

PARISH OF THE ENGLISH MARTYRS Goring Way

19.04.2020

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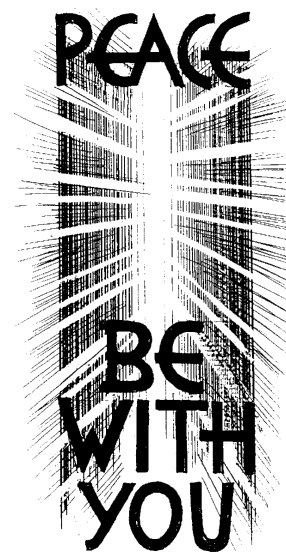
Deacon Gary Bevans 01903 503514

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

Second Sunday of Easter

Masses will be celebrated without a congregation

Saturday	18 th	Frances McCann RIP & Christine Foley RIP
Sunday	19 th	John & Joan Rattigan RIP
Monday	20 th	Mary Haugh RIP
Tuesday	21 st	The Parish
Wednesday	22 nd	In Thanksgiving (PR)
Thursday	23 rd	Sivyer Family Past & Present
Friday	24 th	Father David Rea RIP
Saturday	25 th	Mary Matthews RIP
Sunday	26 th	Margaret Dunne RIP



TODAY'S READINGS: Acts 4:42-47; 1 Peter 1:3-9; John 20:19-31

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS: Acts 2:14. 22-23. Peter 1:17-21. Luke 24.13-35

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS: Rose Little, Albert Davitt, Lelia Murray, Nicholas & 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, 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: JOAN GUNN and those whose anniversaries occur about now: Max Welton, Joan Briggs, Jim Corcoran, Marie Stovold, Win Coughlan, Edna Catley, Hilda Goldrick, Ruth Evans, Pamela Axworthy, Mary Lambrou, Stella Broadhead

May they rest in peace and rise in glory

3. GIFT AID ENVELOPES: Worry not if you have run out of envelopes! The new envelopes are in the church and awaiting the weekend that we can all return to Mass.

FATHER LIAM SAYS: We are now able to put each Sunday's pre-recorded Mass on our Parish website – www.english-martyrs.co.uk – while the present restrictions last. WE hope this will be of some help. Please pass on the message. The website will carry the recording of each Sunday's Mass for several days. The Mass is being celebrated in the Good Shepherd Chapel as there would be too much echo in the main church. The readers are recorded in their own homes to comply with the safety measures. This Sunday the readers are Simon & Verona Burgon. We are grateful to them and to Dermot Casey who is doing the filming and recording and to Christina Iden who is operating the website.

One of the best-known symbols of Easter is the humble egg. The little chick which pecks at the shell until it is shattered then emerges from its imprisonment to a new life has long been seen as an image of the Risen Christ triumphing over death and the grave on Easter Day. Before chocolate Easter Eggs became the rage, people often painted their eggs on Easter Day – then making a point of eating eggs on Christmas morning. In parts of Ireland when they boiled their eggs they added, on that special morning, the blossom from the Furze bush to the water so that when the eggs were placed on the table, they were resplendent with a golden hue.

I was reading of a very elaborate ceremony that takes place every Easter – but not this one – in Florence. It goes back over 350 years. Crowds from near and far are crammed into the huge plaza around the Cathedral. A huge procession with flags and music makes its way to the Cathedral with

the Mayor and the City Council in their festive robes in front of two huge white oxen drawing a cart with a tottering pagoda built in the 1600's. The horns and hooves of the animals glisten in gold paint and the pagoda is painted in deep reds and blues and gold. The oxen are then led away and the pagoda is loaded with fireworks. Inside the Cathedral the Archbishop who is often a Cardinal takes a mechanical white dove and lights a little flame in it. He then shoots the dove on a wire the length of the nave to the cart outside. When it hits its mark there is a massive explosion and display to the huge delight of the excited crowds. Somehow the little egg ritual in Donegal homes was to my mind nearer the mark. I feel we should really try to treasure simple joys in the new world opening up in the wake of the Coronavirus pandemic.

The whole world will take a long time to recover. We hope it will discover new ways of ordering things. Stockpiling nuclear arms and the whole arms industry was always an obscenity. In our new situation it is even harder to justify. Somehow we must learn to live more simply so that mankind is enabled to simply live, as CAFOD and other aid agencies have been telling us for a long time. It is important that the world makes a sensible recovery. And we all have a part to play in that. We pray for God's strength and wisdom and guidance as we go forward, recognising what the key issues are and the key people whom we have too often taken for granted. What of the health of Mother Earth!

Just over 100 years ago there was the huge pandemic known as the Spanish Flu which broke out towards the end of World War I and took more lives than did the Great War itself. That pandemic killed up to 50 million people worldwide. It wiped out 280,000 people in Britain and Ireland – 23,000 in Ireland. It infected an estimated 500 million people worldwide and killed about 4% of the world's population, making it the deadliest pandemic in history. Despite being called the Spanish Flu it had no specific links with Spain.

The Spanish media were able to freely report on the devastating disease because Spain was neutral in the War. In other countries where the flu was rampant, such as Britain and France, there was Wartime censorship so the media in many countries carried little or no information about it. People got much of their information from Spain and calling it the Spanish Flu was a way of deflecting blame. The same tendency is taking place now. It began in France in 1917 in a huge UK troop staging and hospital camp. Tens of thousands of soldiers passed through the camp every day and injured soldiers would have carried the virus. On site there was a huge piggery and poultry farm. A flu virus is thought to have mutated in a chicken, infected a pig and from there it spread to humans. Eventually in late 1918 new cases and deaths dropped abruptly. In December 1918 just weeks after the end of the Great War the people of Britain and Ireland went to the polls for the first time since 1910. The campaign took place during the closing stages of the Flu. We are saved that prospect and we wish our Prime Minister a speedy recovery.

EASTER JOY by Kate McIlhagga

The Sun,
the eye of the great God,
the eye of the king of hosts
is rising upon us,
gently and generously.
Welcome, glorious Son,
Dawn of a new day.

*Christ is risen
He is risen indeed!*

Glory to you, Son of the most high,
human face of God,
labouring with us,
spending your life for us,
cross-bound to set us free.

*Christ is risen
He is risen indeed!*

*May God Bless you,
Fr. Liam.*

Living One,
sword bright,
first and last,
banish all fear
from our hearts and minds.
Forgive us our sin.
On each of our dyings
shed your lovely light.

Christ is risen
He is risen indeed!

Bright face of God,
warmed by your glory,
may we run with joy to tell the others
as you go ahead of us
into the world.

Christ is risen
He is risen indeed!