

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 Lent– 'Laetare Sunday'

Saturday	25 th	6.00 pm	Theres Ammal RIP The Parish
Sunday	26 th	8.15 am	The Parish
		10.30 am	Mary Haugh RIP
Monday	27 th	9.30 am	Alec & Moira Marsh RIP
		10.00 am	<i>Mother's Prayers</i>
		11.00 am	<i>Lent Group</i>
		2.15 pm	<i>Mother's Prayers</i>
Tuesday	28 th	9.30 am	Holy Souls
Wednesday	29 th	9.30 am	The Feeney Family
		7.00 pm	<i>Divine Mercy Lent Group</i>
Thursday	30 th	7.00 pm	CAFOD <i>Stations of the Cross</i>
		7.30 pm	Mary McGuinness RIP
		8.00 pm	<i>Choir Practice</i>
Friday	31 st	9.30 am	Reg & Dorrie Marshall RIP
Saturday	1 st	6.00 pm	The Parish
Sunday	2 nd	8.15 am	Joan & Sidney Marshall RIP
		10.30 am	Sheila Walsh 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: £585 Thank you for your generosity.

TODAY'S READINGS: 1Samuel 16:1, 6-7, 10-13; Ephesians 5:8-14; John 9:1,6-9,13-17,34-38

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS: Ezekiel 37:12-14; Romans 8:8-11; John 11:1-45

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: Daisy Kinch, Maureen Sullivan, Raymond Earl, Stephen Paris, Edith De la Bertauche, Lillian Corry, Alice Hudson, Mary McGoohan, Dennis Hale, Leslie Green, Bernard Berendt, Jessie Crouch, Dick Rains, Lilian Lee

3. 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

4. AN OPEN PARISH PASTORAL MEETING will take place **this** 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

5. HAND-MADE MOTHER'S DAY & EASTER CARDS are now available in the Repository. All proceeds go to the Parish Project in Kalingalinga

6. 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

7. THE LENT SERVICE OF RECONCILIATION will take place here on Thursday 6th April at 7.30pm. If you will be unable to come there are posters in the porches with details of services being held elsewhere in the Deanery

8. TRADCRAFT WILL BE ON SALE after all Masses **this** weekend

9. ST PATRICK'S NIGHT HOOLEY: Many thanks to all those who helped, donated and supported an excellent evening of music, dance, song and wonderful food. £1,070.00 was raised for our Parish Project in Kalingalinga

10. 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

11. YOUR VOICE MATTERS – Mega Youth Poll: In 2018, Pope Francis will invite Bishops and others to Rome to talk about Youth, Faith and Vocational Discernment. At this gathering they will discuss how the Catholic Church can accompany young people in their faith and help them to hear God's call. If you are aged between 13-29 years old, the Catholic Church in England and Wales would like to hear from you, we want to hear what life is like, your thoughts on faith and how you connect with the Catholic Church. To help you tell us we have created a Youth Poll that you can access using this link <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/parish-youth-poll>. If you're not in this age group but would like to help, please encourage the young people you know to respond to this poll by giving them the link. For queries about the Youth Poll please email: synod2018@cbcew.org.uk.

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: Pope Pius XII died in 1958 – almost sixty years ago. On his death Golda Meir, then Israeli Foreign Minister, wrote: 'WE mourn a great servant of peace.' Albert Einstein, who had escaped Nazi Germany said in 1940: 'Only the Church stood squarely across the path of Hitler's campaign for suppressing the truth... I am forced to confess that what I once despised I now praise unreservedly.' Israel Zolli, who was Rome's Chief Rabbi at the time of the Holocaust became a Catholic and took the Pope's Christian name, Eugenio, in tribute to the efforts he had made on behalf of the Jews. Israel's first President, Chaim Weizmann, paid similarly generous tributes to Pius XII at the end of the war. In 1963 a previously unknown German, Rolf Hochhuth, published a play called 'The Deputy' which painted a very different picture of Pius XII. Hochhuth claimed that his play was historically accurate and portrayed the Pope as anti—Semitic and compliant in the persecution and death of the Jewish victims of Nazism. The play was premiered in West Berlin and was performed by the Royal Shakespeare Company in England and America. There followed an astonishing tide of antagonism towards the memory of Pius and the part played by the Church in these terrible events.

In 1964 Pope Pius VI commissioned extensive research into this whole subject. This was eventually published in 1981 and it showed the degree of Papal and Catholic support for the Jewish people during the war. But the accusations did not go away. The distinguished historian, Sir Martin Gilbert, wrote that he repeatedly received requests for his support from PhD studies purporting to show that Pius XII was 'silent' during these atrocities or even 'anti-Semitic'. John Cornwell's book 'Hitler's Pope' was one of a number giving a damning picture of the Pope. These have been savaged by knowledgeable critics such as Gilbert and Rabbi David Dalin. But the reputation of Pope Pius remains besmirched.

Pope Francis recently visited Auschwitz as did Pope John Paul II, Paul VI and Pope Emeritus Benedict. They had spoken and prayed aloud in the former notorious concentration camp, but Francis opted to stand in silent prayer. The BBC reported that the silent prayer of Pope Francis was in reparation for the silence of the Catholic Church – repeating the widely held view of the record of Pius XII and the Church during the war. Lord Alton of Liverpool immediately protested and made a formal complaint to the BBC. In early December the complaint was upheld. The head of the editorial complaints unit, Fraser Steel, wrote in reference to the BBC's report of Francis' visit: 'This did not give due weight to public statements by successive Popes on the efforts made on the instructions of Pius XII to rescue Jews from Nazi persecution and it perpetuated a view which is at odds with the balance of evidence.'

There have been recent significant developments in Holocaust Studies. Two years ago the International Raoul Wallenberg Foundation, an historical research institute, set out on a project to mark places as 'Houses of Life' where Jews were sheltered during the war with memorial plaques. The Chairman of the Foundation wrote that 'to our surprise we have learned that the overwhelming majority of Houses of Life were institutions related to the Catholic Church including convents, monasteries, boarding schools, hospitals etc'. In Rome alone some 4,500 people found refuge in churches, convents and monasteries. Many Jews were sheltered in Warsaw in spite of the fact that the penalty for Poles who rescued Jews was the death camp or, more likely, instant execution.

The Foundation named after Raoul Wallenberg found an extensive Catholic contribution to saving Jewish lives. Wallenberg was a Swedish diplomat in Budapest during the war who together with Angelo Rotta, the Papal Nuncio, saved 120,000 out of the city's 150,000 Jews. Wallenberg was arrested by the Red Army and was never seen again.

Several aides of Pius XII acknowledged that they had worked to rescue Jews on his direct instructions. They included two future Popes, Mgr Angelo Roncalli (John XXIII) and Mgr Giovanni Montini (Paul VI). Pius XII sheltered Jews in the Vatican and at his Summer Residence Castel Gondolfo where a maternity unit was installed. Before becoming Pope, Pius XII was Secretary of State to Pius XI. He helped to draft the text of the Encyclical issued on 14th March 1937 written in German. It is entitled 'Mit Brennender Sorge' (With Burning Anxiety) and it condemns Nazism. 'Whoever exalts race, or the people, or the State and divinises them to an idolatrous level perverts the order of the world created by God.' He had negotiated a concordat between the Holy See and Germany in 1933, not to appease Nazism but to have some means of holding the Nazis to account through an international treaty. The Nazi regime referred to Cardinal Pacelli – as he then was – as 'Jew-loving' and the Third Reich attempted to prevent his election as Pope in 1939. His statements before and during the war were unmistakably hostile to Nazism. To be more forthright – far from doing any good – would run the danger of causing more mayhem. A Nazi plot to kidnap Pius XII in 1944 was only averted by the intervention of SS General Karl Wolff.

The degree of communist support for Hochhuth's play only came to light in 1988 with the publication of the memoirs of Ion Pacepa, a Romanian three-star general who defected in 1978. The Soviets aim was to discredit the Papacy

(I am indebted to an article in The Catholic Herald, 10th March by Fr Leo Chamberlain OSB)