

PARISH OF THE ENGLISH MARTYRS, Goring Way

16.04.2017

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

Presbytery 01903 242624 / Church repository 01903 506890

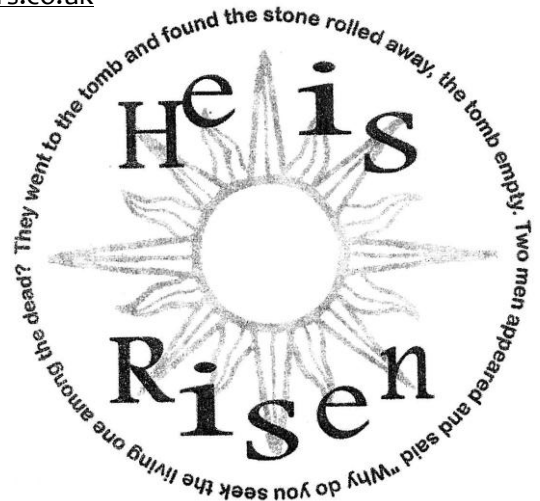
Email: emgoring@english-martyrs.co.uk Website: www.english-martyrs.co.uk

Deacon Gary Bevans 01903 503514

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

Easter Sunday

Saturday	15 th	8.30 pm	J Donohoe RIP
Sunday	16 th	8.15 am	Father Tom Uzhunnalil (Held captive)
		10.30 am	The Parish
		6.00 pm	Polish Mass
Monday	17 th		No Mass
Tuesday	18 th	7.30 pm	Douglas Doll RIP
Wednesday	19 th	9.30 am	Mary Haugh RIP
Thursday	20 th	9.30 am	Thomas Halton RIP
Friday	21 st	9.30 am	Catherine Bandy RIP
Saturday	22 nd	6.00 pm	The Parish
Sunday	23 rd	8.15 am	Father Dominic Rolls RIP
		10.30 am	William Egan RIP



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

TODAY'S READINGS: Acts 10:34, 37-43; Colossians 3:1-4; John 20: 1-9

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

COLLECTIONS: Church: £668 Thank you for your generosity.

THE COLLECTIONS AT THE EASTER VIGIL AND EASTER SUNDAY MASSES ARE YOUR PERSONAL GIFTS TO FATHER LIAM (GIFT AIDED)

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: John Clarke, Margaret McCarthy, Vincent Devereux, John Russell, Joseph Liston, Max Welton, Joan Briggs, Jim Corcoran, Marie Stovold, Win Coughlan

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

4. EASTER SUNRISE SERVICE will once again take place at 6.45am on Easter Sunday morning on the footpath by the Sea Lane Café followed by hot Tea/Coffee and Hot Cross Buns at St. Mary's Church Hall. Please see poster in the Porch for further details

5. YOUR OFFERINGS AT THE EASTER MASSES are your personal gift to Father Liam. (Gift Aid applies) If you are not Gift Aiding, special Easter Offering envelopes are in the Porch. If you will be away for Easter you might like to use these envelopes to make your gift either beforehand or afterwards

6. ST GEORGE'S NIGHT 'DO' will take place **next** Saturday 22nd 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 this weekend price £7.50 for adults and £4.00 for children or from Teresa 01903 529260

7. THE NEXT WOMEN'S BREAKFAST will be **next** Saturday 22nd April in the Barn from 9.00 – 11.00 am. The Barn will be warm and cosy and the speaker will be Jack Regan the Diocesan lead for Youth and 20 somethings. Come along and share fellowship with one another and a great breakfast. Queries contact Jane-Anne 01903-502070

8. 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.

9. AS THE CHURCH celebrates the 100th anniversary of Fatima this year, a NEW 30 minute film about Jacinta Marto and Our Lady of Fatima will be shown in The Barn on TUESDAY 18th April at 7pm. Refreshments provided.

10. 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

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: As we look around us gathered here on this great Feast it is good to ask ourselves the question: 'Who are we?' St Augustine's answer to that question is justly famous: 'We are the Easter People and Alleluia is our song'. (Augustine was Bishop of Hippo in Northern Africa. He died in 430 AD) This is who we are, not just on this day or in this season. This is our lasting identity in this life and for all eternity. For centuries the Church celebrated no other feast than Easter. They changed their day of worship from Saturday to Sunday because of Easter. Jesus rose from the dead on Sunday – so how could they not observe Sunday as their great day? Every Sunday was special, though Easter Sunday was the most special day of all. They regarded every Sunday as 'a little Easter'. Easter permeated their entire year and their entire lives.

So important was Easter that they soon gave great prominence not only to the week following Easter but to the week of weeks – seven weeks – that followed it. We continue to do that two thousand years later. We celebrate the Easter Season for fifty days – until Pentecost Sunday. Pentecost literally means the fiftieth day. Next Sunday is the Second Sunday of Easter. We do not officially know it as the Sunday after Easter – certainly not.

The Easter Season ends this year on 4th June – Pentecost Sunday. The previous Sunday is celebrated as the Seventh Sunday of Easter in most of the Catholic Church. Several countries however, including England and Wales, now celebrate Ascension Day on that Sunday. But the Feasts of the Ascension and of Pentecost are seen as Easter celebrations – aspects of the great Easter Event.

We have just concluded the shortest of all Church seasons. It is just three days – but what three days they are! We call them the Paschal Triduum. Triduum is derived from the Latin for 'three days'. The three days of course are Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and the Easter Vigil. Lent came to an end on the afternoon of Maundy Thursday.

Every day came to an end in Jewish reckoning at sunset. This is why we say in the Creed that Jesus rose from the dead on the third day. The Friday of his death ended at sunset by which time the body of Jesus had been placed in the tomb. The second day (Saturday) came to an end with sunset on the Sabbath which coincided with the Jewish Feast of the Passover. That sunset ushered in the Third Day – the day on which Jesus rose from the dead. The Sabbath literally means the Seventh Day. Jesus rose on the first day of the week.

As well as celebrating Easter at great length each year the Church prepared at great length for this great feast. So the Season of Lent came into being – from Ash Wednesday to just prior to the celebration of Maundy Thursday. Lent originally began on a Sunday but the observances of Lent were so severe that Sundays were exempted from the rigours of the fast. To make up for these days the 40 days of Lent began on the Wednesday before the First Sunday of Lent with the ceremony of ashes. So every year Easter is marked by having 90 days – three months – dedicated to it. Six weeks are designated as the Season to prepare and seven weeks are devoted to the celebration.

The words Lent and Easter are not really Christian names though they concern the deepest Christian mystery. The word Lent comes from the Anglo-Saxon Lencten, meaning Spring. It must seem odd for Christians on the other side of the globe to be celebrating Spring in Autumn! The word Easter is derived from the name of the Saxon goddess Eastre – the divinity of the dawn.

When Augustine said 'We are the Easter people' he used a different word for Easter. He spoke and wrote in Latin. Most European languages use a modification of the term Pascha which is of Jewish origin and refers to the great Jewish feast of the Passover on which Christ celebrated his - and our - Passover. The word used for Lent in most European languages is derived from the Greek or Latin names for forty days and so is equally appropriate for either side of the Equator!

We mark our celebration of the Sundays of Easter by having the Easter candle alight during all Sunday Masses of the Season. It is also lit at the Masses throughout Easter Week. During the Easter Season the first reading is not from the Old Testament. This is a major departure from the norm. On all other Sundays of the year the First Reading is from the Old Testament. But until Pentecost the First Reading every Sunday – and every weekday – comes from the Acts of the Apostles. This book was written by St Luke as the sequel to his Gospel. In it he tells how the ministry of the Risen Jesus was carried on by his disciples as they laboured to bring the Good News to the ends of the earth. Luke was the companion of St Paul – hence the prominence of Paul in Acts.

The Acts of the Apostles should really be called Acts of Apostles. That is what it says in the Greek that Luke wrote. It means what it says because it speaks of some acts of some apostles. Most of the twelve, for instance, are never mentioned again after Chapter One. Acts highlight the emergence of the Church as the witness to the continuing work of the Risen Christ in the world through the power of the Holy Spirit. We are reminded that every Christian community belongs to the lineage of the faithful witnesses that we meet in Acts. We are called every day, everywhere, to live what we hear and celebrate and to sing Alleluia as our song of joy and thanksgiving.