

PARISH OF THE ENGLISH MARTYRS, Goring Way

11.11.2018

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

Thirty-Second Sunday of the Year

Saturday	10 th	6.00 pm	Bill McEvoy RIP
Sunday	11 th	8.15 am	Reg Marshall RIP
		10.30 am	The Dead of Wars and Conflicts RIP
Monday	12 th	9.30 am	The Parish
Tuesday	13 th	9.30 am	Raphael Cortez RIP
		6.00 pm	Deceased priests of the Deanery
Wednesday	14 th	9.30 am	Mr & Mrs Murphy RIP
Thursday	15 th	7.30 pm	In Thanksgiving (Successful operation)
		8.00 pm	Choir Practice
Friday	16 th	9.30 am	Deceased Members of the Hudson & Jago Families
		7.30 pm	Prayer Group
Saturday	17 th	6.00 pm	Peter Ayre RIP
Sunday	18 th	8.15 am	The Parish
		10.30 am	Elliot Moyse & Family
		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: 1 Kings 17:10-16; Hebrews 9:24-28; Mark 12:38-44

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS: Daniel 12:1-13, Hebrews 10:11-14,18, Mark 13:24-32

COLLECTIONS: Church: £707 Retired Priest's Fund: £794 Thank you for your generosity.

Next weekend there will be a Second Collection for the Arundel Cathedral Maintenance Fund (Gift Aid)

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS: Margaret Dunne, Rosie Grove, Mary Wessel, 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, Breda Schlimgen, Michaela Finn, Winifred Lyons, Yvette Allen, Leslie Lee, Kerry McStravick, Gerry Potter, Lydia Van Melsen

2. THOSE WHO HAVE DIED RECENTLY and those whose anniversaries occur about now: Elvira Fleming, Patricia Thompson, Billy McCann, Bernard O'Connor, Helenja Kamieniecka, John Biddles, Thomas Eze, Henry Weber, Baby Katie Wright, Elfriede Sinden, Jean Billing, Edith Pearce, Ruth Winter. Edith Carrode

3 SUNDAY LUNCH (2 COURSES) will be served in The Barn this Sunday 11th November at 12.00 noon in aid of the Society for the Protection of the Unborn Child SPUC. Tickets will be on sale after all Masses this weekend. Price Adult £7.50 and a Child £4.00. Donations of Raffle Prizes would be gratefully received and could be left in the Sacristy

4. THE ANNUAL CONCELEBRATED REQUIEM MASS for the deceased members of the Deanery Clergy will be held **this** Tuesday 13th November at 6.00 pm here, at English Martyrs. You are invited to make every effort to come to this very important annual occasion to remember in prayer the priests, now deceased, who once served in our Parishes.

5. NOVEMBER – IS THE MONTH FOR HOLY SOULS: The usual 'November envelopes' are available in both porches for those wishing to remember their loved ones at the Altar. Any donations will go towards offering Masses for the Holy Souls. Please fill in and hand in to the Sacristy as soon as possible

6. APF RED BOX HOLDERS please return your red boxes for counting. You can leave them in the Sacristy for Teresa. If you have difficulty bringing the box to church please phone 243401 and we will arrange collection

7. TRADCRAFT will be on sale after all Masses **next** weekend

8. HAVE YOU VISITED THE REPOSITORY RECENTLY? We have a wide array of Christmas Cards, Advent Calendars & candles, cribs, diaries and items suitable for little Christmas Presents

9. 'CURRY & CAROLS' full of Christmas festivities and a sing-a-long, will take place in the Barn on Saturday 1st December at 7.00 pm (following the 6.00 pm Mass). The proceeds will go to the Parish project in Kalingalinga. Tickets will be on sale after all Masses **next** weekend - Adults £7.50 Children £4.00 Raffle prizes will be gratefully received.

Father Liam says: The signing of the Armistice on 11th November 1918 meant that to some extent at least the long agony of war was over after five long years and four months. But for many the war was not over. In East Africa it continued until 25th November and for those on the Western Front and on other campaigns there would be a long wait before fighting men and chaplains eventually returned home.

Father Lancelot Long had been with the Royal Field Artillery in France for two years. He recalled that when news of the Armistice came the 'whole battery insisted on going to the village church where a solemn Mass of Thanksgiving was sung. I never saw the Battery more smartly turned out than for this occasion.' As the Armistice took effect Father Benedict Williamson, a priest of the Southwark Diocese, went back to the White Chateau at Froyennes 'to bury our poor boys killed in the last fight of the War. It was strangely pathetic and moving to look at the white upturned faces that one had seen in full vigour of life so short a while before.' After this sombre event there were scenes of jubilation and celebration among the locals and the liberated prisoners but among the troops 'a solemn hush seemed to fall upon all. The great and overwhelming triumph caused no such hysterical outburst.' Monday 11th November, Father Williamson wrote, brought little comfort to many men. 'They had been through all the cruelty of war and only felt a strange sense of solemnity and their minds turned back to their comrades who had fallen.' He wrote later with a huge sense of relief: 'The day so eagerly and long looked for has finally come and gone, and even here we can scarcely believe, much less realise, that the awful nightmare has really passed and that the shriek of shells and the rattle of the machine-gun is heard no more. The front line no longer exists; there is no going up to the trenches. All that is passed away as if it had never been.'

On 15th November a Mass of Thanksgiving was offered in Tournai Cathedral. Belgian troops cleared a way down the centre of the nave while the procession entered to the strains of the Te Deum. Father Williamson wrote: 'as the civic and national dignitaries processed, the Belgian National Anthem crashed from the organ and was taken up by the throats of thousands, eyes overfilled with tears of joy that Belgium is free once more.'

Father Stewart's Scottish battalion had crossed the Scheldt on 11th November and was chasing the enemy in full retreat when they were told that the Armistice had been signed. He wrote that: 'the announcement was received with a calmness and a complete absence of demonstration, which would I think have annoyed the people at home who were doubtless at that very moment filling the streets with jubilation. Such a feeling would not come so easily to us at the front on whom the war in all its ugliness and with all its breathless hazards, its sustained hardships and its hourly anxieties had so deeply impressed itself as to overlay in our minds all the other issues and experiences of our lives. When the end came it found us too profoundly committed to one habit of thought for rapid conversion to the opposite.' He wrote that for all the excitement that the announcement caused among the troops 'it might have been no more than rations were up or the mail was in.'

At Le Cateau, scene of one of the earliest battles of the war, Father Frederick Gillett wrote in his diary on 11th November: 'Holy Mass at 11.00 am precisely. CEASE FIRE ordered. Armistice concluded – cessation of hostilities. THANK GOD...End of bloodshed and strife. But we are in a desolate hole and can do nothing here for a celebration – rotten, and everybody is going mad with delight.' On the following day he offered a Mass of Thanksgiving for 55 Brigade and then visited the huge German Cemetery at Le Cateau, which had been laid out in 1914 and in which many of the 1914 heroes were buried – French, German and British.

In Italy the beautiful churches enabled religious services to be held more splendidly than had been possible during the War. The 48 Division spared no effort to commemorate their officers and men who had fallen in action. A large church in the mountain town where its Divisional Headquarters was situated was chosen and invitations were extended to all and long before Mass the church was filled to capacity by soldiers of every denomination. The Tablet described the event: 'The rolling of muffled drums at the Elevation added not a little to the solemnity. The Bishop of Vicenza gave the blessings at the catafalque which had been covered with the Union Jack. Five trumpeters stepped to the head of the catafalque and amidst an almost breathless silence the clear tones of the Last Post pealed forth through the arches of the church. The band of the 114th Battalion of Oxford and Bucks Light Infantry followed with the National Anthem. As a finale, the band played the 'Dead March' from Saul and the vast congregation remained standing until the last note had been played. Some Catholic chaplains – not many – penned War Memoires with the intention of having them published. The poems of Father Albert Purdie were published in 1918 while those of Father Ambrose Agius were published in the 1930's. In 'Cease Fire', Father Agius wrote:

Many a weary heart and an anxious mind
Thrilled through and through,
Stirred by the news that sped on the wings of the wind;
Have you heard? Is it true?
Surely at last it is over, the frenzy of strife,
Welter and nauseous garbage of human life;
Hideous carnage, pitiless torture and pain,
Desperate courage, spent as it seemed in vain?
Then we knew it was true.
So he concluded:
So, to the hearts that had watched and waited so long,
Came as a balm, as a spurt to the heart, as a song,
Tidings of gladness and peace,
Victory, happy release,
From the bondage of care,
And the fetters of fear,
Came as a joy that men scarce dared hope they would welcome again

I am indebted to James Hagerty's book 'Priest's in Uniform'