

PARISH OF THE ENGLISH MARTYRS, Goring Way

23.04.2017

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

Presbytery 01903 242624 / Church repository 01903 506890

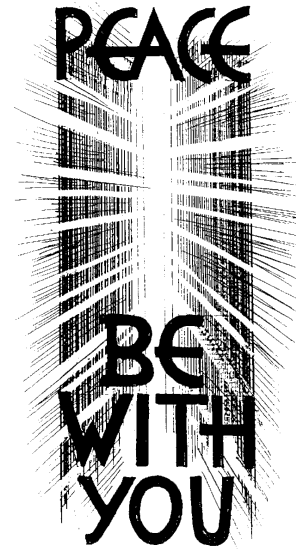
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Deacon Gary Bevans 01903 503514

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

Second Sunday of Easter

Saturday	22 nd	8.30 pm	The Parish
Sunday	23 rd	8.15 am	Father Dominic Rolls RIP
		10.30 am	William Egan RIP
Monday	24 th	9.30 am	No Mass
Tuesday	25 th	9.30 am	No Mass
Wednesday	26 th	9.30 am	No Mass
Thursday	27 th	7.30 pm	No Mass
Friday	28 th	9.30 am	Maria Petter RIP
Saturday	29 th	6.00 pm	Colin Bennett RIP
Sunday	30 th	8.15 am	The Parish
		10.30 am	Margaret Dunne RIP



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

TODAY'S READINGS: Acts 4:42-47; 1 Peter 1:3-9; John 20:19-31

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS: Acts 2:14. 22-23. Peter 1:17-21. Luke 24.13-35

Monday is the (transferred) Feast of St George.

The Easter Collection was for your Parish Priest. Father Liam thanks you for your generosity.

There will be a Second Collection next weekend for the floods in Peru (Gift Aid) Please see Note 6

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: Hilda Goldrick, Ruth Evans, Pamela Axworthy, Mary Lambrou, Stella Broadhead, Bernard Joyce, Mike Begley, Monica Day, Bernard Stone, Roy Jacobs

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

4. THE WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP OF ST. ANDREW'S C. of E. CHURCH, Ferring has invited the women of English Martyrs to join them for an Ecumenical Service on Wednesday 3rd May at 2.30pm. We are always greeted warmly at this annual event which will be followed by refreshments in the church Centre. To assist with numbers for catering, if you are able to attend, please ring Anne on 01903 242624 no later than Sat. 29th April.

5. 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 desire to serve the school by devoting your time & expertise. For further information please contact the school on 01903 502868

6. BISHOP RICHARD LAUNCHES FLOOD RELIEF APPEAL FOR PERU: As a result of severe flooding that hit Peru in March affecting both countryside and cities including areas in our twin Diocese of Chulucanas, where priests from Arundel & Brighton have served over the years, Bishop Richard has launched an appeal for flood relief in the parishes of our Diocese. Bishop Dan in Chulucanas, has made known the plight of many of his people affected by this natural disaster. The homes and livelihoods of many in the Diocese have been hard hit. Bishop Richard Moth has asked parishes in the Diocese to take a special collection which will be held next weekend. Bishop Richard offers his thanks, in advance, for your response to this need. He also asked that you remember in prayer Bishop Dan, all the people and priests of his Diocese including Fr Hugh Dutton from our own Diocese serving in Chulucanas. You can donate via a [special donation site direct to the Diocese online](#) or give via a second collection held in your parish for which you can use Diocesan second collection gift-aid envelopes.

7. WORTHING COMMUNITY CHOIR will be holding a concert in our church **next** Saturday 29th April at 3.30 pm. The money raised will go to the Chestnut Tree House Children's Hospice. All are very welcome

8. 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.

9. 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

10. 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: This Sunday – The Second Sunday of Easter – has many names. It was called the Sunday after Easter. This might imply that Easter lasts just one day which would seriously downgrade the significance of Easter. If today is the Second Sunday of Easter then Easter Sunday could be called the First Sunday of Easter and Pentecost Sunday could be called the Eighth Sunday of Easter – or the Fiftieth Day of Easter. Pentecost means the fiftieth day. The Jewish feast of Pentecost occurred on the fiftieth day after Passover.

Today was also called Low Sunday to emphasise the contrast between the solemnity surrounding Easter Sunday and the Sunday following. The name is not much used today fortunately as the Church encourages us to maintain the specialness of Easter for the full fifty days. One of the ways by which the term lived on – in clerical circles anyway – was in the practice of the Bishop's meeting together in this week – referred to as 'The Low Week Meeting' to discuss Church matters. But they meet at different times now – just to keep us guessing!

This day was also known as 'Dominica in Albis – the Sunday when the newly baptised Christians wore their white robes for the last time. Dominica is the Latin word for Sunday. It literally means: 'The Lord's Day'. At the Easter Vigil ceremony the newly baptised used to cast off their normal clothing before being baptised by immersion and were then dressed in white. Baptism is the Greek word for being plunged into water. In the early centuries of the Church, before and after the Roman Empire forbade the practice of the Christian faith, great numbers of adults were baptised by going into the water. Baptisms took place in private houses and elsewhere before they were allowed to have church buildings. Boys and men baptised at Easter were helped to robe themselves in their white garments by male deacons and girls and women had the assistance of female deacons or deaconesses. When adult baptism became much rarer it seems that female deacons disappeared. Pope Francis has recently set up a commission of six men and six women to throw further light on the wider ministry of deaconesses in the early Church with a view to reviving their ministry.

Perhaps a major argument in favour of having deaconesses in the Catholic Church is that it would enable us to hear the Word of God broken for us by women. In the present law of the Church only clergy are allowed to give homilies during Mass and since clergy are all men, women are excluded from this ministry. Even Mother Theresa of Calcutta, now canonised, would have not been allowed to preach. If this rule was being introduced into Church law for the very first time today, do you think it would happen? Would not such a step cause uproar? If it would be unacceptable to introduce such a rule now, why is it acceptable to maintain it? It will be interesting to hear what the commission thinks and what Pope Francis decides. Cardinal Vincent Nichols however is not keen on the idea. His concern is that effort to make women deacons might derail other attempts to enable them to exercise leadership roles in the Church.

What is within the competency of the Bishops of England and Wales is to make a united approach to Pope Francis on the matter of ordaining married men to the priesthood. We already have many married priests. We have one in the Worthing Deanery. These are men who were married Anglican priests who were received into full communion with the Catholic Church. Many such men expressed a wish to become priests in the Catholic Church and they were allowed to do so in spite of being married. We have had this situation for several years now and the heavens haven't fallen in. Pope Francis has on a number of occasions expressed a willingness to ordain married men who had not had Anglican Orders in situations where the local conference of Bishops requested it. There seems to be an unwillingness on the part of the bishops to respond to the Pope's initiative to make such a request.

Another name given to today – especially in the Eastern Church – is St Thomas Sunday. The gospel account of Jesus appearance to the disciples one week after his resurrection – when Thomas was with them – is always read today. Thomas gives us the strongest affirmation of Easter Faith 'My Lord and my God'.

The most recent title for today's Feast is Divine Mercy Sunday or the Feast of the Divine Mercy. Devotion to the Divine Mercy is very much associated with Sister Faustina Kowalska, a Polish nun who in her Diary reported visions and visitations from Jesus and conversations with him. The devotion was actively promoted by Pope Paul II. Sister Faustina was canonised on the Sunday after Easter Sunday, 30th April 2000 when Pope John Paul officially designated that Sunday as the Sunday of the Divine Mercy. The devotion is now widely celebrated and the image of the Divine Mercy is often displayed in Catholic Churches. Pope John Paul died in April 2005 on the vigil of Divine Mercy Sunday. He was beatified on Divine Mercy Sunday, 1st May 2011 by his successor Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI and was canonised on Divine Mercy Sunday, 27th April 2014 by Pope Francis