion children. Please sign against the symbol for the child of your choice on the poster on the wall at the back of the Church. We pray for these children who are preparing to receive their First Holy Communion on Sunday 11th June.

7. CHOIR PRACTICES will start again on Tuesday 7th February from 7.30 – 8.45 pm. We shall be learning new music to lead the congregation at Mass as well as music for the Easter services. New members are most welcome to join us. For more information please contact Margaret on 01903 504316

8. ARUNDEL AND BRIGHTON DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES will be taking place from 27th July – 4th August 2017. Booking forms can be downloaded from the website www.ablourdes.org or telephone the Pilgrimage Office – 01403 740110. Pilgrims requiring any level of medical, nursing or carer assistance should contact the Pilgrimage Office direct.. Nurses are also required.

9. DEANERY 'REFUGEE DAY' will take place in The Barn on Saturday 25th February from 9.00 am – 1.00 pm. We are invited to discuss 'How can we respond to the current Refugee Crisis?' Speakers will include Aidan Cantwell – Diocesan Justice and Peace/ Social Action Adviser and Mary-Jane Burkett – Director of 'Voices in Exile'. Please support our Deanery initiative.

10. MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARIST & READERS: Rosters for February are now available in the Sacristy. Please also collect a letter inviting you to the Lent Day of Recollection for Ministers of the Word and Ministers of Holy Communion.

11. MARY'S MEALS: We are now in particular need of Toothpaste, Flannels Soap and Blue and Black Biro's. Many thanks to all who so generously contribute to these backpacks

12. WORTHING CHURCHES HOMELESS PROJECTS: Urgently needed this month: Men's jeans and underwear - Specifically sizes small and medium, jeans size 32 and below. Kitchen utensils, especially, wooden spoons, spatulas, and veg peelers. Coffee, Sugar, Squash, Fruit juices, Biscuits, Any cleaning products, especially Washing powder, Toilet Rolls. Many thanks to all those who are so generous in their donations

FATHER LIAM SAYS: In Medieval times the three great places of pilgrimage for Christians were Jerusalem, Rome and Santiago de Compostela. By the end of the 13th Century AD Jerusalem was extremely difficult to get to. Holy Years =- which began in 1300 AD – made Rome a very popular destination. In earlier centuries Santiago had become very popular when law and order were at a low ebb in Rome and the Shrine of St James remained a great centre of pilgrimage up to the Reformation. There were countless lesser pilgrimages undertaken to shrines all over Europe. Canterbury and Walsingham were the notable English destinations.

There is a Santiago Pilgrims Guide for the year 1140 AD which says that 'the faithful who are going on a pilgrimage to the Shrine of St James should be able to plan in advance, if they read this guide. They will know what conditions to expect on the way'. There are accounts of the pilgrimage all the way back to the 4th Century. Much of the information in these guides would have been handed on by word of mouth as even small books would be very expensive – and many could not read. There would have been advice on roads and rivers, bridges and hospices (guest houses) and on food and drink.

It is estimated that between 200,000 and 500,000 people a year would journey to Compostela, rich and poor, the healthy and the sick. It is estimated that about a quarter or a third would have been women. The well-to-do might be accompanied by their own doctor. The pilgrims did not necessarily have to be pious. Preachers warned against frivolity, restlessness, curiosity, pride and the hope of material gain. Pilgrims were encouraged to fast on the way, to abstain from meat, to stay only one night in any one place and not to sleep in a comfortable bed.

There were many hospices on the various routes to the great centres of pilgrimage. 'where they fulfil a need. They are houses of God, holy places, where the pious pilgrims may refresh themselves. Therefore there can be no doubt but that the builders of such holy places will enter into the Kingdom of heaven'. The author of the guide warns pilgrims about dangers from nature and from their fellows. The journey through the Landes in South-western France, which would take three days, was mentioned as being especially unpleasant. 'These will be days when you will be utterly exhausted! For it is a God-forsaken place, flat region with very few stopping places'. The author curses the ferrymen at the foot of the Pyrenees. Their dugout boat made from a tree-trunk was very small and unsuitable for carrying horses. 'If you get in this boat, take care: you will soon be in the water.' Pilgrims should only get in a few at a time because of the danger of capsizing. They should let their horses swim across, if possible leading them by the reins. 'After they have taken the money the ferrymen often let so many pilgrims get in that the boat sinks and they all drown in the river. The boatmen then take all the belongings of the drowned people. Pilgrims would barely have escaped the dangers of the ferrymen when they were confronted by a new hazard in the inhospitable and densely wooded Basque country. 'If the pilgrim sees the local inhabitants, his blood will freeze.' They are men of barbaric speech and rough physical appearance. The toll men are guarded by two or three men with lances. They approach the pilgrim and forcibly demand an exorbitant toll. 'If the traveller should think of refusing them the money they demand, they kill him with their cudgels and appropriate the sum. Then with curses they strip their victim naked.'

The author is very pleased with just one region and its people – his own homeland! 'Leaving Tours one approaches Potiers, an exceptionally pleasant and blessed region. It would be hard to find men who are more generous and hospitable than they are.' The further to the south the author travels the more critical his remarks become about the inhabitants. The only people he finds praiseworthy beside the men from Potiers are the 'countrymen' of St James the Apostle. The people of Galicia have most in common with 'we men from France!'

In the large square surrounding the Cathedral, pilgrims would change money, find lodgings and buy all kinds of goods including 'small scallop shells, to show that they had been at St. James Shrine'. These shells were kept by the pilgrims and on their return journey place them 'in their cap' like a badge. At the end of their lives, the pilgrims would have their scallop shells buried with them in the firm belief that St James would lead them safely to their eternal home.

I am indebted to Norbert Ohler's 'The Medieval Traveller'