

PARISH OF THE ENGLISH MARTYRS Goring Way

15.12.2019

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

Presbytery 01903 242624 / Church repository 01903 506890

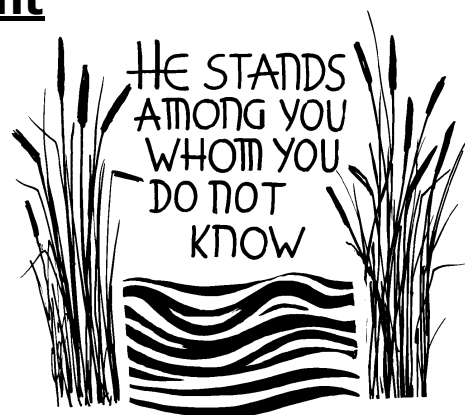
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Deacon Gary Bevans 01903 503514

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

Third Sunday of Advent

Saturday	14 th	6.00 pm	Mary & Harry Markham RIP
Sunday	15 th	8.15 am	The Parish
		10.30 am	Nancy Egan RIP
		6.00 pm	Polish Mass
Monday	16 th	9.30 am	Reg Marshall RIP
Tuesday	17 th	9.30 am	Bill & Nell O'Keeffe RIP
		7.30 pm	Choir Practice
Wednesday	18 th	9.30 am	Holy Souls
Thursday	19 th	9.30 am	Sarah Clarke RIP
		7.30 pm	Service of Reconciliation
Friday	20 th	9.30 am	Intention of the O'Connor Family
		7.30 pm	Choir Practice
Saturday	21 st	6.00 pm	Roma & John Morey RIP
Sunday	22 nd	8.15 am	Bernard Bandy RIP
		10.30 am	Deceased members of the Dunne & Hurly Families



SATURDAY: Holy Hour: 10.00 - 11.00am. Reconciliation: 10.15–10.45 am & 5.15 - 5:45 pm

TODAY'S READINGS: Isaiah 35: 1-6, 10; James 5: 7-10; Matthew 11:2-11

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS: Isaiah 7:10-14; Romans 1:1-7; Matthew 1:18-24

COLLECTIONS: Church: £608 Stations of the Cross: £8,950 Thank you for your generosity.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS: Audree Price, Mary Murphy, Anne Steere, Anthony Canneaux, Lawrence Brownlee, Mike Yeulett, Margaret Birch, Lita Yong, Patrick Ryan, Brenda Peazold, Mary Wessel, Gina Palermo, Elizabeth Hoskins, Joan Cutmore, Christine Watson, Gordon Milne, Alfred Deacon, Marie Garselis, Roni Horstead, Ronnie Tyler, Jenny Begley, Bill Hogg, Breda Schlimgen, Michaela Finn, Winifred Lyons, Yvette Allen, Kerry McStravick, Lydia Van Melsen

2. THOSE WHO HAVE DIED RECENTLY: **ESTER PARK** and those whose anniversaries occur about now: Mary Mackay, Ethel Baker, Margaret Mattingley, Noel Melling, Norah Murphy, Margaret Wadsworth, Inge Carey, Edna Turberville, Cyril Marshall, Muriel Day, Hetty Smith, Kathleen McDonagh

3. WEEK OF GUIDED PRAYER. Sunday 12th to Friday 17th January 2020. This experience offers you the chance to meet each day for 30 minutes with an experienced Prayer Guide, one-to-one. The role of the Prayer Guide is to help you to listen to the voice of the Holy Spirit in your heart. It is the Holy Spirit who guides us in prayer. A daily informal and confidential meeting, at a time to suit you, will be agreed with the Prayer Guide. In a way, you have this beautiful opportunity of a week of retreat in the midst of your ordinary, everyday life. Places will go quickly. Please take a leaflet and application form from the church entrance and return as soon as possible (details are listed there). The leaflet also provides clear information about the week. This is for you! It is at the initiative of Bishop Richard

4. 'STAR OF WONDER' celebrates the journey of the Christmas Star to Bethlehem in a Service of carols and readings to be followed by refreshments in the Barn **this** Sunday 15th December at 3.00 pm All are welcome.

5. CHRISTMAS DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES

Sunday 15 th December	- 3.00 pm – 'Star of Wonder' Christmas Carols, Mulled Wine & Mince Pies
Thursday 19 th December	- 7.30 pm - Advent Reconciliation Service
Saturday 21 st December	10.30 am - Carol Singing at the the Mulberry Shops
Tuesday 24 th December	- 6.00 pm - First Mass of Christmas especially for children - 9.00 pm - Mass preceded by Carols from 8.30 pm
Wednesday 25 th December	- 8.15 am and 10.30 am Mass
Sunday 5 th January 2020	- 10.30 am - Golden Jubilee Mass with Bishop Richard (<i>There will be no 8.15 am Mass</i>)

6. THE ADVENT RECONCILIATION SERVICE will be held here **next** Thursday, 19th December at 7.30pm. There will be a choice of confessors as there will be at the other Reconciliation Services in the Deanery. These are listed in both porches

7. TRADCRAFT will be on sale in the Barn after the 8.15 and 10.30 am masses **this** Sunday. If you would like to purchase items for the Turning Tides (WCHP) a box will be available in which to put your purchases

8. CURRY & CAROLS EVENING IN AID OF THE PARISH PROJECT. Many thanks to all those who prepared and cooked such a delicious meal and to those who supported the evening in any way. An amazing £1,010 was raised for Kalingalinga

9. COME AND JOIN US SINGING CAROLS AND DISTRIBUTING MINCE PIES. All the Churches in Goring are joining together next Saturday, 21st December from 10.30 until 11.30 am on the Greensward at the Mulberry Shops to sing carols and give out Mince Pies to all those passing by. The shoppers are looking forward to this 'happening' and so it is essential that as many people as possible come and join in the singing.

10. YOUR OFFERINGS AT THE CHRISTMAS MASSES are your personal gift to Father Liam (Gift Aid applies). If you are not Gift Aiding, special envelopes are available in the Porch. If you will be away for Christmas you might like to use these envelopes to make your gift either beforehand or afterwards.

11. CALLING ALL WHO LIKE TO SEE A CLEAN CHURCH AT CHRISTMAS! It's all hands to the dusters and vacuum cleaners at 10.00am **next** Friday 20th **and** Monday 23rd December. A really good clean on Friday and a 'freshen up' on Monday is the cunning plan. Coffee and Mince Pies will be served to all workers

12. CHRISTMAS PRESENTS FOR CHILDREN: For the last thirteen years we have helped 'Home-Start, Worthing and Adur' by donating toys for the children of the families that they support and the gifts have brought a great deal of pleasure to the children. If you are able to assist this year please wrap up a present (indicating if it is meant for a boy or a girl and of what age) and place it under the Christmas tree in church over the Christmas Season

13. ENGLISH MARTYRS YOUTH MUSIC GROUP are seeking new singers to join them. It is a great way to become a part of the mass and we enjoy singing together. We sing every 6-8 weeks at the 10.30am Mass. Our next Mass is Sunday 19th January. If you are interested please contact Harriet on 07789743573 or Dee on 07576268765

14. HAVE YOU VISITED THE REPOSITORY RECENTLY? We have a wide array of Christmas Cards, Candles, Diaries etc

15. CHATSMORE'S 'LOST BOX' - After 5 months, students from Chatsmore Catholic High School finally retrieved the 'lost box' containing cameras they sent to 'near-space' via helium balloon on June 28th. You can view the whole story here: www.tinyurl.com/lostboxstory and watch incredible 360° footage of the launch, the balloon bursting at 30km altitude, and finally the landing here: www.tinyurl.com/CHITS360. Follow us on Twitter (@CHITS_Project) for further developments!

16. USED POSTAGE STAMPS FOR THE MISSIONS: As the Christmas Cards start arriving please remember to rescue all those beautiful stamps, leaving about half an inch of envelope around the edges, (no more than this please as it makes them expensive to forward to the Missionary Society) and put them in the box in the Porch

17. KEEPING CHRIST IN CHRISTMAS: Worthing Knights of St Columba have provided Christmas posters, available in both porches, and ask that you take them home and display them as an act of Christian witness.

AMELIA SENDS CHRISTMAS GREETINGS TO ALL. Her address is: Tonbridge House, 36, Quarry Hill Road, Tonbridge, Kent TN9 2RS. If you send her a card please send your address.

18. 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

19. TURNING TIDES (WCHP) are appealing for: Coffee, Sugar, Biscuits, Squash, Cooking Oil Cranberry Sauce and Mustard. Toilet Cleaning Products, Cutlery, Mugs, Tea Towels. Many thanks for your continued, generous help

Father Liam says: Parliament has not been sitting for quite a while now. How would you feel if it were to meet and conduct business on Christmas Day? That is what happened in this country a mere 375 years ago. Oliver Cromwell led a revolt resulting in the Civil War and the execution of King Charles I on 30th January 1649. As Christmas celebrations were not mentioned in the Bible, Cromwell and his Parliament decided to abolish them. The first attack on Christmas took place in September 1642 when the largely Puritan Parliament outlawed the performance of plays, including Christmas Pageants. They viewed Christmas festivities as the trappings of 'Popery'.

In September 1643 the Puritans abolished the Feast of Christmas and decreed that it was to be observed as a normal day. Hence Parliament was summoned to sit on Christmas Day 1644. Preaching to the House of Lords on that day Edmund Calamy declared: 'This day is commonly called the Feast of Christ's Nativity, or Christmas Day, a day that has formerly been much abused to superstition and profaneness. This year God, by his providence, has buried this Feast in a Fast and I hope it will never rise again.'

The excesses of the Tudor era had been replaced by severe intolerance of any celebration of Christmas. Widespread riots and civil disobedience followed and eventually Christmas slowly began to re-emerge. So, unfortunately, did the excesses.