

PARISH OF THE ENGLISH MARTYRS Goring Way

5.01.2020

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

The Epiphany of the Lord

Saturday	4 th	6.00 pm	Pauline McCaul RIP
Sunday	5 th	10.30 am	The Parish
		6.00 pm	Polish Mass
Monday	6 th	9.30 am	Reg Marshall RIP
Tuesday	7 th	9.30 am	Intention of Margaret Casey
Wednesday	8 th	9.30 am	Intention of Mary & Nicholas Murphy
Thursday	9 th	7.30 pm	In Thanksgiving (C.H.)
Friday	10 th	9.30 am	Private Intention (AN)
Saturday	11 th	6.00 pm	Michael O'Driscoll RIP
Sunday	12 th	8.15 am	Sheila Bishop RIP
		10.30 am	Intention of Anne Steere



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

TODAY'S READINGS: Isaiah 60:1-6; Ephesians 3:2-3, 5-6; Matthew 2:1-12

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS: Isaiah 42:1-4,6-7; Acts 10:34-38; Matthew 3:13-17

COLLECTIONS: Church: £513 Turning Tides (W C H P) £550 Thank you for your generosity.

Contributions to the Christmas Crib will be sent to Friends of the Holy Land

NEXT SUNDAY there will be a second collection for SPUC – please see Note 5 below

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS: Audree Price, Mary Murphy, Anne Steere, Anthony Canneau, 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: BRIAN HODSON and those whose anniversaries occur about now: Brenda McDonald, Donald Perriman, Peggy Smith, Fiona Hague, Kathleen McCarney, Mary Castanes, Anna De Vido, Catherine Bennett, Anna Rofe, Lilian Shaw, Adriana Gaboli, Elvira Kelly, Janine Leyder, Marianne Fisher, Jessie Patten, Kathleen Page, Sarah Finnegan, Ella Turnbull, Robert Barber

3. CHRISTMAS PRESENTS FOR CHILDREN: Many thanks to all those who have so kindly donated presents for the children – I am sure they will be delighted

4 THE 'CAFOD AUCTION' AND SUPPER EXTRAVAGANZA will be held in The Barn on Saturday 18th January 2019 at 7.00 pm. Please remember to save any 'surplus' gifts or unused items for the Auction. Call Charles for collection/information on 01903 505546. Tickets will be on sale after all Masses **this** weekend price £7.50. Raffle prizes will also be gratefully received

5. WHITE FLOWER APPEAL 2020 – The Society for the Protection of Unborn Children (SPUC) will be holding its annual appeal next weekend. On 21 October 2019 the most extreme abortion regime in Europe was imposed on the people of Northern Ireland by the government at Westminster. Abortion will now be permitted for any reason up until at least 24 weeks, and even beyond that. The abortion lobby now wants to introduce this in England and Wales. Please be as generous as you can to help SPUC defend unborn babies and their mothers from this new attack.

6. MANY THANKS to the anonymous donor for the very generous donation of £300 towards the Statue of St Joseph

7. WHAT IS YOUR NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION? Or should it be '**YOUR PARISH NEEDS YOU!**' We are a busy parish with many good things happening in it but these only can happen if you are prepared to join in. At the moment help is needed with Altar Serving, Flower Arranging, Cleaning and assistance with Friendship in the Barn. At the beginning of April we open again to the public who wish to come and view the ceiling and our lovely stained glass windows and we will need volunteers to welcome our visitors and help in the Repository. There is much to do but we really do need you to come and help where you can. Please contact Anne in the Parish Office for further information and with your offers of assistance

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

9. WORTHING SHAKERS TREMOR GROUP will be launched by the National Tremor Foundation on Saturday 18th January from 1.00 – 4.00 pm at Goring Methodist Hall, Bury Drive. You are invited to come along and meet others in a friendly environment. Family members are welcome and there will be a raffle in aid of NTF.

10. EDGE YOUTH GROUP will meet again **next** Sunday 12 January in the Barn, 7 to 8.30 p.m. Year 7 and upwards. An opportunity for food, relaxation and fun. New members always welcome.

11. MARY'S MEALS: We are now in particular need of Soap, Toothpaste, Colouring Pencils and Crayons and serviceable children's shoes. Many thanks to all who so generously contribute to these backpacks

12. TURNING TIDES (Worthing Churches Homeless Projects): Items needed: Cereals (no Cornflakes or Porridge), Cooking Sauces, Ketchup, Brown Sauce, Salad Cream, Cooking Oil, Squashes, Tea, Coffee, Washing Powder, Shampoo, Shower Gel, Pump Hand Soap, Sanitizer Sprays, Floor cleaner, Toilet Bleach, Washing-up brushes, Hoodies, and Cereal bowls. Many thanks to those who are so generous in their donations

Father Liam says: Today we come to the climax of our celebrations marking the 50th Anniversary of our parish church of the English Martyrs. Over the past few months we have had various events to mark the occasion – soft seating for the church, a Garden Party, a Jubilee Concert, a 24 hours Prayer Vigil before the Blessed Sacrament, a Tea Party to which our neighbours were invited, two exhibitions in the church, one relating to Gary Bevans splendid reproduction of Michelangelo's Sistine Chapel ceiling and the other telling of the history of the church and a Barn Dance. All have been very well supported and hugely appreciated. Good things of course do not just happen – they are the result of effort and planning by a large number of people. We thank those who organised these events and the entire parish for the way they have entered into the spirit of our Jubilee celebrations. We are delighted that Bishop Richard is with us today to lead the celebration of our Jubilee Mass. The first Mass celebrated in this church was the Christmas Midnight Mass 1969. So it was felt that we could not choose a better day on which to celebrate the Jubilee than today, the Feast of the Epiphany, the Twelfth Day of Christmas. Our church is the first in the diocese to have been built after the Second Vatican Council which ended in December 1965. The Constitution of the Sacred Liturgy – the first document of the Council to be promulgated – inspired fresh thinking on how the architecture of our church buildings should reflect the great insights put before us on the Eucharist and our manner of celebrating it. Most churches in the diocese were modified in the wake of the Council. They had been designed for a very different style of liturgy and those changes to the church buildings would always be less than satisfactory. But our church was designed to beautifully house the renewed liturgy, thanks in large measure to the enlightened thinking of Canon Desmond McCarthy, the first parish priest of Goring and Ferring. It was quite a contrast to change from taking part in the celebration of the Mass in the Barn and moving to the new church with a very different layout. Not everyone was enthused. They had come to love the Barn. Sunday Mass had been celebrated there since 19th December 1937 at which 52 people were present. Moving out 32 years later, just before Christmas, must have seemed rather odd timing. Some surely would have preferred to have had Midnight Mass 50 years ago in the Barn and perhaps move to the new church on the Feast of the Epiphany!

As part of today's Jubilee Mass Bishop Richard will bless our new Stations of the Cross. We thank the parish for the very generous donations amounting to over half the cost. It was felt that it was appropriate to mark today's occasion in a permanent way. There is also a glass panel on Worthing Pier devoted to the Jubilee of our church. We have commissioned a statue of St Joseph to join Our Lady who we hope will be with us in the course of the year.

Fifty solar panels were recently installed on our church roof in response to the plea of Pope Francis that we should move towards renewable energy. The cost of these panels was completely met by individual donations on the part of parishioners. We are the first, and perhaps only, church in our diocese to have made such a move. In this matter not to act is to act – we can sin not only in what we do but in what we fail to do.

Today we celebrate the Magi whom Matthew in today's Gospel sees as astrologers who recognised that the event they had witnessed affects the whole of creation. Since the eighth century they have often been viewed as Kings. Today's liturgy seems to imply that they fulfilled certain verses of the Psalms and of Isaiah which are to be found in the readings of this feast. As Kings they attracted names – Caspar, Melchior and Balthasar. Eventually their relics were thought to have been found and claims are made that today we can venerate them in Cologne Cathedral. Today's feast is known in Germany as the Feast of the Three Kings. Matthew does not call them Kings nor does he mention the number three in respect of these strange wanderers. The Festival of the Three Kings established itself within western culture. In many places people will be writing on the lintels of their doors with white chalk, which has been blessed by the Church, 20+C+M+B+20. It is their way of invoking a blessing on their house. The 20 at the beginning and end of the inscription stands for this year of the Lord 2020. C, M and B refer to Caspar, Melchior and Balthasar. It is a lovely way of placing ourselves under the patronage of the first people outside of Israel who went in search of the Saviour and found him by the guidance of a star and worshipped him. We have been led to the same Saviour by the light of faith. We may not indicate to others that we have found him by writing a message in white chalk on our doors. But it is important that we find some way of making that indication otherwise where will our Catholic community be found fifty years from now?