

PARISH OF THE ENGLISH MARTYRS Goring Way

19.05.2019

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

Presbytery 01903 242624 / Church repository 01903 506890

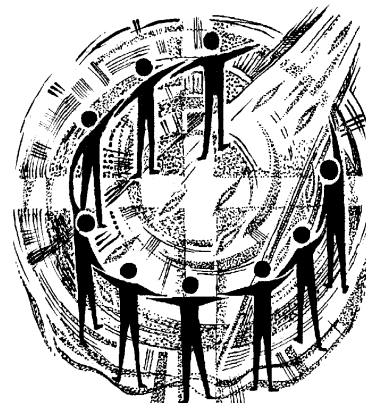
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Arundel & Brighton Diocesan Trust is a Registered Charity No: 252878

Fifth Sunday of Easter

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|-----------|------------------|----------|---|
| Saturday | 18 th | 6.00 pm | The Parish |
| Sunday | 19 th | 8.15 am | Ann Milne & the O'Brien Family Past & Present |
| | | 10.30 am | Theresa Hogan RIP |
| | | 6.00 pm | Polish Mass |
| Monday | 20 th | 9.30 am | Holy Souls |
| Tuesday | 21 st | 9.30 am | Holy Souls |
| | | 7.30 pm | Choir Practice |
| Wednesday | 22 nd | 9.30 am | Holy Souls |
| Thursday | 23 rd | 7.30 pm | Holy Souls |
| Friday | 24 th | 9.30 am | Holy Souls |
| Saturday | 25 th | 6.00 pm | Jack Louis RIP |
| Sunday | 26 th | 8.15 am | Bill & Nell O'Keeffe RIP |
| | | 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 of the Apostles 14:21-27; Apocalypse 21:1-5. John 13:31-35

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS: Acts of the Apostles 15:1-2,22-29; Apocalypse 21:10-14.22-23; John 14: 23-29

COLLECTIONS: Church: £445 Society of African Missions (SMA): £771 Thank you for your generosity.

Next weekend there will be a **Second Collection for the Missionary Endeavour of the Diocese (Gift Aid)**

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS: Brian Dunne, Patrick Ryan, Sheila Tune, Michael Butler, Brenda Peazold, Rosie Grove, Mary Wessel, Gina Palermo, Elizabeth Hoskins, Peggy Gallagher, Joan Cutmore, Christine Watson, Gordon Milne, Bernard Bandy, Deacon Pat Moloney, Alfred Deacon, Ester Park, Marie Garselis, Roni Horstead, Ronnie Tyler, Jenny Begley, Bill Hogg, Breda Schlinggen, Michaela Finn, Winifred Lyons, Yvette Allen, Leslie Lee, Kerry McStravick, Lydia Van Melsen

2. THOSE WHO HAVE DIED RECENTLY and those whose anniversaries occur about now: Kathleen Simmonds, Bert Copping, Anne Berendt, Jacqueline Davies, Patricia Trantor, Mary Benson, Petronella Woods, Elizabeth Scotney, Ray Hudson, Mary Murphy-Sopp, Ernest Wyant, Frank Featherstone, Eileen Kennedy

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

4. A TEXAN EVENING will take held in the Barn on Saturday 1st June following the 6.00 pm Mass. Stetson's and boots may be worn! The charity we are supporting this year is Daya Mina in Sri Lanka run by the Sisters of Charity. It is a Centre that serves young people and children, who because of some impairment or difficulty in learning, are unable to function independently or adequately in society without specialised education, training or ongoing support services. An exciting supper plus quiz and raffle is planned. Tickets £7.50 for adults and £4.00 for children on sale **this** weekend.

5. ARE YOU REALLY SO BUSY THAT YOU COULD NOT 'LEND A HAND?' There are such a wide variety of volunteer activities within our church that no matter what your skills there would be something that you could assist with at some time during the week. Probably the biggest undertaking is to assist with welcoming our visitors during the week and helping in the shop. This requires a commitment of three hours per week from now until the end of October then nothing until next Easter! (You are allowed time off for holidays!) The other opportunities are on monthly rotas – Flowers arrangers, helpers at Friendship in the Barn on Friday afternoons, cleaners, helpers with either of our Little Angels Groups on a Thursday or Friday morning. Please don't leave it to 'someone else' because they might not exist and these tasks really do need 'someone' to do them. For further information please contact Anne in the Office 01903 242624

6. MAY PROCESSION: Parishioners are warmly invited to English Martyrs Catholic Primary School, Derwent Drive, to join them in their May Procession on Friday 24th May at 2.30pm.

7. TO THOSE WHO KINDLY GIFT AID: Please collect a letter in the porch with details of your annual donation through Gift Aid.

8. TRADCRAFT will be on sale after all Masses next weekend

9. USED POSTAGE STAMPS are not just for Christmas...please remember to collect them throughout the year and drop them into the box in the Main Porch. (They need half an inch of envelope around them so that the little perforations are not damaged.) They are then sent on to St Patrick's Missionary Society where they sell them to raise money for the Missions

10. ENGLISH MARTYRS GOLDEN JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS are being announced this weekend (Please see separate leaflet) In September there will be (with your help) an Exhibition in the church entitled 'Our Church' and Adrian and Breda, who have kindly agreed to organise it, are looking for the following: Any photos/memorabilia from Weddings, First Holy Communion, Marriages; written memories of those who recall the move from the Barn to the 'new church'; a photograph of the Martyrs Window in colour or the church pre Sistine Chapel ceiling? Do take a look among your photographic memories and written memories and lend them to us to make this a really fascinating walk 'down memory lane'.

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 works as a team in cooperation with the head-teacher to ensure legal responsibilities are met and to preserve the Catholic character of the school. They are looking for people with varying experience. If you have an interest in supporting the school by giving time and your expertise please contact them for more information on 01903 502868 or office@englishmartyrs.school.

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

13. TURNING TIDES (Worthing Churches Homeless Projects): Items they currently need: Coffee, Sugar, Baked Beans, Tinned Tomatoes, Tinned Meals, Jams and Spreads, Tinned Tuna, Rice Pudding, Cooking Oil, Juice, Biscuits. Also Baking Trays, Saucepans, Tea Towels, Cleaning products and Washing Tablets/Powders. In clothing they need small waist Jeans, Men's Hoodies. Boxers and Men's T-Shirts. Many thanks to those who are so generous in their donations throughout the year.

Father Liam says: For centuries Mary, Our Lady of Guadalupe, has been Mexico's Patron Saint. I visited Mexico several years ago but did not go anywhere near Mexico City where Our Lady is said to have appeared in 1531. But everywhere I went there seemed to be shrines in honour of Our Lady of Guadalupe. I must admit that it wasn't devotion to Mary that led me to Mexico but a desire to see some of the great temples of the ancient Aztec civilisation that still survive.

The Church accepts the story that the Virgin appeared to Juan Diego and spoke to him in Nahuatl – the Aztec language. She urged him to tell the bishop that she wanted a church built on the site, Tepeyac Hill, which had been a shrine where Aztec earth-goddesses had been worshipped. Juan Diego didn't have much luck with the bishop who wanted a sign of some sort. Mary then instructed Juan to climb the hill and cut some flowers and present them to the bishop. It was 12th December and flowers did not bloom there in the winter. Nevertheless Juan Diego gathered a bouquet of beautiful roses which he folded into his cloak or tilma woven from agave fibres. When he finally got to see the bishop and opened his cloak the roses spilled out, revealing the image of Our Lady of Guadalupe. This is the only time Mary is said to have left a painted portrait of herself.

The Basilica of Our Lady of Guadalupe draws countless numbers of pilgrims each year. Many sleep at night on the cold ground in various camps all around. Behind the main altar of the basilica, protected by glass, lays the original cloth image of Mary, which receives the rapt attention of the faithful who pass by it on a moving walkway. Many people used to see this image as a standard European depiction of Mary, typical of the 16th Century but for several decades past, art historians and scholars have been interpreting the imagery as a combination of Catholic and Aztec iconography. They pointed out that illiterate, first nation peoples (who the Europeans in their ignorance called Indians) would instantly be able to comprehend and read as a non-verbal catechism. How the woman's dark hair is parted in the middle symbolises that she is a virgin. The black bow she wears high around her waist tells that she is pregnant. There is a brooch around her neck, not the green stone Aztec deities wore but a cross. A four petalled flower in the centre of the rose-coloured tunic is seen as indicating that she is the god bearer, while her downcast eyes tell that she isn't a goddess.

Sometime between 1531 and 1570 the original image on Juan Diego's cloak was embellished. Gold stars were added to the Virgin's mantle, a Mexican study published in 1983 shows that the stars are aligned in their configuration at dawn on 12th December 1531, the date when the image appeared on the tilma. The Aztec people greatly revered the sun god. Glowing rays added behind Mary signify that she comes from heaven and that her god has divine power. One theory holds that in Nahuatl – the Aztec language – the word Mexico comes from three words that mean 'in the centre of the moon'. Mary is standing in the centre of a black crescent moon.

Remarkably the image has not deteriorated, even though the cloth hung in the Basilica for more than a century without protection. It was vulnerable to dirt and smoke. In 1785 a worker cleaning the silver frame accidentally spilt nitric acid on the image. It remained intact. An affidavit from several decades later says that the spill left only a vague mark, like a water stain. In 1921 a bomb was placed in a bouquet of flowers below the image by Luciano Carpio who worked in an office of Mexico's president tasked with weakening the grip of religion. The blast destroyed the altar and bent its bronze crucifix and the candelabra nearby. The image of the Virgin was untouched.

NOTICES