

## PARISH OF THE ENGLISH MARTYRS, Goring Way

8.10.2017

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

### Twenty-Seventh Sunday of the Year

Saturday	7 <sup>th</sup>	6.00 pm	Johannah O'Driscoll RIP
Sunday	8 <sup>th</sup>	8.15 am	The Parish
		10.30 am	Rosemary Richard RIP
Monday	9 <sup>th</sup>	9.30 am	Holy Souls
Tuesday	10 <sup>th</sup>	9.30 am	Margaret Mansfield RIP
		<b>7.30 pm</b>	<b>Choir Practice</b>
Wednesday	11 <sup>th</sup>	9.30 am	Maria's Intentions
Thursday	12 <sup>th</sup>	7.30 pm	Marta Skopkova RIP
Friday	13 <sup>th</sup>	9.30 am	Holy Souls
Saturday	14 <sup>th</sup>	6.00 pm	Roger Davis RIP
Sunday	15 <sup>th</sup>	8.15 am	The Parish
		10.30 am	Nuala Murray 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

**TODAY'S READINGS:** Isaiah 5:1-7, St Paul to Philippians 4:6-9, Matthew 21:33-43

**NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:** Isaiah 25:6-10, St Paul to Philippians 4:12-14, 19-20, Matthew 22:1-14

**Church: £904**

**Thank you for your generosity.**

**This weekend there will be a Second Collection for CAFOD Harvest Fast Day, which was on Friday.  
This may be Gift Aided using the special CAFOD envelopes available in both porches**

**PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:** Anne Whitehead, Bernard Bandy, Jeany, Peter, Deacon Pat Moloney, Roy Pritchard, Marie Davidson, Yvonne Carter, Finlay, Alfred Deacon, Ester Park, Marie Garselis, Roni Horstead, Krissie White, Ronnie Tyler, Jenny Begley, Bill Hogg, Andrew Kennedy, Breda Schlimgen, Michaela Finn, Ann Wesley, Winifred Lyons, Yvette Allen, Leslie Lee, Kerry McStravick, Gerry Potter, Lydia Van Melsen, Donald MacDonald, Edna Catley

**2. THOSE WHO HAVE DIED RECENTLY:** **BILLY GALLAGHER** and those whose anniversaries occur about now: Margaret McGuinness, Ray Cottam, Molly Bellenger, Phyllis Davey, Johanna Hawkins, Maurice Chiverton, Kathy Bainbridge (*Billy's Requiem Mass will be on Monday 16th October at 11.00 am*)

**3. CONFIRMATION 2017/18:** If you are in Year 10 or above and considering being Confirmed next year you are invited to join our preparation programme that will be starting soon. Please collect an application form from the Sacristy and return to the Parish Office as soon as possible

**4. LEARNING ABOUT THE CATHOLIC FAITH:** We will soon be starting this year's course (RCIA) for those interested in finding out more about our faith with a view to being received into full communion with the Catholic Church. If you know of anyone who would like to join us, please ask them to ring Father Liam on 01903 242624 for details. This course would also be suitable for those wanting to return to the practise of their Catholic faith.

**5. IF YOU PAY YOUR GIFT AIDED CONTRIBUTION** to the Parish by Direct Debit/Standing Order and are in need of envelopes in order to Gift Aid some Second Collections please contact Jim - 01903-240684 who will supply them

**6. SINNERS XVI** will take place here in the Barn **next** Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> October. It is with regret that the Afternoon Teas have been cancelled. However a Fish/Sausage/Chicken and Chips Supper with Bar, Quiz and Raffle from 7.00 pm. continues. Tickets will be on sale this weekend for the Fish/Sausage/Chicken & Chips Supper £7.50 each. Please see poster in porch for further details. Raffle prizes would be gratefully received as would offers to help in the evening. Please contact Anne – 240001 – for further details

**7. THE ALPHA COURSE** started last week at St. Michael's Church Hall. If you didn't make it to the first week of the course there is still time to attend next Monday 9 October. Dinner will be served at 7 p.m. There is no charge for the evening and all are welcome. There is no commitment to attend further sessions so do please come along if you would like to and bring your friends. For catering purposes it would be helpful to know numbers attending so if you haven't already registered please contact Mary at [info@worthinalpha.com](mailto:info@worthinalpha.com) or 01903 506599.

**8. THE 2018 PARISH DIARIES** are available in both porches. They are free but if you would like to make a donation to either CAFOD or our Parish Project there are boxes in the main porch

**9. ENGLISH MARTYRS SCHOOL OPEN DAY:** If your child's date of birth is between 1 September 2013 and 31 August 2014 it is now time to apply for their school place. English Martyrs Catholic Primary School has an Open Day for prospective parents **next** Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> October at 9.30am and 5.30pm. The School is located in Derwent Drive, Worthing, BN12 6LA. Parents are more than welcome to ring the school on 01903 502868 for more information or just come along to one of the sessions. They will be very happy to see you.

**10. MARY'S MEALS:** We are now in particular need of Soap, Toothpaste, Pencil Cases, Colouring Pencils and Flannels. Many thanks to all who help in this way

**11. WORTHING CHURCHES HOMELESS PROJECTS** would be most grateful to receive: Cooking Sauces, Tea, Coffee, Squash, Tomato Ketchup, Mayonnaise, Biscuits, Washing Power/tablets, Washing up brushes, Dishwasher tablets, Floor cleaner, Pump hand soap, Shampoo, Shower gel. Thank you so much for your continued support.

**FATHER LIAM SAYS:** Five hundred years ago one of the great tragedies in the history of Christianity got under way. In October 1517 Martin Luther led a protest movement against the abuses associated with indulgences. This led to the major breach in the Church, known as the Protestant Reformation.

The Catholic practice of indulgences developed gradually during the Middle Ages but grew enormously in the years running up to 1500 AD as the connection between the gaining of indulgences and the giving of money became stronger. Causes such as the Crusades and the building of churches and cathedrals, which required huge sums of money, were often supported by the issuing of special indulgences. The re-building of St Peter's Basilica in Rome was going to be enormously expensive and so in 1515 a major effort at fund-raising included the promulgation of the St Peter's indulgence decided on by Pope Leo X.

A number of respected and influential figures had, over the years, expressed reservations about the increasingly frequent fund-raising ventures involving indulgences. Clergy often warned in their preaching against the dangers of seeing indulgences as a substitute for true penance. A senior German member of the Augustinian order, Johann von Staupitz, preached against these abuses during Advent 1516 and his sermons were published in Latin and German early in 1517. Luther was also an Augustinian priest and a friend of Staupitz. It was clear that St Peter's indulgence was not popular in Germany. Helping to finance their local cathedrals was one thing, but sending their money to Rome was another matter. The Franciscans were often associated with preaching indulgences but the German Franciscans refused to accept this one as it was too associated in the public eye with 'Roman luxury'. So the Dominicans were asked instead and the campaign in Germany was led by Johann Tetzel.

It was not preached in all the German States. Martin Luther was a theology professor in the University of Wittenberg, which was in Saxony, whose ruler was Frederick the Wise. Frederick would not allow the St Peter's indulgence to be preached in his territory – for financial reasons of his own. So this indulgence, to which Luther took such great exception, was never preached in Wittenberg. But people from Wittenberg were close enough to the borders of Saxony to go and hear Tetzel preach.

'As soon as a coin in the coffers rings, the soul from purgatory springs.' According to Martin Luther, this was the depths to which the preaching on indulgences had by 1517n been reduced. This was how he articulated it in the 27th of his 95 theses. There is no direct evidence that such words were used by Tetzel or any other preacher but it made a good story. Not many people have had a good word to say about Johann Tetzel. He is the pantomime villain of the Reformation, often portrayed as crude and unscrupulous in making the wildest claims to extract money from the credulous. Tetzel was certainly flamboyant and enthusiastic, as were many great medieval preachers who drew vast crowds. But Tetzel was a sophisticated and thoughtful theologian. He was educated at the University of Leipzig and had taught theology at the Dominican school there. While Tetzel's superiors were slow to react to Luther's challenge, Tetzel recognised the seriousness of the threat. He was the first to respond to the criticisms of Luther. He was roundly abused by Luther and his friends who recognised him as a formidable adversary, which is why they attacked him as savagely as they did.

Tetzel was at the heart of the first coherent effort to rally forces against Luther. At a meeting of the Dominican Chapter in Frankfurt there was a demonstration of support for Tetzel and a series of theses were prepared in defence of indulgences to be debated by Tetzel. This closing of ranks in the Dominican Order around Tetzel led the Augustinian Order to rally around Luther and give him the benefit of any doubt they might have had. This gave Luther crucial breathing space to make his case. Luther now decided that he would reply to Tetzel's theses not in Latin but in German.

Tetzel's 106 theses were brought to Wittenberg University with instructions that they should be distributed among the students. Before this could happen the bookseller found himself surrounded by a hostile crowd and the whole consignment of documents – eight hundred copies – was taken from him and burned. This was not something that could be dismissed as a student prank and it was the first sign that Luther's protest would raise forces he could not control. It caused Luther considerable embarrassment and he was forced to protest that he had nothing to do with the incident. In choosing to respond to Tetzel in the vernacular Luther took the debate outside of the universities into the public square. He abandoned the protection that his status as a professor had afforded him and from now on he would be a marked man