

## PARISH OF THE ENGLISH MARTYRS, Goring Way

9.09.2018

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

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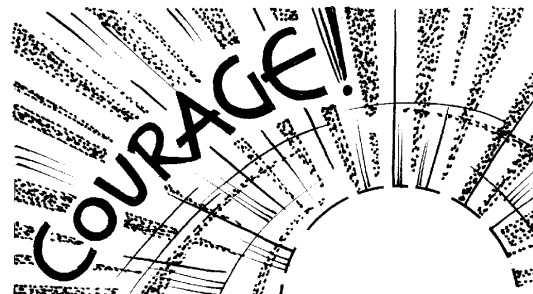
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Arundel & Brighton Diocesan Trust is a Registered Charity No: 252878

### Twenty-Third Sunday of the Year

Saturday	8 <sup>th</sup>	6.00 pm	The Parish
Sunday	9 <sup>th</sup>	8.15 am	Joe Hegarty RIP
		10.30 am	William F Evans RIP
Monday	10 <sup>th</sup>	9.30 am	Holy Souls
Tuesday	11 <sup>th</sup>	9.30 am	Private Intention (ED)
		7.30 pm	Choir Practice
Wednesday	12 <sup>th</sup>	9.30 am	Kevin Emery RIP
Thursday	13 <sup>th</sup>	<b>2.30 pm</b>	<b>REQUIEM FOR YVONNE CARTER RIP</b>
		7.30 pm	Holy Souls
Friday	14 <sup>th</sup>	9.30 am	Intention of Austin & Lala Winkley
Saturday	15 <sup>th</sup>	6.00 pm	Caroline Roe RIP
Sunday	16 <sup>th</sup>	8.15 am	The Parish
		10.30 am	Neil Halley 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 35:4-7, James 2:1-5, Mark 7:31-37

**NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:** Isaiah 50:5-9, James 2:14-18, Mark 8:27-35

**COLLECTIONS:** Church: £582 Thank you for your generosity.

*There will be a Second Collection at all Masses next weekend for the Home Missions (No Gift Aid)*

**PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:** Gina Palermo, Elizabeth Hoskins, Peggy Gallagher, Joan Cutmore, Christine Watson, David Hall, Gordon Milne, Bernard Bandy, Jeany, Peter, Deacon Pat Moloney, 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: YVONNE CARTER** and those whose anniversaries occur about now: William Middleton, Edward Rees, Ted Short, Roy Parker, Desmond Healey, Cyril Price, Pat Hare, Florence Morrell, James Wiley, Dr John Clarke, Bob Plumtree, Philip Shave, Richard Barnard, Catherine Mansfield, William Hebdige, Anthony Woodman

**3. FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2019:** Is your son or daughter in Year 3 this term? If so, they are at the age where they can start the preparation course for First Holy Communion. Please collect a letter and application form from the Sacristy and return it to the Parish Office as soon as possible. The first meeting for parents will be on Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> October at 8.00 pm in The Good Shepherd Chapel and the first lesson for the children will be on Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> October from 4.30 – 5.30 pm

**4. OUR NEXT ALPHA COURSE** starts with a no-obligation taster session on Friday 28 September at 7 p.m. in The Barn.. Alpha is a fantastic opportunity to explore questions about life and explore the Christian faith in a friendly and open environment. There will be a free buffet and a short talk entitled "Is there more to life than this?" Please consider who you could invite. All are welcome. For more information contact Mary on 506599/07889 065356 or [info@worthinalpha.com](mailto:info@worthinalpha.com).

**5. DIOCESAN MASS FOR ALTAR SERVERS 2019** will take place in Arundel Cathedral **next** Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> September at 12 noon with Bishop Richard Moth. All who have served, all who are serving and anybody who would like to come are welcome to attend. Please bring your cassock & cotta or alb. Mass is followed by light refreshments in the Cathedral Centre though please bring your own packed lunch

#### **6. DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:**

Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> September from 7.00 pm Youth Group meets again

Saturday/Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup>/23<sup>rd</sup> September after all Masses in the Barn – Traidcraft

Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> or 14<sup>th</sup> October at 3.00pm – Harvest Festival of Music and Verse

Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> October from 7.00 pm in the Barn – Saints & Sinners XVII

Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> November at 7.00 pm in Chatsmore School – Meeting with Bishop Richard. All welcome!

Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> November from 12.00 noon – SPUC Lunch

Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> December from 7.00 pm – Curry & Carols

**7. CAFOD HARVEST SUPPER:** Many thanks to all those who helped create and those who supported the Harvest Supper. £524 was raised

**8. YVONNE CARTER RIP,** whose Requiem will be held this Thursday at 2.30 pm, has requested that people attending do not wear black

**9. THINKING OF FINDING A NEW PASTIME OR HOBBY?** Why not join one of the groups who use the Barn? They are: Ferring Carpet Bowls; Worthing Squares (American Square Dance Club); Worthing Flower Club, Worthing Ho Racing (Ho Slot car racing); Little Angels (Mother and Toddler group); Sussex Folk Orchestra and Friendship in the Barn. At Worthing General Auctions you can sell that unwanted item. Please find further details in the leaflets available in both porches

**10. MARY'S MEALS:** We are now in particular need of Serviceable Towels, Toothpaste, Pencil Cases and Flannels. Many thanks to all who so generously contribute to these backpacks

**11. 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: In October 2008 Mark Hederman was elected** by his community of Benedictine monks in Glenstal Abbey in Co. Limerick to be their Abbot for the customary term of eight years. What was unusual about this was that although he had been a monk in the community for fifty years he was not a priest. In order to be an Abbot he would need to be a priest – otherwise his appointment as Abbot could not be ratified in Rome. It appears that when the Code of Canon Law was last revised in 1983 it was stipulated that 'power' in the Church can only be exercised by those who are ordained – so Mark Hederman was ordained a priest one month after his election as Abbot. This was only thirty-five years ago. Why anyone felt it necessary to add this rule to the Code of Canon Law (Canon 129) is quite astonishing. It indicates that the brave documents and decisions of the Vatican Council can be all too easily cast aside if the powers of the Curia are not curbed.

At a meeting of the priests of our Diocese several years ago I suggested that a significant way of curtailing the growth of clericalism in the Church would be to elect a number of women as Cardinals. Quite a few priests expressed total opposition to the idea on the basis that it could not be done as it was against Canon Law. I gently suggested to them that Canon Law not only could be changed but in my humble opinion should be changed. After nearly two thousand years of its history to declare in the Code of Canon Law that ordination to sacred orders is a condition for the exercise of 'power' in the Church is totally ridiculous.

Where this insertion into the Code came from I have no idea. However this is how the law now stands unless and until it is rescinded and the Pope cold rescind it with the stroke of his pen. This is what Canon 129 Section 1 says: 'Those who have received sacred orders are qualified according to the norms of the prescripts of the law, for the governance, which exists in the Church by divine institution and is also called the power of jurisdiction..'

Section 2: 'Lay members of the Christian faithful can co-operate in the exercise of this same power according to the norms of the law'. While Section 2 says that lay members of the Church can co-operate in the exercise of this same power they cannot really wield it in any significant way because, legally speaking, 'co-operate' does not mean 'participate'.

Women have not always been so excluded from governance in the Church. There have been many cases where communities of male and female religious have lived in separate monasteries or convents under the direction of an Abbess, as at Whitby under St Hilda in the seventh century. The Empress Irene convoked and presided over parts of the Second Council of Nicaea 787 AD.

The principal documents outlining the Church's teaching on the ordination of women are a declaration from the Congregation of the Doctrine of Faith in 1976 and an Apostolic Letter of Pope John Paul II in 1994. But it is very clear that there is no infallible teaching given in these documents. Pope Francis was questioned by reporters on a plane returning from Brazil in September 2013. He said: 'With regards to the ordination of women, the Church has spoken and says no. Pope John Paul said so with a formula that was definitive. That door is closed.' But 'definitive' does not mean 'infallible'. Somebody pointed out in reference to the phrase used by Pope John Paul 'That door is closed' that a door is not a wall. Anyone can open a door if they have the key. But there is a serious theological difficulty about the ordination of women to the priesthood. This has mainly to do with the unbroken tradition of the Church. I know that in the lifetime of many of us several long-held traditions have fallen away but – to put it at its mildest – the Church is in a state of doubt as to whether it could validly ordain women to the priesthood. But it is actively considering the ordination of women to the Diaconate. The difficulties would not nearly be so great as it would seem that the diaconate was exercised in some form by women in the early Church. And serious thought should be given to appointing more women to senior positions in the governance of the Church. I am sure that more and more people would be happy even to see several women Cardinals. Why ever not! The Church could have a much more human face to the world than it does at present and could unleash so many more beneficial qualities that our world so badly needs. In the past many Cardinals were not priests or bishops.

The Second Vatican Council put it well when it said fifty-five years ago: 'Since in our times women have an ever more active share in the whole of society, it is very important that they participate more widely also in the various fields of the Church's apostolate.' I am confident that a truly wonderful climate-change lies ahead in the life of the Church. Christ is Risen. He is Risen indeed.