

PARISH OF THE ENGLISH MARTYRS, Goring Way

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5.08.2018



Eighteenth Sunday of the Year

Saturday	4 th	6.00 pm	Maura Fanning (80th Birthday)
Sunday	5 th	8.15 am	The Parish
		10.30 am	Helen Ryan RIP
		6.00 pm	Polish Mass
Monday	6 th		No Mass
Tuesday	7 th	9.30 am	Margaret Rix RIP
Wednesday	8 th	9.30 am	Stephen Fitzgerald RIP
Thursday	9 th	7.30 pm	Doual Creedon RIP
Friday	10 th	9.30 am	Reg & Dorrie Marshall RIP
Saturday	11 th	6.00 pm	Father Burke RIP
Sunday	12 th	8.15 am	The Parish
		10.30 am	In Thanksgiving (Golden Wedding Anniversary)

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

TODAY'S READINGS: Exodus 16:2-4, Ephesians 4:17, 20-24, John 6:24-35

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS: 1 Kings 19:4-8, Ephesians 4:30-5:2, John 6:41-51

COLLECTIONS: Church: £506

Thank you for your generosity.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS: Elizabeth Hoskins, Peggy Gallagher, Joan Cutmore, Ada O'Regan, Christine Watson, David Hall, Gordon Milne, 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, Winifred Lyons, Yvette Allen, Leslie Lee, Kerry McStravick, Gerry Potter, Lydia Van Melsen

2. THOSE WHO HAVE DIED RECENTLY: PETER ADAMS and those whose anniversaries occur about now: Rosemary Brown, David Dandeker, Celiska Haslegrave, Stanislaw Kamieniecki, Claire Steadman, Maria Grein, Mabel Lamb, Evelyn Garnham, Peggy Kennard, Maria Lightfoot,

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

4. THE BETHLEHEM NATIVITY GROUP: A missionary from Bethlehem, will visit us **this** weekend 4th-5th August to briefly talk about the Holy Land and sell religious articles made out of olive wood from the Holy Land to help and support the poor Christian families. Any help you could give to them will be highly appreciated

5. CREAM TEA IN THE BARN: Many thanks to all those who helped to make this such an enjoyable event. £259 has been sent to Our Lady of Good Counsel Network - a Catholic Pro-Life Charity that assists unborn babies and their mothers.

6. ARE YOU AVAILABLE ON A THURSDAY FROM 1.00 – 4.00 pm? We are in urgent need of assistance in the shop and in the church greeting our visitors on Thursday afternoons. You will be part of a team of three. If you are able to help please call into the shop at any time and offer your services. You will be made very welcome.

7. HAVE YOUR PRAYERS BEEN ANSWERED? If so and your loved one has recovered but is on the list in Item 1 please let Anne in the Office know so that the name can be removed

8 . BISHOP RICHARD WILL SKYDIVE from an aeroplane on Friday 14th September to raise money for the Diocesan Lourdes Pilgrimage. Please give generously in one of the following ways: By Purple GIFT AID parish envelope, marked '+Bishop skydive'; by Lourdes Pilgrimage envelope available in both porches or by going to : <https://mydonate.bt.com/fundraisers/bishoprichardskydive>

9. WEDDING ANNIVERSARY MASS: Are you celebrating a significant wedding anniversary this year? Why not come to St Joseph's, Redhill on Saturday 6th October at 11.30 am and share in a special Mass with Bishop Richard as part of your celebration. For more information or booking, which is essential, please contact rosie.read@dabnet.org for a booking form.

10 CHILDRENS LITURGY will resume on Sunday 2nd September.

11. ENGLISH MARTYRS CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL is looking to recruit a practising Catholic to join their 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. Someone with experience in one of the following areas - Finance, ICT, HR, Education or with links to local businesses is needed. Lack of experience should not deter you from expressing an interest if you have a genuine desire to serve the school by devoting your time & expertise. For further information please contact the school on 01903 502868

12 MARY'S MEALS: We are now in particular need of Serviceable Towels, 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: Cereals (no Cornflakes or Porridge). Ketchup, brown sauce, salad cream, Cooking Oil, Squashes, Tea, Coffee, Washing powder/tabs, Washing up liquid, Dishwasher tabs, Shampoo/Conditioner and Shower Gel. Also Jeans/Trousers 34" waist, Hoodies, Boxer Shorts and Ladies undies 12/14. Many thanks to those who are so generous in their donations

Father Liam says: It is very important that we are convinced that there can be no contradiction between our faith in the Lord God, King of all creation, and in science that investigates his creation. The Book of Nature and the Book of Revelation both convey to us from the one God who is source of all truth. God is truth and God cannot contradict himself. St Paul wrote in the first century of the Christian era in his Letter to the Romans: 'Ever since God created the world his everlasting power and deity, however invisible, have been there for the mind to see in the things that he has made' (1:20) And yet it is constantly being said and widely believed that there is an unbridgeable gap between scientific thinking and religious faith. Typical of the writings of the evolutionary biologist, Professor Richard Dawkins, is that 'faith is belief in something without evidence', or 'Faith is the great cop-out, the great excuse to evade the need to think and to evaluate evidence.' Faith is belief in spite of, or even perhaps because of, the lack of evidence.

Sadly it is this sort of false opinion of religious faith that has become prevalent in our culture. Yet nothing could be further from the truth about what faith is. The First Vatican Council said that: 'the assent of faith is by no means a blind impulse of the mind. Not only can there be no conflict between faith and reason, they also support each other since right reason demonstrates the foundation of faith.'

In the medieval world many of the greatest scientists were fully-believing Christians, some of them were Catholic priests and friars. The great father of natural science was St Albert the Great, a 13th century Dominican friar who promoted the sciences within the universities of Europe. He contributed greatly to the studies of that age by his observations of the world and animals. Countless scientists in the following centuries combined their fervent Catholic faith with an enthusiastic pursuit of science. Nicolas Copernicus, the Polish priest and astronomer, firmly believed that the earth orbited the sun and not vice versa. The Jesuit priest, Christof Clavius, led the Papal commission, which made the necessary corrections resulting in the Gregorian calendar of 1582, which is virtually universally used to this day. Another significant scientist was the 17th century anatomist and geologist Blessed Neils Stensen, a Danish convert from Lutherism, who became a bishop and is considered the father of modern geology. In more modern times there is the founder of genetics, Gregor Mendel, a 19th century Augustinian friar and the Belgium priest Georges Lemaitre, admired by Einstein, who proposed around 1931 the idea of the expanding universe, originating in what today we call the 'Big Bang'.

The great 'wound' in this body of evidence is the infamous treatment meted out to the Italian astronomer Galileo Galilei. His conflict with the Church authorities in the 17th century is something that continues to damage the reputation of the Church. Pope John Paul II issued an apology with regard to Galileo in the year 2000. In fact the Galileo affair is the only significant case of the Church disciplining a Catholic for holding what later proved to be a true scientific position.

St Augustine (who died in 430) in his work 'On the Literal Interpretation of Genesis' tackles some of the issues surrounding the idea of Creation. He is at pains to show that there can be no real conflict between the observed facts of the universe and the Sacred Scriptures. If there is a perceived conflict then we are misusing the Sacred page. It is always important to remember that the human author of Genesis was not seeking to write a scientific text book on the origins of the universe. St Augustine says of the Scriptures: 'As I have noted repeatedly, if anyone not understanding the mode of divine eloquence should find something about these matters (about the physical universe) in our books or hears of the same from those books, of such a kind that it seems to be at variance with the perceptions of our own rational faculties, let him believe these other things are in no way necessary to the admonitions or accounts or predictions of the scriptures. It was not the intention of the Spirit of God who spoke through them to teach mankind anything that would not be of use to them for their salvation.'

Nearly 1600 years after Augustine, the Second Vatican Council on its closing day addressed the world of science assuring mankind of the Church's love for the whole truth: 'Never perhaps, thank God, has there been so clear a possibility as today of a deep understanding between real science and real faith, mutual servants of one another in the one truth. Do not stand in the way of this important meeting. Have confidence in faith, this great friend of intelligence. Enlighten yourselves with its light in order to take hold of truth, the whole truth. This is the wish, the encouragement and the hope, which, before disbanding, is expressed to you by the Fathers of the entire world assembled at Rome in council.'

I am indebted to Father Philip Miller and his article on 'Faith and Science'

*May God Bless you,
Fr. Liam.*