

## PARISH OF THE ENGLISH MARTYRS Goring Way

29.03.2020

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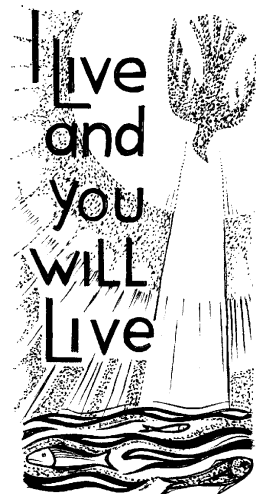
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### The Fifth Sunday of Lent

#### ***Masses will be celebrated without a congregation***

Saturday	28 <sup>th</sup>	The Parish
Sunday	29 <sup>th</sup>	Andrea Pyle RIP
Monday	30 <sup>th</sup>	Maria Jones RIP
Tuesday	31 <sup>st</sup>	Intention of Rick Bideleux
Wednesday	1 <sup>st</sup>	Intention of the Murphy Family
Thursday	2 <sup>nd</sup>	John Furlong RIP
Friday	3 <sup>rd</sup>	Private Intention (Genevieve)
Saturday	4 <sup>th</sup>	Mgr. Thomas Wynne RIP
Sunday	5 <sup>th</sup>	Chris Boyes RIP



**TODAY'S READINGS:** Ezekiel 37:12-14; Romans 8:8-11; John 11:1-45

**NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:** Isaiah 50:4-7; Philippians 2:6-11; Matt 26:14-27;66

**PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:** Rose Little, Albert Davitt, Lelia Murray, Mary Murphy, Anne Steere, Anthony Canneaux, Lawrence Brownlee, 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:** and those whose anniversaries occur about now: Alice Hudson, Mary McGoohan, Dennis Hale, Leslie Green, Bernard Berendt, Jessie Crouch, Joan Emerton, Dick Rains, Lilian Lee, Anthony Lawton, Bernard Smyth, Catherine Edwards, Gladys Feaver, Paul Dillon.

**3. THE GREAT BRITISH HOME CHORUS'** is an initiative of Gareth Malone. It aims to give everyone the opportunity to contribute their voices and instruments to an ambitious digital music project. Hopefully it might help to boost morale across the country by enabling us to share the gift of music and song with one another even though we are physically apart. If you are interested see: <https://decca.com/greatbritishhomechorus/>

**FATHER LIAM SAYS:** We are coming ever closer to Easter – but in a way that we never experienced before. We are being strongly encouraged to avoid becoming too physically close to one another while this crisis lasts. The term 'socially distancing' is used but some people much prefer to speak of 'physically distancing' ourselves from one another. In our technological world there are so many ways in which we can maintain social contact with one another even if we must, sadly, not meet.

I know that you are all trying to keep in touch with your friends and all you know from church and outside church circles. I hope you are finding them all well and keeping well yourselves. But it is all very difficult. Perhaps we have never felt so powerless and restricted. Please God, we will soon return to normal times. If you have any concerns about anyone, let me know. It is very important that we seek to keep close to God and we keep close to him by our kindness to one another and through prayer.

Jesus nourished his relationship with the Father and his relationship with us through his life of prayer. In the long hours of silence and prayer, we see the great desires of his heart and his concern for the world as he raised his cries to the Father. Jesus tried to nourish the life of his followers by teaching them and us to pray. In the prayer called the 'Our Father' all his followers are united in one faith. It is a powerful sign of our identity as followers of Jesus. Luke tells us of the circumstances in which Jesus taught the prayer to his disciples: 'He was praying in a certain place and after he had finished, his disciples said to him 'Lord teach us to pray as John taught his disciples.' The disciples of the Baptist had their own way of praying. We don't know what it was. It probably was influenced by John's attitude towards the imminent judgement, begging God to free us from his 'wrath to come'. (Luke 11:1) In contrast, the prayer of Jesus, 'The Lord's Prayer' is filled with trust in the beloved Father.

Father! That is always Jesus' first word when he speaks to God. His desire is to teach us all to pray as he does, in a spirit of trust and intimacy. He wishes us to be aware of ourselves as dearly beloved sons and daughters of the Father; brothers and sisters in solidarity with one another. He is the 'Father in heaven'. He is not tied to the temple in Jerusalem or any other holy place. He is the Father of all with no discrimination or exclusion. Everyone can and should call on him as Father.

*May God bless you,  
Fr. Liam.*