

## PARISH OF THE ENGLISH MARTYRS, Goring Way

15.04.2018

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

Presbytery 01903 242624 / Church repository 01903 506890

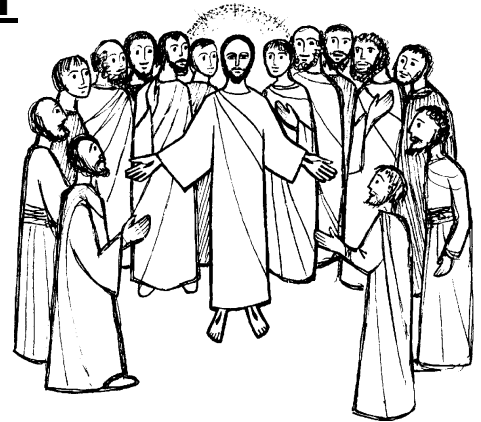
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Deacon Gary Bevans 01903 503514

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

### Third Sunday of Easter

Saturday	14 <sup>th</sup>	6.00 pm	Lynagh Family RIP
Sunday	15 <sup>th</sup>	8.15 am	The Parish
		10.30 am	Mary McClosky
		6.00 pm	Polish Mass
Monday	16 <sup>th</sup>	9.30 am	Lee Adams Intension
Tuesday	17 <sup>th</sup>	9.30 am	E & C Spinks
Wednesday	18 <sup>th</sup>	9.30 am	Holy Souls
Thursday	19 <sup>th</sup>	7.30 pm	Morghana Woodburn RIP
Friday	20 <sup>th</sup>	9.30 am	Mary Haugh RIP
Saturday	21 <sup>st</sup>	6.00 pm	Sheila Devanney RIP
Sunday	22 <sup>nd</sup>	8.15 am	Sivyer Family Past & Present
		10.30 am	The Parish



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

**TODAY'S READINGS:** Acts 3:13-15, 17-19, 1 John 2: 1-5, Luke 24:35-48

**NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:** Acts 4:8-12, 1 John 3:1-2, John 10:11-18

**COLLECTIONS:** Church: £595 Lenten Alms: £125 Thank you for your generosity.  
Next weekend there will be a Second Collection for The Education of Future Priests (Gift Aid)

**PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:** Ada O'Regan, Baby Samuel Bezants, Patrick McGrath, Christine Watson, David Hall, Ann & Gordon Milne, Anne Whitehead, Bernard Bandy, Jeany, Peter, Deacon Pat Moloney, Yvonne Carter, Finlay, Alfred Deacon, Ester Park, Marie Garselis, Roni Horstead, 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, Edna Catley

**2. THOSE WHO HAVE DIED RECENTLY** and those whose anniversaries occur about now: Patricia Jones, Mary La Roche, 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 st

**4. ST GEORGE'S NIGHT 'DO'** will take place on Saturday 21st 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

**5. PRAYER PARTNERS:** The children preparing for their First Holy Communion would like to give Prayer Cards to their Prayer Partners at 10.30am Mass **next** Sunday, 22nd April as a 'Thank you' for praying for them. Please could all prayer partners try to attend this Mass if possible.

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

**7. CONFIRMATION GROUP 2018 SPONSORED WALK** will take place **next** Saturday 21st April and will go from the seafront end of George V Avenue to Splash Point and back. We will meet at the shelter at the end of George V Avenue at 1.45 pm for a 2.00 pm start. Please come and join us and bring your friends too. We will collect sponsors at all Masses **this** weekend but you are welcome to collect sponsors from anywhere! The walk is in aid of the English Martyrs Primary School Appeal for help to furnish their eco-classroom.

**8. ROSARY ON THE COAST FOR FAITH, LIFE AND PEACE IN THE BRITISH ISLES** will take place on Sunday 29 April 2018 at 3pm This is a day of Pilgrimage and Prayer for the re-flourishing of our Faith, for the grace to build a culture of Life and for true Peace to reign in the hearts of all. We will surround the coasts of our Isles with prayer and encircle them with a Living Rosary for Life, Faith and Peace at 3pm. Deacon Gary will lead the rosary and prayers on the beach at Goring Gap. Please gather at the East side of the Plantation from 2.30pm. A prayer to invoke the Holy Spirit will be said at 2.45pm followed by the rosary at 3pm. At the same hour those in inland locations will gather at their Cathedrals, Churches and Shrines. For further information please see: <https://facebook.com/rosaryonthecoast/> or [www.rosaryonthecoast.co.uk](http://www.rosaryonthecoast.co.uk)

**9. 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 2nd 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 Friday. 27<sup>th</sup> April.

**10. YOUTH ALPHA: A NEW YOUTH GROUP FOR THE WORTHING PARISHES:** Starting on Sunday May 13th, there will be a new youth group open to anybody in Year 7, 8, 9, or the last term of Year 6. It's being run on behalf of all the Worthing Parishes, with the involvement of the Diocese, and will be held in 'The Barn' at English Martyrs Church, Goring. It will run roughly every fortnight, on Sunday evenings, from 7pm to 8.30pm. For the first few months, the group will follow the popular 'Youth Alpha' course. It's open to anyone in the age range, no matter where (or if) they go to Church. To find out more, Email [Jack.Regan@dabnet.org](mailto:Jack.Regan@dabnet.org)

**11. MARY'S MEALS:** We are now in particular need of Soap, Toothpaste, Pencil Cases and A5 Exercise Books or Reporter's Notepads. Many thanks to all who so generously contribute to these backpacks

**11. WORTHING CHURCHES HOMELESS PROJECTS:** Urgently needed this month: Tea, Coffee, Cooking Oil, Squashes, Ketchup, brown sauce, salad cream, Washing powder/tabs, Washing up liquid, Shampoo/Conditioner, Shower Gel, Cereals (no Cornflakes or porridge). Many thanks to those who are so generous in their donations

**Father Liam says: Last Monday – 9th April, we celebrated the** Feast of the Annunciation of the Lord. As it so happened that was also the first Monday of the new Tax Year. Back in history these two events were long connected with each other. This year the connection was totally coincidental. Normally the Church celebrates the Feast of the Annunciation of the Lord on 25th March. As we celebrate the birth of Jesus on 25th December there has been a long tradition in the Church of celebrating the Annunciation nine months earlier in honour of the fact that Mary conceived the Child Jesus by the power of the Holy Spirit on the occasion of the Annunciation. However, a Council of the Church held in Toledo in Spain in the seventh century ordered that the feast be kept on 18th January. The purpose of this ruling was to provide against the inconvenience of celebrating the Annunciation in Lent. And, of course, the date of the commencement of Lent can vary by a matter of several weeks from year to year.

This year 25th March fell on Palm Sunday so the Feast of the Annunciation was delayed by over two weeks. It could not be celebrated in Holy Week, nor in Easter Week because of the importance of these two weeks in our celebration of Christ's Passion, Death and Resurrection. The earliest day therefore on which it could be celebrated this year was on 9th April. It is not unusual for the Feast of the Annunciation to be detached from its official date of 25th March with the result that the feast does not always get the importance it deserves. Perhaps the Council of Toledo made a wise decision fourteen centuries ago. By fixing a date in mid-January everyone knew exactly when the important feast would be observed. How many of you knew that last Monday was the Feast of the Annunciation? I wouldn't be surprised if there were a number of priests and even bishops who did not advert to that fact.

For many centuries New Year's Day was observed on the Feast of the Annunciation. It was called Lady's Day in honour of Our Lady. But the Feast is now regarded as a Feast of Our Lord which is why it is called the Feast of the Annunciation of the Lord. The very names given to several months of the year should alert us to the fact that something strange is afoot. September, October, November and December are so named as these were the seventh, eighth, ninth and tenth months of the year in ancient times. Our January and February would have been the eleventh and twelfth months leaving March as the first month of the New Year.

The new Tax Year would have coincided with the beginning of the New Year. That is why even today the Tax Year begins when it does. In fact it used to begin several days earlier but the calendar changed from the Julian Calendar dating to the time of Julius Caesar to what became known as the Gregorian Calendar. Over the centuries the Julian Calendar – which was reasonably accurate in the short term – had deviated by ten days from the real Solar calendar. A difference of eleven and a half minutes a year had now become rather large so Pope Gregory XIII decided that something had to be done. In those days such a huge change could only have been attempted by the Pope and he introduced his calendar in 1582 – 1,600 years after Julius Caesar devised his calendar in 45 BC.

The Great Schism dividing Eastern Christianity from Rome was already nearly 600 years old when the Gregorian Calendar was introduced so the East would have nothing to do with it. Many Orthodox churches still follow the Julian Calendar which now lags thirteen days behind the Gregorian. Russia in fact adopted the 'new' calendar in 1918 after the Revolution. Greece waited until 1923 and China followed suit in 1949. When Gregory introduced his calendar the Reformation was well under way and non-Catholic countries had no desire to follow Rome's way. Queen Elizabeth I came to the throne in 1588 – just six years after Gregory's Calendar. Until 1752 Lady's Day was New Year's Day in England – when contracts were renewed and taxes were levied. But in 1752 England and its colonies adopted the Gregorian Calendar and in that year the beginning of the Tax Year in England was moved eleven days to 6th April where it has remained ever since. How accurate is the Gregorian Calendar now? After 436 years it differs from the Solar year by only 6 seconds. This means that over a period of 3,323 years the difference will be only one day!

Every time we say the Hail Mary we recall the Annunciation. This prayer is sometimes called the Angelic Salutation as the Angel Gabriel greeted Mary with the words: 'Hail, full of grace'. (Luke 1:28) The Angelus is a meditation on this central mystery of our faith – 'Christ among you, your hope of Glory' (Colossians 1:27)