

PARISH OF THE ENGLISH MARTYRS Goring Way

11.08.2019

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

Presbytery 01903 242624 / Church repository 01903 506890

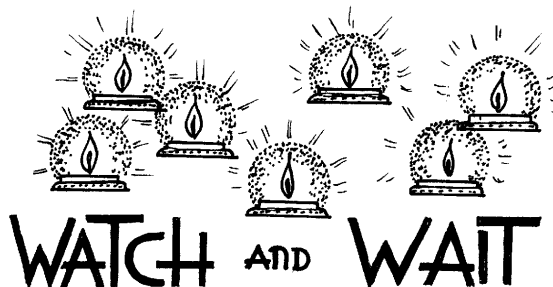
Email: emgoring@english-martyrs.co.uk Website: www.english-martyrs.co.uk

Deacon Gary Bevans 01903 503514

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

Nineteenth Sunday of the Year

Saturday	10 th	6.00 pm	Bridget Brennan RIP
Sunday	11 th	8.15 am	Michael Aherne RIP
		10.30 am	Len Harvey RIP
Monday	12 th	9.30 am	No Mass
Tuesday	13 th	9.30 am	Michael Farrell RIP
		7.30 pm	Choir Practice
Wednesday	14 th	9.30 am	The Parish
		7.00 pm	Divine Mercy Group
Thursday	15 th	9.30 am	Ann Bandy RIP
		7.30 pm	Tracy, Jackie & Thelma RIP
Friday	16 th	9.30 am	Maria Petter RIP
		11.30 am	REQUIEM FOR THOMAS MURRAY RIP
Saturday	17 th	6.00 pm	Joan Ashwell RIP
Sunday	18 th	8.15 am	The Parish
		10.30 am	Intention of Theresa Steadman
		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: Wisdom 18:6-9; Hebrews 11:1-2,8-19; Luke 12:32-48

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS: Apocalypse 11:19; 12:1-6.10, Corinthians 15:20-26, Luke 1:39-56

COLLECTIONS: Church: £545 Stations of the Cross: £5,752 Thank you for your generosity.

Thursday is the Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary and a Holyday of Obligation

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS: Lita Yong, Ken Ellis, Anne Steere, Patrick Ryan, Sheila Tune, Michael Butler, Brenda Peazold, Rosie Grove, Mary Wessel, Gina Palermo, Elizabeth Hoskins, Joan Cutmore, Christine Watson, Gordon Milne, Bernard Bandy, 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, Lydia Van Melsen

2. THOSE WHO HAVE DIED RECENTLY: DEACON PAT MOLONEY and those whose anniversaries occur about now: John Dunn, William McKenna, Bridget Brennan, Betty Wolford, Adrian Thatcher, Derek Green, Christine Nolan, Max Bullock, Renee Russell, Lottie-Mae, Ann Bandy, Toal Gallagher

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

4. TRAIDCRAFT will be on sale in the Barn after all Masses **next** Sunday

5. 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 – 01903 242624

6. CONGRATULATIONS TO CHATSMORE CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL on receiving 'Outstanding' in a recent Denominational (S48) Inspection Report. To quote just one of the glowing statements: 'The school mission statement is a clear and inspiring expression of the educational mission of the Church. "To help every individual to achieve the best that they can through giving witness to the way of life inspired by Christ and taught by the Church" encapsulates the vision of this outstanding Catholic school, particularly in terms of the way in which the ministry of Christ is modelled by all staff. The mission statement is being constantly revisited, reinforcing the holistic perspective.'

7. DIOCESAN MASS FOR ALTAR SERVERS will be held at Arundel Cathedral on Sat. 14th September, at 12 noon, with Bishop Richard presiding. For all who have served, are serving and anybody who would like to. Please bring cassock/cotta or alb. Light refreshments will follow (bring a packed lunch if you wish).

8 GOLDEN JUBILEE EXHIBITION – 'The Sistine Chapel Ceiling Reproduction will be available in the church for the month of August. Come when we are open during the week and see how Gary painted the ceiling, illustrated by photo's and film.

9. ANNIVERSARIES MASS 2019 will be held on Saturday 12th October in Arundel Cathedral, with Bishop Richard. for couples celebrating a landmark or significant anniversary. Booking is essential - For an invitation please contact Rosie Read at rosie.read@abdiocese.org.uk or phone 01293 651161.

10. CHILDRENS LITURGY will resume on Sunday 1st September.

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

12. TURNING TIDES (Worthing Churches Homeless Projects): In a recent Annual Report we learn that in 2018 Turning Tides, who now have centres in Littlehampton and Horsham as well as Worthing, supported 2,028 men and women throughout the year. On any one night 169 people are accommodated in their housing and 485 people accessed Breakfast in their three hubs. Items they currently need: Coffee, Sugar, Baked Beans, Tinned Tomatoes, Tinned Meals, Tinned Meat, Tinned Fish, Cooking Oil, Juice, Squash. Also Cleaning products and Deodorants. 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: Eight hundred years ago – in 1219 – during the Fifth crusade, St Francis of Assisi went to Egypt to visit the head of the Muslim armies. The Crusades were expeditions undertaken by Western Europe to deliver Jerusalem and the Holy Places from the power of the Muslims or Saracens as they were often called. Saracens is Arabic for Easterners. The Crusades extended from 1096 to 1221 and took their name from the Latin for cross, referring to the cross of Christ. Pope Innocent III had given approval to the movement of St Francis and his followers, which became the Franciscan Order. He was also the Pope who instituted the Fourth and Fifth Crusades. The Fourth Crusade was especially disastrous. When the Crusaders reached Constantinople, they ransacked the city giving rise to a lasting split between the Orthodox and the Latin Churches.

In St Francis time those who joined the Crusades marked their clothing with a large red cross. The cross became a symbol of violence. St Francis and his followers adopted the symbol of the cross in the form of Tau (a capital T) as a symbol of peace-making. St Francis and his followers set out for Egypt not to engage in battle but to seek peace. They crossed the demilitarised zone and the Saracen soldiers captured them and after beating and insulting them brought them to Malik al-Kamil, the head of the Muslim army and the Sultan of Egypt, a man interested in religious poetry and learned in Science. He showed his openness to dialogue by presiding over debates between Muslims and Christians. The Sultan spent some time with Francis and this left a lasting impression on both of them. St Francis was allowed to visit the Holy Land under the Sultan's protection and was away from Italy for about a year. Neither St Francis nor Malik al-Kamil changed their faith but the faith of both of them was broadened through speaking and listening to one another.

What were the consequences for the lives of these two? Malik later established a ten-year peace with the Holy Roman Emperor Frederick and returned control of Jerusalem to the Crusaders and gave custody of the Christian Holy Places, including the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, to the Franciscans. The Friars to this day continue to enjoy this privilege and to exercise the responsibility as sensitively as they can. For example, every evening they give the key to the Holy Sepulchre church to a local Muslim family who in turn return it to the Friars each morning – in memory of the gift received from Malik al-Kamil.

The impact of the encounter between Malik and Francis can be seen in his writing of a more detailed Rule for his Religious Order in 1220. In Chapter 16 on Missionary activity to non-believers he states: 'Therefore any brother who by divine inspiration desires to go among the Saracens and other unbelievers should go with the permission of his minister and servant. As for the brothers who go, they can live spiritually among the Saracens and non-believers in two ways. One way is not to engage in arguments or disputes but be subject to every human creature for God's sake. Another way is to proclaim the word of God when they see it pleasing to the Lord, so that they believe in the all-powerful God – Father and Son and Holy Spirit – the Creator of all, in the Son who is the Redeemer and Saviour – and that they be baptised and become Christians.

This was the first Religious Rule to refer to the Saracens. The second way of living among non-Christians would have been the standard way of mission for Christians at the time. However, the first way, not to engage in arguments and disputes and to be subject to every human creature was a radical departure from standard practice. It echoes the meaning of the word Muslim, which is 'one who is submissive'. Patience was seen as a great Muslim virtue and was also vital for St Francis. St Francis approach gives us an example of how to deal with conflict in situations of great polarisation by accepting differences while preserving unity.

Pope Francis has recently visited Islamic majority countries – in Egypt in 2017, The United Arab Emirates and Morocco earlier this year. Holding out the hand of friendship, he asserted that we are all brothers and sisters and that this must be clearer in the World Faiths that share Abraham as father. During the UAE visit he advised Catholics living in Muslim majority countries to follow St Francis advice, to avoid being argumentative and be subject to everyone while professing their Christianity. Like St Francis, the Pope wishes to build bridges with Islam. In Morocco he suggests that the Church should become 'a living sacrament of the dialogue that God wants to initiate with each man and woman'.

*May God Bless you,
Fr. Liam.*

NOTICES