

PARISH OF THE ENGLISH MARTYRS, Goring Way

16.07.2017

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

Presbytery 01903 242624 / Church repository 01903 506890

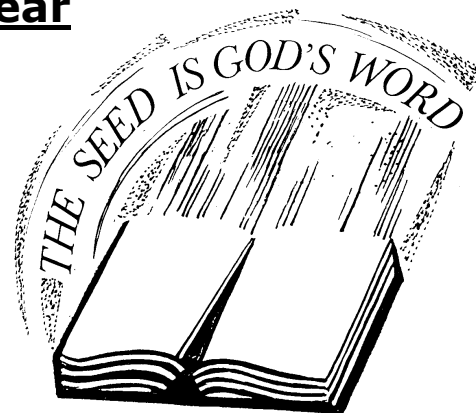
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Deacon Gary Bevans 01903 503514

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

Fifteenth Sunday of the Year

Saturday	15 th	6.00 pm	Helen Roe RIP
Sunday	16 th	8.15 am	The Parish
789+5640		10.30 am	Caroline Casey RIP
		6.00 pm	Polish Mass
Monday	17 th	9.30 am	Gerard Gilham RIP
Tuesday	18 th	9.30 am	Pat & Babe O'Mahoney RIP
		7.30 pm	Choir Practice
Wednesday	19 th	9.30 am	Holy Souls
Thursday	20 th	7.00 pm	Jacqueline Donohoe RIP
		7.30 pm	Parish Meeting – See Note 8 below
Friday	21 st	9.30 am	Juan & Rosalinda Dorado RIP
Saturday	22 nd	6.00 pm	The Parish
Sunday	23 rd	8.15 am	Mary Dolan RIP
		10.30 am	Walter & Katherine Drohan RIP



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

TODAY'S READINGS: Isaiah 55:10-11, St. Paul to the Romans 8:18-23, Matthew 13:1-23

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS: Wisdom 12:13, 16-19, St. Paul to the Romans 8:26-27, Matthew 13:24-43

Church: £614

The Apostleship of the Sea: £ 630

Thank you for your generosity.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS: Irene Sedeño Vicente, Peter, Molly Simmonds, Deacon Pat Moloney, Roy Pritchard, Marie Davidson, Yvonne Carter, Lottie-Mae, 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: Geoffrey Evans, Caroline Casey, Penny Van Melsen, John Brett, Josephine Murphy, George Mahoney, Cecelia Albery, Margaret Bolton, David Eardley, John Whitehead, Mary McCarney

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

4. CREAM TEA IN THE BARN on Saturday, 29th July between 3pm and 5pm. Tickets £5.00 on sale after all Masses **this** weekend. Proceeds to Our Lady of Good Counsel Network - a Catholic Pro-Life Charity. There will be a sale of any cakes remaining on the following day after the 10.30 am Mass.

5. OUR CHURCH CLEANERS ARE WEARING OUT DUE TO OVERWORK! We have four teams of volunteers who come for a maximum of one hour every four weeks on a Friday morning at 10.00 am. to sweep, vacuum and polish the church. Sadly some have had to give up for a variety of reasons and so our 'teams' are depleted thus making the task more difficult than it needs to be. If you could give just one hour a month of your time to this vital task – no-one wants a dirty church – please contact Anne in the office – 01903 242624 – or just turn up.

6. TRADCRAFT will be on sale after all Masses **next** weekend

7. THE NEXT WOMEN'S BREAKFAST will be held **next** Saturday 22nd July at 9.00 am. Please come and join us for a delicious breakfast, friendship, sharing and fellowship. This month our talk topic is, "Our stories". We look forward to seeing you. Transport can be arranged if necessary. For further information please contact Jane-Anne 01903-502070."

8. A PARISH MEETING will take place in the Barn on Thursday 20th July at 7.30pm to discuss our thoughts and suggestions for life as a parish without a resident priest.

9. CHOIR PRACTICE resumes on Tuesday evening at 7.30 pm. All are welcome

10. ST. MARY OF THE ANGELS – 150 Years of History by Dennis Key is a very interesting book about our neighbouring Catholic church and available in the Repository. Price £5.00. Also available is our own 'A Brief History of the Church of the English Martyrs Church' by Breda Gibson and Adrian Bishop in its new all-colour edition Price £3.00.

11. MARY'S MEALS: We are now in particular need of Soap, Toothpaste, Pencil Cases, Flannels, Serviceable Ladies & Children's Sandals, Flip-Flops. Many thanks to all who help in this way

12. WORTHING CHURCHES HOMELESS PROJECTS: Urgently needed this month: Sugar, Squash, Fruit Juices, Biscuits, Coffee, Peanut Butter, Marmite, Hoodies, Boxer shorts, Ladies undies 12/14, Washing Powder, Toilet rolls, Dustpan & brushes, Mops (not buckets), Brooms, Tea towels Many thanks to all who donate in this way

FATHER LIAM SAYS: When I began my studies for the priesthood in 1960 we were told, not unsurprisingly, that among the many things expected of us during vacation was that we should attend Mass daily. In my case, however, this was not quite so straightforward. My local parish priest did not say daily Mass in the church. His parish was very rural and his policy was to say daily Mass privately in the oratory of the parochial house. In addition to the Blessed Sacrament being reserved in the tabernacle of the parish church, it was also reserved in the tabernacle of his oratory. When people passed the church in those days it was customary to make the sign of the cross and for men to doff their caps or hats – out of respect for the Blessed Sacrament. When they passed the parish priest's house they did the same thing as they knew the Blessed Sacrament was reserved there

When I came home for the Christmas holidays I visited my parish priest and told him that I was expected to go to daily Mass. He said that I could come to his house at a specific time and I served the Mass. The only other person present was the housekeeper who would have made the responses – in Latin – until I arrived on the scene. When it came to Easter holidays the parish priest told me that I needn't come to Mass at his house anymore. He obviously felt it was an inconvenience for him – that in the event of my continuing in the Seminary for six years he could well do without! In addition he was over seventy years which was venerable at that time!

I didn't tell the Seminary authorities about this – nor did I broadcast it among my fellow seminarians as far as I can remember. It would have been a rare state of affairs which I did not want to draw attention to.

In recent years an increasing number of parishes in Ireland as well as in much of the Catholic world cannot celebrate weekday Mass with the same frequency that they once enjoyed. The immediate reason for this is the greatly reduced number of ordained priests. Where one priest has to serve two or three parishes – as is increasingly the case – different forms of daily public worship have to be explored. In a large number of places throughout the world Catholics have never had large numbers of ordained priests. For many people in Asia, sub-Saharan Africa, parts of Australasia and South America, the norm is infrequent Sunday Mass. For them the question of daily Eucharist is deemed to be a privilege that is only available in large towns and cities.

The situation to which we have grown accustomed in Great Britain and Ireland where there are so many churches and so many Masses is a relatively new phenomenon. It arose from the surge in the number of priests being ordained from the 1930's through to the early 1960's. So many of the parishes in our Worthing Deanery date from this time, such as East Worthing, High Salvington, Goring-by-Sea, East Preston and Rustington. When churches were built in these places they soon developed to separate churches because there were so many priests available.

It is essential that matters are kept in perspective. In recent years the number of priests we have had has been historically very high. We have known no other situation so we have come to regard the last forty or fifty years as having been the norm. In fact they have been highly exceptional. We now have to live with altered expectations. We can no longer expect daily Mass to be the norm in our Catholic churches. There should be daily worship. The prayer-life of the local community must be nourished. What form this weekday public worship should take has to be given great consideration. But Mass on weekdays will no longer be possible on a daily basis in most parishes.

Our long tradition in both the Church of the East and of the West has given to us a rich fare of ways in which public worship has been offered. Outside of the Eucharist, the oldest has been and remains the Liturgy of the Hours, most particularly Morning, Evening and Night Prayer. Its basic content is the offering of praise and thanksgiving to God, with Christ, through the Psalms and intercessions. Monastic communities developed their own ways of worshipping daily. It was not until the ninth century or so that daily Mass became common in monasteries and some of the churches of the large cities in the Church of the West. The Eastern Church has never, generally speaking, known the practice of celebrating the Eucharist daily. It was only in the nineteenth century that priests in the Western Church were expected to celebrate daily Mass as a matter of course.

It is difficult for us to imagine how the Church has changed in so many ways in the course of the centuries. It is important that we realise this, otherwise we can so easily be alarmed at the changes that will increasingly be part of our Christian lives. Christians have always responded to Christ's command to pray without ceasing. Above all they have striven to gather for the celebration of the Sunday Eucharist