

PARISH OF THE ENGLISH MARTYRS, Goring Way

29.04.2018

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

Presbytery 01903 242624 / Church repository 01903 506890

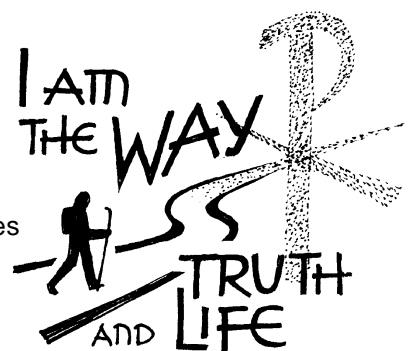
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Deacon Gary Bevans 01903 503514

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

Fifth Sunday of Easter

Saturday	28 th	6.00 pm	Barbara Nelson RIP
Sunday	29 th	8.15 am	The Parish
		10.30 am	Margaret Dunne RIP
Monday	30 th	9.30 am	Father Michael Adams
Tuesday	1 st	9.30 am	Stephanie Shephard RIP
		7.30 pm	Choir Practice
Wednesday	2 nd	9.30 am	Deceased Members of Murphy & Staunton Families
Thursday	3 rd	7.30 pm	Martin McStravick (Quick recovery from surgery)
Friday	4 th	9.30 am	Dick Murphy RIP
		7.30 pm	Prayer Group
Saturday	5 th	6.00 pm	William McEvoy RIP
Sunday	6 th	8.15 am	The Parish
		10.30 am	Emily Ray RIP
		6.00pm	Polish Mass



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

TODAY'S READINGS: Acts 9:26-31, 1 John 3:18-24, John 15:1-8

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS: Acts 10:25-26, 34-35, 44-48, 1 John 4:7-10, John 15:9-17

COLLECTIONS: Church: £615 Thank you for your generosity.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS: Joan Cutmore, Cathy Hatton, 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

2. THOSE WHO HAVE DIED RECENTLY: EDNA CATLEY and those whose anniversaries occur about now: Monica Day, Bernard Stone, Roy Jacobs, Margaret Dunne, Nick Brown, Peggy Mardell

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

4. CONFIRMATION GROUP 2018 SPONSORED WALK is in aid of the English Martyrs Primary School Appeal for help to furnish their eco-classroom. It has now taken place and sponsor money will be collected this weekend.

5. ROSARY ON THE COAST is taking place this Sunday 29th April: Deacon Gary will lead the rosary and prayers on the green directly opposite the bottom of Aldsworth Avenue, (to the East of the trees). Please gather from 2.30pm. A prayer to the Holy Spirit will be said at 2.45pm followed by the rosary at 3pm. We will be joining with others praying the rosary at the same time at other locations around the British Isles. We will surround the coasts of our Isles with prayer and encircle them with a Living Rosary.

6. YOUTH ALPHA: (FOR YEARS 6-9) STARTING IN THE BARN on SUNDAY MAY 13TH As you've probably heard, there is a new youth group starting on Sunday May 13th serving all of the Worthing parishes. It's called 'Youth Alpha' and it's running on Sunday evenings - roughly every fortnight during term time - at 'The Barn' at English Martyrs Church, from 7pm to 8.30pm. It's open to anyone in Years 7-9 and to Year 6's in their final term (or those of equivalent age not at school). To start off with, we'll follow the 'Youth Alpha' course, so evenings will involve food, games, a video, and a chance to chat. If you've got any questions, contact Jack.Regan@dabnet.org. Parents: Please don't leave on the first evening without signing a consent form!

7. 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 240001 no later than today.

8. ST GEORGE'S NIGHT 'DO': Many thanks to all those who helped and supported in any way the excellent evening last Saturday. £730 was raised for the Chestnut Tree House Children's Hospice.

8a READERS AND MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARIST: Rosters for May are now available in the Sacristy

9. CHOIR PRACTICES have resumed on Tuesdays at 7.30 pm to start learning new hymns and Masses. If you enjoy singing do come and join us. All are welcome

10. 'A DAY FOR WOMEN' Building Faith and Inspiring Disciples will be led by Geoff and Gina Poulter in The Barn on Saturday 12th May from 10.00am until 4.00pm. Coffee and lunch will be provided by the team. Cost – a voluntary contribution please (Suggested £10.00) We invite you to join us for an inspiring day. For further details please contact Jane-Anne 07765 403883

11. A MIDDLE EASTERN EVENING will take held in the Barn on Saturday 19th May following the 6.00 pm Mass. The money raised will go to St Joseph's Centre in Bethlehem to support their work to assist the Christian Community, as described by Sister Bee last year. An exciting supper plus quiz and raffle is planned. Tickets £7.50 for adults and £4.00 for children on sale **next** weekend.

12. MARY'S MEALS: We are now in particular need of Soap, Toothpaste, Pencil Cases and 6ins/15cm Rulers. Many thanks to all who so generously contribute to these backpacks

13. 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: Every Mass we celebrate is different. The Scripture readings and many of the prayers vary from one day to another. When there is singing, the sung parts and hymns also differ and the people who celebrate are not usually the same. But in another way the Mass is always celebrated in the same way whether it be in a private house or in the open-air or in a magnificent cathedral. Throughout the centuries the way in which the Mass has been celebrated has changed. Those of us who are in our seventies have seen great changes in the actions and the language used, but yet it is the same celebration that the very first Christians gathered every Sunday to take part in.

We are very fortunate in having descriptions of how the early Church celebrated the Eucharist. One of the best known accounts comes to us from a man called Justin who was born in Palestine around the year 100 AD. He became a Christian around the year 130 and went to Rome about twenty years later where he had many discussions with pagans and Jews and other Christians. He belonged to a group of apologists who defended the truths of the faith. An apologist was not someone who admitted to being wrong. It then meant a person who defended his opinions in word and writing. Justin is often regarded as the first Christian philosopher who defended Christianity from intellectual attacks and defended his fellow Christians from persecution.

Two Apologies of Justin have come down to us. The better known was written to the Emperor Antoninus Pius (138-161) He is at pains to show that Christians are good citizens and do not deserve to be persecuted. He was himself martyred in the year 165, ten years after writing to the Emperor. This is how he described what Christians believed and did when they gathered for their Sunday celebration of the Eucharist (from Chapters 66 and 67 of his first apology)

On Sundays there is an assembly of all who live in towns or in the country, and the memoirs of the apostles or the writings of the prophets are read for as long as time allows. Then the reading is brought to an end, and the president delivers an address in which he admonishes and encourages us to imitate in our own lives the beautiful lessons we have heard read. Then we all stand up together and pray for ourselves and for all others wherever they may be so that we may be found righteous by our life and actions and faithful to the commandments so as to obtain eternal salvation. When the prayers are concluded we exchange the kiss. Then someone brings bread and a cup of wine and water to him who presides over the brethren. He takes them and offers prayers and praise and glory to the Father of the Universe through the name of the Son and of the Holy Spirit and for a considerable time he gives thanks that we have been judged worthy of these gifts. When he has concluded the prayers and thanksgivings as best he can all present give voice to an acclamation by saying 'Amen' as an expression of their agreement. Then follows the distribution of the food over which the prayer of thanksgiving has been recited; all present receive some of it and those whom we call deacons carry some to those who are absent. No one may share in the Eucharist except those who believe in the truth of our teachings and have been washed in the bath which confers forgiveness of sins and rebirth and who lives according to Christ's commands. For we do not receive this food as ordinary bread and as ordinary drink. Just as Jesus Christ became flesh through the Word of God and assumed flesh and blood for our salvation, so too are we taught that the food over which the prayer of thanksgiving, the word received from Christ, has been said, the food which nourishes our flesh and blood by assimilation, is the flesh and blood of this Jesus who became flesh. The Apostles in their memoirs, which are called gospels, recorded that Jesus left these instructions. He took bread, pronounced the prayer of thanksgiving and said: 'Do this in memorial of me. This is my body'. In the same way he took the cup, pronounced the prayer of thanksgiving and said: 'This is my blood' and shared it among them and no one else. From that time on we have always continued to remind one another of this.

Those of us who are well provided help out any who are in need and we meet together continually. Over all our offerings we give thanks to the Creator of all through his Son Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit. Those who are well provided for, if they wish to do so, contribute what each thinks fit. This is collected and left with the one who presides so that he can help the orphans and the widows and the sick and all who are in need for any other reason, such as prisoners and visitors from abroad. In short, we provide for all who are in want.

So on Sundays we all come together. This is the first day, on which God transformed darkness and made the world; the day on which Jesus Christ our Saviour rose from the dead. For on the day before Saturday, he was crucified and on the day after Saturday, that is the Sunday, he appeared to his apostles and disciples and taught them the truths which we have put before you for your consideration.' Seems remarkably familiar!