

PARISH OF THE ENGLISH MARTYRS Goring Way

14.06.2020

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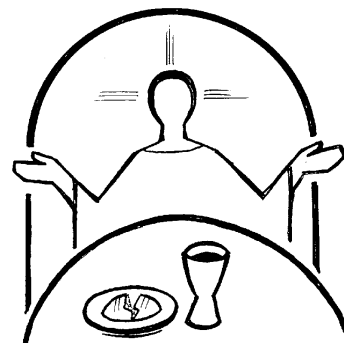
Deacon Gary Bevans 01903 503514

Arundel & Brighton Diocesan Trust is a Registered Charity No: 25287

The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ

Masses will be celebrated without a congregation

Saturday	13 th	Maria Petter RIP
Sunday	14 th	Intention of Ken Ellis
Monday	15 th	Charlie Gillespie RIP
Tuesday	16 th	The Parish
Wednesday	17 th	'Joy Mary'
Thursday	18 th	Intention of Nora O'Toole & Family
Friday	19 th	Margaret Seary & Family
Saturday	20 th	Deceased Members of the Roe Family
Sunday	21 st	Andrea Pyle RIP



TODAY'S READINGS: Deuteronomy 8:2-3,14-16; 1 Corinthians 10:16-17; John 6:51-58

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS: Jeremiah 20:10-13; Romans 5:12-15; Matthew 10:26-33

Next Friday is the Solemnity of the Sacred Heart of Jesus

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS: Sister Catherine Lai, Maithé Bennett, Frances Boylan, Halina Kuczynska-Mills & family, 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 and those whose anniversary occurs about this time: Rose Jeffery, Jim Murphy, Pamela Dixon-Smith, Winifred Roland, Thomas Smith, John Foley, Liam McCann, Dorothy Firth-Scott, Frances Smith, Daniel Ions, Sylvia Smyth. *May they rest in peace and rise in glory*

3. SPONSORS NEEDED TO HELP CHESTNUT TREE HOUSE CHILDREN'S HOSPICE:

Charities rely on big events like the London Marathon for much needed funds but this year it has been cancelled. So, Peter Clarke had a think about what he could do from home and decided he would do 26,200 press-ups! He is no fitness fanatic so this is a tough personal challenge. He is now up to 400 press-ups per day and has completed **15,400 to date**. He hopes to complete this challenge in July. The charity he has chosen is the Chestnut Tree House Children's Hospice, which is a charity already supported by the parish. **To date he has raised £776**. Donations may be made via this link <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/peter-cl Clarke-press-up-challenge> and will go directly to the charity. Thank you in advance!

4 USED POSTAGE STAMPS: Please continue to collect your used postage stamp – with just a narrow border of envelope – for that happy time when we are able to reopen the church and they can be sent off to St Patrick's Missionary Society.

5. 'MY DAY BY DAY BOOK': If you are one of the ten people who regularly collect this little book from the Front Porch please either email or phone the office to let me know and I will send the next two out to you. Five still remain!

6 FIRST HOLY COMMUNION: A few of the catechetical weekly meetings will be scheduled when we are in a position to make some plans and the young people will make their First Holy Communion some time in the autumn. We continue to keep them and their families in our prayers. Shortly after our First Holy Communion Sunday the preparation programme for the Sacraments of Reconciliation and Holy Communion for those who will be in Year 3 and over will commence.

FATHER LIAM SAYS: It is very good news that our churches can be open for a period each day to allow people to pray before the Blessed Sacrament. There will be many safeguards in place laid down by the government and by the Catholic Bishops of England and Wales to ensure everyone's safety. Our Health and Safety Committee have seen to it that everything is in place for our church to reopen for private visits as from tomorrow – Monday.

We have been led to expect that our churches will be open for public Masses as from 4th July. We have to wait for confirmation that this will be the case and what precise conditions will apply. The numbers allowed at each Mass will of course be restricted by the spacing requirements that will then be in force and vulnerable people will be encouraged to delay coming.

We recently had Volunteer Week. Each year the government encourages us to think about the contribution that volunteers make to every aspect of our lives. With the huge issues claiming our attention in recent weeks there was not much emphasis on Volunteers Week and it went largely unacknowledged. Like so many other bodies, our churches hugely depend on volunteers to keep going. So many of people active in their local church are active in other causes as well. In every Catholic Parish there are people involved in cleaning the church, arranging flowers, assisting with fund raising events for various charities, helping in the Repository, banking money, counting the collections, preparing young people for the sacraments, facilitating prayer groups and various other activities such as the ministries of welcome, altar serving, adult formation in the faith and music and singing and as Ministers of the Word and of the Eucharist. We must also mention those who assist with Children's Liturgies and those who organise the Little Angels Play Group and Music Group and help in various ways with Friday's Friendship in the Barn. The Finance Committee and the Health and Safety Committee play indispensable roles in Parish Life. There is the hugely important task of Safeguarding children and vulnerable adults that requires constant attention. And where would we be without our Parish Chairman and Parish Secretary?

Because of our wonderful Sistine Ceiling our Parish needs yet more helpers. Large numbers of visitors come to view the ceiling and windows of our beautiful church. The church is open for viewing most days for most of the year. We are blessed to have parishioners who make themselves available to welcome them and provide them with leaflets and booklets about our church and help in the shop. Many people come by appointment in large groups and coaches. We have people who speak to these groups – large and small – telling them the story of how the Sistine Reproduction came to be and pointing out the many significant features of it. AS you know, we don't ask for any money from our visitors for viewing our church but they do sometime make donations to the church or to CAFOD or our Parish Charity – the hospice in Kalingalinga. For the past three months much of this activity has had to cease with the lockdown. We take this opportunity to thank all those who have kept everything going until Coronavirus struck.

We are greatly indebted to Dermot Casey for pre-recording the Sunday Masses so expertly and reverently. He had no previous experience in that field but he is a very quick learner. We thank the various readers for taking part and Christina Iden for putting it on the Parish website and making it possible for many of you to associate yourselves with it. We do look forward to being able to publicly celebrate Mass again – even though, for sometime, we may not have the numbers we previously had.

As for people coming to view the ceiling, that will be some time away. In any case coach outings will take some months to get re-established. Coaches are required to make prior arrangements before coming and we will be in no hurry to encourage them even when they feel it is safe to do so.

Some of our volunteers no doubt will decide that they would be wise to give it a rest. There is a saying that goes something like this: 'Discretion is the better part of valour'. No one should feel that they are letting the church down if they are hesitant about continuing activity, especially if it brings you into contact with numbers of visitors. We must all look after ourselves and one another. When our church opens for visitors, it can initially open on a smaller scale – for fewer days and fewer hours than before.

Even when our public masses resume there will be no reception of Holy Communion from the chalice for some time so we can get by with fewer Ministers of the Eucharist. We will need to keep alert. Life is precious!

May God bless you,
Fr. Liam.