

## PARISH OF THE ENGLISH MARTYRS, Goring Way

2.04.2017

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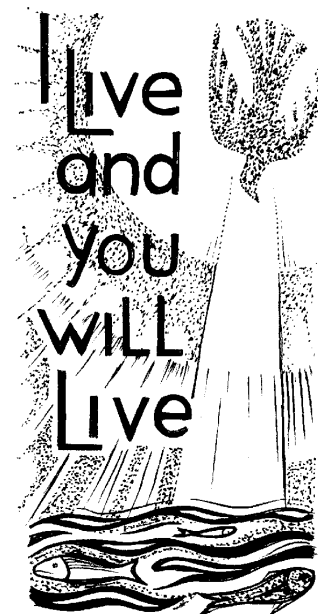
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Deacon Gary Bevans 01903 503514

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

### The Fifth Sunday of Lent

Saturday	1 <sup>st</sup>	6.00 pm	The Parish
Sunday	2 <sup>nd</sup>	8.15 am	Joan & Sidney Marshall RIP
		10.30 am	Sheila Walsh RIP
		6.00 pm	Polish Mass
Monday	3 <sup>rd</sup>	9.30 am	Sister Carmelite RIP
		10.00 am	Mother's Prayers
		11.00 am	Lent Group
		2.15 pm	Mother's Prayers
Tuesday	4 <sup>th</sup>	9.30 am	Dominic Lambas RIP & Laurdu Mary Mark RIP
		7.30 pm	Choir Practice (Only 1 this week. 2 next week)
Wednesday	5 <sup>th</sup>	9.30 am	Lottie-Mae (Operation)
		7.00 pm	Divine Mercy Lent Group
Thursday	6 <sup>th</sup>	9.30 am	Leonard Fitzpatrick RIP
		7.30 pm	<b>SERVICE OF RECONCILIATION</b>
Friday	7 <sup>th</sup>	9.30 am	Patrick Murphy RIP
Saturday	8 <sup>th</sup>	6.00 pm	Muriel Burns RIP
Sunday	9 <sup>th</sup>	8.15 am	The Parish
		10.30 am	Eileen Godfrey RIP



**SATURDAY:** Exposition with Benediction: 10.00 - 11.00am. Reconciliation: 10.15 – 10.45 am & 5.15 - 5:45 pm

**COLLECTIONS:** Church: £603 Thank you for your generosity.

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

**NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:** Isaiah 50:4-7; Philippians 2:6-11; Matt 26:14-27;66

**PARISH SERVICE OF RECONCILIATION this THURSDAY 6<sup>th</sup> April at 7.30 PM.**

**A NUMBER OF PRIESTS WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR CONFESSION.**

**An opportunity for us all to put our relationship with God in order**

**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: Anthony Lawton, Bernard Smyth, Catherine Edwards, Gladys Feaver, Paul Dillon, Frank Shave, Mary Mawe, Kathleen Cregan, James Morrell, Father Stephen Tynan

**3. ST GEORGE'S NIGHT 'DO'** will take place on Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> April following the 6.00pm Mass and the money raised will go to the 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 next weekend price £7.50 for adults and £4.00 for children or from Teresa 01903 529260

**4. THE REVELATION OF DIVINE LOVE** by St Julian of Norwich: A film in the words of St Julian of Norwich will be shown in the Barn on Wednesday 12th April at 7.30pm (40 minutes). A meditation on the Passion for Holy Week. All welcome. Teas and coffees provided

**5. 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](mailto:synod2018@cbcew.org.uk).

**6. EASTER SERVICES** (NB Ecumenical Service – Palm Sunday – 6.00 pm Goring URC – end of Lent Groups)

<b>Holy Thursday</b>	2 <sup>nd</sup> April	<b>8.00pm</b>	<b>Mass of the Lord's Supper</b>
<b>Good Friday</b>	3 <sup>rd</sup> April	10.00 am  3.00 pm 7.30 pm	<b>Family Stations of the Cross, especially for children followed by Children's Confessions</b> <b>THE PASSION OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST</b> <b>Stations of the Cross followed by Confessions</b>
<b>Holy Saturday</b>	4 <sup>th</sup> April	<b>8.30 pm</b>	<b>Easter Vigil &amp; First Mass of Easter</b>
<b>Easter Sunday</b>	5 <sup>th</sup> April	8.15 am 10.30 am	<b>Mass</b> <b>Mass</b>

**7. 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

**8. ENGLISH MARTYRS RC PRIMART SCHOOL'S CONSULTATION ON ADMISSIONS:** The Governors' statement in response to consultations on their Admission Policy 2018 – 2019 can be found on the school website: englishmartyrs.w-sussex.sch.uk under Admissions


**9. ENGLISH MARTYRS R C PRIMARY SCHOOL** wishes to recruit a practising Catholic to join our Governing Body as a Foundation Governor. The Governing Body work as a team in co-operation with the Headteacher to ensure legal responsibilities are met and to preserve the catholic character of the school. We are looking for someone with experience in one of the following areas - Finance, ICT, HR, Education or with links to local businesses. Lack of experience should not deter you from expressing an interest if you have a genuine desire to serve the school by devoting your time & expertise. For further information please contact the school on 01903 502868

**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. 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:** Towards the closing weeks of Lent in some Catholic churches, the Crucifix and statues are draped with a purple veil. Up to fifty years ago this was the universal practice. In recent years there is a tendency to revive this way of doing things. A number of priests seem to wish to embrace a number of pre-Vatican II ways. As Holy Week approaches we are encouraged to give greater thought to the Sufferings, Passion and Death of Our Lord. Why would the Crucifix, at this very time, be veiled?

The crucifix was not a symbol that the early Christians used. Crucifixion was still a very current form of execution used by the Romans who ruled a considerable part of the known world. We know that the most common image the early Christians used to help them honour Jesus was that of the Good Shepherd. No crucifix has been found in the Catacombs. There is no mention of an image of the crucifix by any Christian writer in the first four centuries of the Church. As well as depictions of The Good Shepherd, Christians also used images of Jesus as the Lamb, triumphant and carrying a flag of victory. They also used the image of a fish. The Greek word for fish is ichthus which was read as an acronym of the Greek phrase **Iesous Christos Theou Ūios Soter** (Jesus Christ, Son of God, Saviour). It is thought that these were adopted as secret symbols when the Church was suffering persecution.

On Good Friday great reverence is shown to the Cross – a plain wooden Cross without the figure of Jesus. The words used as it is venerated make it clear that it should be a cross rather than a crucifix: 'Behold the wood of the Cross on which hung the salvation of the world, come let us adore.' The empty cross is an instrument of torture that has been defeated. It is an image of Christ's love for us and of his victory over death. We refer to the wood of the Cross on which hung (not hangs) the salvation of the world. In the Letter to the Hebrews we are assured 'we have this hope as an anchor for the soul, firm and secure'. (6:19). The sign of  the Cross-anchor was also adopted by the early Christians as a hidden symbol which would not have been recognised by the authorities.

After the persecutions had ended the empty cross became the pre-eminent symbol of Christ's love and self-sacrifice by which we are saved. When the figure of Christ came to be attached to the cross he was shown with his arms outstretched and dressed in a long, seamless tunic often with a halo and gold crown in kingly or priestly dress. This image was most popular between the sixth and the thirteenth centuries. Christ was shown as our great High Priest and Universal King and gloriously triumphant. It was this situation which influenced the Church – as Holy Week approached – to draw a veil over the crucifix – because it very much depicted the Risen and Triumphant Christ. It was seen as not being in tune with the suffering Christ being led to his horrific death. When the Church – in the west – decided to have the crucifix covered it was driven by the same logic to cover the statues of Our Lord and Mary and the Saints as well. That practice held until fifty years ago and it still happens!

From around the thirteenth century, crucifixes increasingly depicted Christ on the Cross as having died in agony. We know that St Francis paid great attention to the humanity of Jesus. This led him to venerate the humility and vulnerability of the Infant Jesus. It was St Francis who is credited with the Christmas Crib. He also had a great devotion to the sufferings of Jesus. St Francis had the stigmata – the wounds of Our Lord – on his body. It is from around the time of St Francis that crucifixes emphasised more and more his suffering. The crown of thorns replaces the crown of glory. Why would one want to cover the image of our suffering saviour as we approach Passion Sunday and Good Friday?