

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](http://www.english-martyrs.co.uk)

Deacon Gary Bevans 01903 503514

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

## **Thirty-second Sunday of the Year**

Saturday	9 <sup>th</sup>	6.00 pm	Deceased Relatives of Gina Marshall
Sunday	10 <sup>th</sup>	8.15 am	Michael Shiel RIP
		10.30 am	Beryl Rookyard RIP
Monday	11 <sup>th</sup>	9.30 am	Josephine Hills RIP
Tuesday	12 <sup>th</sup>	9.30 am	Holy Souls
		<b>7.30 pm</b>	<b>Choir Practice</b>
Wednesday	13 <sup>th</sup>	9.30 am	Mary Hanson RIP
Thursday	14 <sup>th</sup>	7.30 pm	Holy Souls
Friday	15 <sup>th</sup>	9.30 am	Intention of Anne & Gordon Bradey
		7.30 pm	Prayer Group
Saturday	16 <sup>th</sup>	6.00 pm	Peter Ayre RIP
Sunday	17 <sup>th</sup>	8.15 am	Bernard Bandy RIP
		10.30 am	The Parish
		6.00 pm	Polish Mass



**SATURDAY:** Holy Hour: 10.00 - 11.00am. Reconciliation: 10.15–10.45 am & 5.15 - 5.45 pm

**TODAY'S READINGS:** 2 Maccabees 7:1-2, 9-14; 2 Thessalonians 2:16-3:5, Luke 20:27-38

**NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:** Malachi 3:19-20; 2 Thessalonians 3:7-12; Luke 21:5-19

**COLLECTIONS:** Church: £473      Retired Priest's Fund: £825      Stations of the Cross: £7,700  
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:** Anthony Canneaux, Lawrence Brownlee, Mike Yeulett, Peggy Gallagher, Margaret Birch, Lita Yong, Patrick Ryan, Brenda Peazold, Mary Wessel, Gina Palermo, Elizabeth Hoskins, Joan Cutmore, Christine Watson, Gordon Milne, 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:** **LESLIE LEE** and those whose anniversaries occur about now: Brian McHale, Phillip Horsfall, Edward Hetherington, 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

**3. SUNDAY LUNCH (2 COURSES)** (Bangers & Mash) will be served in The Barn this Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> November at 12.00 noon in aid of 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. GOLDEN JUBILEE BARN DANCE** will be held in The Bran **next** Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> November at 7.00 pm. tickets will be on sale after all Masses this weekend Price Adult £2.00 and Children are free. It is hoped that by keeping the cost of the tickets low our young families will be encouraged to come and join in the fun.

**5. APF RED BOX HOLDERS** please collect your emptied Red Boxes from the windowsill in the main Porch.

**6. 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

**7. THE ANNUAL CONCELEBRATED REQUIEM MASS** for the deceased members of the Deanery Clergy will be held **next** Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> November at 11.00 am at St Mary of the Angels, Worthing. 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.

**8. ENGLISH MARTYRS SCHOOL OPEN DAY** - If your child's date of birth is between 1 September 2015 and 31 August 2016 they are eligible to start school in September 2020. English Martyrs Catholic Primary School has an Open Day for prospective parents, on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> November at 9.30am and 5.30pm. The School is located in Derwent Drive, Worthing, BN12 6LA. Parents are more than welcome to ring the school on 01903 502868 for more information or just go along. They will be very happy to see you. The closing date for applications is 15<sup>th</sup> January 2020.

**9. GLOBAL AWARENESS – A PRESENTATION & DISCUSSION** will take place in the Good Shepherd Chapel on Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> December at 3.00 pm. Led by a local Justice & Peace Member. How do our everyday decisions impact the lives of people around the globe? How can we help to create a more just and peaceful society?

#### **10. CHRISTMAS DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES**

Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> December - 7.00 pm - Curry & Carols Night  
Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> December - 3.00 pm - Christmas Carols and Mulled Wine  
Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> December - 7.30 pm - Advent Reconciliation Service  
Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> December - 6.00 pm - First Mass of Christmas especially for children  
- 9.00 pm - Mass preceded by Carols from 8.30 pm  
Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> December - 8.15 am and 10.30 am Mass  
Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2020 - 10.30 am Golden Jubilee Mass with Bishop Richard

**11. EDGE YOUTH GROUP, SUNDAY NOVEMBER 10th, 7PM TO 8.30PM** in 'The Barn' is open to young people in Years 7 to 11, and at the moment we're working through the Youth Alpha video series. There's also pizza, games, prayer and lots of friendly people. If it's your first time, bring a parent so they can sign a consent form.

**12. MARY'S MEALS:** We are now in particular need of Crayons, Colouring Pencils, Toothpaste, Tooth Brushes, Soap and Flannels. Many thanks to all who so generously contribute to these backpacks

**13. TURNING TIDES (WCHP)** are appealing for: Coffee, Sugar, Tinned Tuna, Tinned meals, Biscuits, Tinned Tomatoes, Marmite, Squash, Tinned Rice Pud, Tinned meat, Gravy and Cooking Oil. Boxer Shorts, Men's Socks, Razors and Cleaning Products. Many thanks for your continued and generous help

**Father Liam says: One of the most hurtful insults one can inflict** on another is to call that person a traitor. In tense political situations like the present such incidents are all too likely to arise. Where does the word 'traitor' come from? It comes from a very troubled time when the Church was persecuted by the Roman Empire and when it suffered from conflicts within its own ranks.

The persecution led by the Emperor Diocletian broke out at the beginning of the fourth century; Christians were commanded to surrender their scriptures to the authorities. Those who did so were given the name 'traditores' – literally 'those who had handed over'. This is the word that has come down to us as 'traitors'. We tend to think of traitors as those who betray their country. For the Christians in the early Church it was the term used for those who complied with the unjust demands of the State. It became important to know what was the 'Word of God' and what was not. The Church had to define what books belonged to the Bible. To betray the Scriptures – to hand them over to be burned by the State – was deemed to be truly treacherous. The Scriptures were those texts which one was prepared to die for. Christians were also ordered to hand over the sacred vessels used in the celebration of the Eucharist and also the names of their fellow Christians. Bishops in particular were ordered to hand over the names of those in their Christian community. Just imagine how would we react if we were subjected to such pressure! There were many martyrs who refused to become 'traditores'. Those who handed over the Scriptures to be burned were often marginalised by their Christian communities. Some were of the opinion that such people could never be re-admitted to Holy Communion.

The bishop of Carthage, Mansurius, allowed the authorities to destroy technical books and apocryphal scriptures – not recognised by the Church as inspired by God – which he left in the church. But he did not leave the sacred books that the authorities sought. A party of zealots led by Donatus charged Mansurius with 'traditio' with the crime of surrendering the books and so practically denying the faith – by giving the appearance of so doing. Caecilian, who had been ordained by a 'traditor' bishop called Felix was chosen to succeed him. Seventy bishops from North Africa protested, asserting among other things that Caecilian had been consecrated by a 'traditor' and so his ordination as a bishop was invalid. In his place they chose Majorinus who died in 303. Then Donatus was chosen as bishop of Carthage. The Bishop of Carthage was the most important Bishop of North Africa, which was then very strongly Christian. The followers of Donatus were called Donatists and Donatism became a very strong sect. Their case was examined by the Pope who set up a commission in 313 which ruled against the Donatists as did the Council of Arles in the following year. They appealed to the Emperor who was now Constantine – and very favourably disposed to Christianity – who, fearing for the unity of the empire declared himself against the sect. In the year 330 no less than 270 Donatist bishops met in council – an indication of how widely the teaching had spread. Outside of Africa they had only two congregations – one in Rome and another in Spain.

From the year 400 onwards St Augustine, the new Bishop of Hippo, was active in opposing them. He met 279 of their bishops in 411 at Carthage. They split up into many sects and sank into comparative insignificance.

Donatism was the last result of the persecutions which the Roman Empire waged against the Church over a period of 250 years. The Commission set up by the Pope and the Council of Arles at the beginning of the schism both established that Bishop Felix had not in fact been a 'Traditor'. But equally they affirmed that those who received Baptism or Ordination or any Sacrament from a 'Traditor' all received the Sacraments validly. The validity of the Sacraments did not depend on the personal sanctity of the priest or bishop. The Donatists had declared that all who were baptised by 'traditores' were not truly baptised and so should be baptised again.

The Emperor Constantine at first tried to subdue the rebels by force but this only made them rejoice in their persecution. When he changed course and was kind to them this merely encouraged them to attack Catholics, burn their churches and spread terror throughout Africa. The decisive blow to the heresy was dealt by St Augustine through his teaching and writings. Constantine on the other hand only strengthened the schism. By seeking to be the arbiter of a religious controversy he set an unfortunate precedent of State involvement in the life of the Church.