

## PARISH OF THE ENGLISH MARTYRS, Goring Way

12.03.2017

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### The Second Sunday of Lent

Saturday	11 <sup>th</sup>	6.00 pm	Charlie Gillespie RIP
Sunday	12 <sup>th</sup>	8.15 am	Mary Ellis RIP
		10.30 am	Katherine Drohan RIP
Monday	13 <sup>th</sup>	9.30 am	Iago Family Intention for John's Speedy Recovery
		10.00 am	Mother's Prayers
		11.00 am	Lent Group
		2.15 pm	Mother's Prayers
Tuesday	14 <sup>th</sup>	9.30 am	The Parish
		7.30 pm	Choir Practice
Wednesday	15 <sup>th</sup>	9.30 am	Bill & Nell O'Keeffe RIP
		7.00 pm	Divine Mercy Lent Group
Thursday	16 <sup>th</sup>	12 noon	REQUIEM FOR SHEILA SZYMUDA RIP
		7.00 pm	Stations of the Cross
		7.30 pm	Holy Souls
Friday	17 <sup>th</sup>	9.30 am	Extended Family of Nora & Patrick Murphy
Saturday	18 <sup>th</sup>	6.00 pm	Lilly & Irudaya Raj RIP
Sunday	19 <sup>th</sup>	8.15 am	The Parish
		10.30 am	John Nolan 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: £582 Thank you for your generosity.**

**The second collection today is for your CAFOD Fast Day Offerings. If you are a tax-payer please fill in the Gift Aid form and place it in the special Fast Day envelope together with your offering.**

**TODAY'S READINGS:** Genesis 12:1-4; 2 Timothy 1:8-10; Matthew 17:1-9

**NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:** Exodus 17:3-7; Paul to Romans 5:1-2, 5-8; John 4:5-15, 19-26, 39-42

**PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:** Molly Simmonds, 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, 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: Delia Evans, Annie Mather, Natalie Citterio, Catherine McGoohan, Frances Money, Elizabeth Hastie, Kathleen Kearney, Fred Melling, Peggy Dale, Kate Rowe, Michael Conway

**3. ST. PATRICK'S NIGHT 'HOOLEY'** in aid of our Parish Project, will take place **next** Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> 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 £7.50, Children £4.00

**4. GIFT AID** New boxes of envelopes are now available in the porch for those who currently use them for church contributions. Please remember to take yours when you leave. All adults who pay income tax are asked to consider the church Gift Aid scheme. Every £1 contribution is increased by 25p by the Inland Revenue at no extra cost to the donor. Further information may be obtained from –Jim Simpson 01903 240684

**5. NEXT WOMEN'S BREAKFAST** will be **next** Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> March at 36, Sea Lane, Ferring from 9.00 – 11.00 am. Please come and join us for a delicious breakfast and a morning of community, fellowship and friendship! The Speaker will be Aimee Esswood JP. You will be most welcome. For further details contact Jane-Anne 01903-502070.

**6. THE LENTEN ALMS BOX** is in the front porch next to the main door. The proceeds are sent to the Contemplative Orders of Women in the Diocese

**7. AN OPEN PARISH PASTORAL MEETING** will take place on Friday 31st March in The Barn at 7.30 pm. All are welcome. Hope you can come so that we as a parish can plan ahead

**8. WALSINGHAM PILGRIMAGE:** The Chichester group of the Ordinariate of Our Lady of Walsingham is arranging a pilgrimage to Walsingham from Tues 23rd to Thurs 25th May (2 nights stay in Walsingham). They would like members of English Martyrs to join them. Travel is by air-conditioned coach. The coach will pick up near to church in Goring. Application forms, with details and instructions for their return can be found in both porches

**9. IN THE REPOSITORY YOU WILL FIND:** St Patrick's Day Cards, Mother's Day Cards and Easter Cards

**10. THE ANNUAL PILGRIMAGE TO AYLESFORD** will be led by Fr Chris Ingle and will take place on Thursday July 6th leaving St Catherine's Church, Littlehampton at 8.15am. and St Michael's Church, High Salvington at 9.00 am. Tickets are £15.00 Please bring a packed lunch; soup and sandwiches are available at the Priory Cafe, but it might be rather busy on the day. We start with Mass at 12 noon; Confessions will be available during the day. Rosary and Benediction at 4.00 pm. We leave the Priory at 5pm to arrive home at approximately 7pm. If you would like to join us at St Michael's please add your name to the list in the porch or contact Penny Gregory 01903 784304.

**11. MARY'S MEALS:** We are now in particular need of Toothpaste, Pencil Cases, Colouring Pencils or Crayons, Serviceable Towels Many thanks to all who so generously contribute to these backpacks

**12. WORTHING CHURCHES HOMELESS PROJECTS:** Urgently needed this month: Jeans/trousers 34" waist, Hoodies, Boxer shorts, Ladies undies 12/14, Coffee, Peanut butter, Marmite, Toilet rolls, Dustpan & brushes, Mops (not buckets), Brooms, Tea towels Many thanks to all those who are so generous in their donations

**FATHER LIAM SAYS:** William the Conqueror invaded England on 28th September 1066 AD and less than three months later – after 'Hastings and all that' – he was crowned King of England in Westminster Abbey on Christmas Day. Having dealt with a few rebellions William consolidated his rule as undisputed King by the compilation of the Domesday Book in 1086. On his death in France in 1087 AD his son Robert took over the rule of Normandy and his other surviving son became King of England William II

It had taken many centuries for England to become a united country. It took even longer before England had a language that united the speech and writing of the whole population. There were many very distinct dialects reflecting the many distinct Kingdoms that had reflected the many divisions and rivalries that still exist!

Perhaps the greatest factor that unified the language was the writing of Geoffrey Chaucer who died in 1400 AD. Other English poets were writing at the same time as Chaucer but many of them are almost unintelligible to us. But we can pretty well understand him because his English was the London dialect and his writings – especially the Canterbury Tales – were so hugely popular that they influenced the language of the whole country.

Geoffrey's father was in the wine trade which meant that Geoffrey was in close contact with continental Europe and its languages and cultures. We don't know where or how he received his education but he was extraordinarily well read and fluent in several languages. As a young man he embarked on a military career and was taken prisoner and ransomed. On his return he married a wealthy lady and settled down. He was assisted by friends at court and was employed in the King's service at home and abroad.

In the mid 1370's he was Controller of Customs in the Port of London but soon afterwards his fortunes declined. Now a widower and out of favour at court he retired to Kent where he wrote The Canterbury Tales and his other great work Troilus and Criseyde based on Homer's Iliad. But it is by the Canterbury Tales that Chaucer remains known. Then narrative opens in April 1387 and this is how it begins:

'When that April is with his showers sweet

The drought of March hath pierced to the root...'

We can see that though it comes from 650 years ago it is broadly understandable – if we know that 'sweet' means 'sweet'. Twenty-nine pilgrims – including Chaucer who keeps out of the fray – gather at the Tabard Inn on the South Bank of the Thames in London. They intend to make the four-day, one hundred odd mile pilgrimage by horse to the tomb of the martyr Thomas à Becket in Canterbury Cathedral. Their host at the Inn appoints himself their guide. He decrees that each of the pilgrim's should tell two stories on the way and two on the way back. This would mean about one hundred and sixteen tales. That design was never completed. What has come down to us are twenty-four tales, some fragmentary.

It is not a devoutly 'Christian poem'. Chaucer sees Christianity as a very broad church in which are 'worldly' and 'religious' very often in the same person. Among the pilgrims are a number of church people, a friar, a monk, a prioress and a parson. These church people do not especially like each other nor is the reader expected to like them all. Other pilgrims include a cook, a miller, a sailor and a reeve (a land agent). There is also a merchant and 'The Wife of Bath', a widow of five marriages who picks fights with the others on the subject of marriage. There is also a doctor, a lawyer and a clerk. All human life is there!

Editions of the Canterbury Tales were censored for young readers until well into the twentieth century. The two-dozen tales cover quite a range of experiences and viewpoints. It concludes with a high minded and earnest sermon by the Parson. Perhaps Chaucer is telling us that it is a Christian book and it has the ending to prove it!

(I am indebted to John Sutherland's History of Literature)