

## PARISH OF THE ENGLISH MARTYRS Goring Way

7.06.2020

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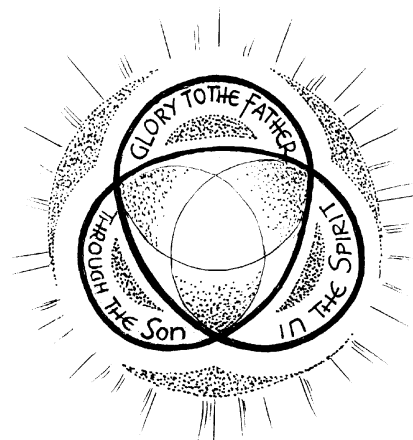
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### The Most Holy Trinity

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

Saturday	6 <sup>th</sup>	Sivyer Family Past & Present
Sunday	7 <sup>th</sup>	Andrea Pyle RIP
Monday	8 <sup>th</sup>	The Parish
Tuesday	9 <sup>th</sup>	Edith & Patrick Farrell RIP
Wednesday	10 <sup>th</sup>	Holy Souls
Thursday	11 <sup>th</sup>	Father Gerry Flood RIP
Friday	12 <sup>th</sup>	Holy Souls
Saturday	13 <sup>th</sup>	Maria Petter RIP
Sunday	14 <sup>th</sup>	Intention of ken Ellis



**TODAY'S READINGS:** Exodus 34:4-6,8-9; 2 Corinthians 13:11-13; John 3:16-18

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

**PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:** Sister Catherine Lai, Maithé Bennett, Frances Boylan, Halina Kuczyńska-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: Julia Rippin, Rita Healy, Wasyl Szymuda, Raymond Tremayne, Mary Marsh, Simonne Brookes, Josette de Roland Peel, Marina Hatton, William Steadman, Bernard Carroll, Cynthia Hinchcliffe, Nuala Clarke, Wendy Lee. *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 **13,000 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 £706**. 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: Global Warming is an ever-increasing crisis.** In recent months, due to the Coronavirus pandemic, the earth has begun to heal a little with the huge decrease in air travel and motor traffic and manufacture. The pollution all over the world, caused by the use of fossil fuels, has been much reduced. The world has seen the biggest ever decrease in global carbon emissions. The benefits to the ecology will soon be wiped out as we gradually return to more normal times. It has been weird to see photos of goats rambling around the empty streets of Llandudno and of peacocks strutting around in Bangor. Fortunately this is no longer happening as the lockdown is relaxing its grip.

Even with this pandemic still active, 2020 is on track to be the warmest year humans have ever recorded. Concentrations of Carbon Dioxide in the atmosphere will increase though at a slightly slower rate than expected. Temperatures will only stop increasing, climate scientists tell us, when we stop emitting greenhouse gases.

Understandably the attention of most governments at the moment are on efforts to get this dreadful pandemic under control. In November the International Conference of Parties (COP26) was due to be held in Glasgow. This was to have been the 26<sup>th</sup> such Annual Conference bringing together the foremost scientists in the field of ecology to update one another on what each party to the Conference is doing to meet their target of limiting global warming to no more than 1.5% by 2030. Due to the pandemic this conference has been postponed until November 2021.

The great challenge to be faced by COP26 in Glasgow is to find a way that the various countries that are parties to it, can collaborate in securing a less destructive future for our earth. By then, after the Presidential election in November, the U.S. might have indicated that it wishes to re-join the COP! In the past months there was unprecedented flooding, drought, wildfires in Australia and California, continued deforestation and the burning of the Amazon forests.

The European Union has announced a sweeping plan to help restore the natural world. A recent assessment by the European Commission found that 60% of wildlife in Europe is threatened or in decline and almost 80% of habitats are suffering degradation or destruction. It argues that radical action is necessary to protect wildlife and preserve the health of natural systems that sustain the economy, such as productive soils and clean water. The E.U. has come up with a 10 year Biodiversity Strategy that will cost at least 20 billion Euros (£18billion) a year. The plan is to halt the decline in animal and insect populations, which have been hit hard by decades of pollution, chemical use and the encroachment of humans into wild areas. It will aim to plant three billion trees, curb the use of pesticides and protect large swathes of wetlands, forests and coastal waters. After years of global failure to address the loss of biodiversity difficult decisions are being made. But there are fears that the E.U. might not deliver on its promises. It seems that many of the same policies have been set out by previous nature plans and have not been delivered. The strategy involves reducing the use of chemical pesticides by 50% and cut artificial fertilisers by 20% by the year 2030 and ensure that at least a quarter of European farmland will be organic, up from 7.5% today. Farmers will be required to leave buffer strips of hedgerows and meadows for wildlife.

The U.K. of course has been bound by European rules and regulations on farming, fishing and pesticide use for decades. Despite having now left the E.U. the U.K. and other parts of the world are still bound by the obligations they entered into by becoming members of the COP.

The phrase 'ecological conversion' is used not only by Pope Francis and the Orthodox Patriarch, Bartholomew I but also by Pope St John Paul II. It means a turning around and beginning again on a different track to truly look after the planet. In his recent message for the World Day of Peace, Pope Francis claims: 'The ecological conversion for which we are appealing will lead us to a new way of looking at life as we consider the generosity of the Creator who has given us

the earth and called us to shape it, in joy and moderation. This conversion must be understood in an integral way as a transformation of how we relate to our sisters and brothers, to living beings, to creation in all its rich variety and to the Creator who is the origin and source of all life. For Christians it requires that the effects of their encounter with Jesus Christ becomes evident in their relationship with the world around them.'

Back in 1971, Pope Paul VI warned in an Apostolic Letter that; 'Man is becoming aware that by an ill-considered exploitation of nature he risks destroying it and becoming, in his turn, the victim of this degradation.' Pope John Paul II and Pope Benedict XVI were also outspoken on the topic. It is now over five years since Pope Francis issued his well known document on the environment and on the common home shared by all God's creatures – Laudato Si. He emphasised that the ecological crisis cannot be addressed without paying attention to the root cause – which is our way of living. It was a cry for action. In 2017 the Bishop's Conference of England and Wales convened an Environmental Advisory Group. Presumably they are meant to advise the Bishops of England and Wales on environmental issues. It would be interesting to know what was their advice and what has been done about it. The issues are so serious that the efforts of all of us must be effectively channelled at local level. All Christians should somehow combine their efforts to really make a difference. After the present restrictions are lifted we simply cannot continue as before the pandemic struck. Because we are such an interconnected world we are more vulnerable. We must use our inter-connectedness to enable us to move into a safer and more responsible future.

Our bishops produced a written statement called 'Guardians of God's Creation' inviting us to engage in this urgent challenge: 'so that together we show leadership by our actions'. Leadership by our actions is what is needed. Before Christmas Bishop Richard devoted a pastoral letter on the issue, urging us to 'wake up' to our ecological crisis. He launched the 'Journey to 2030' project. It is run by young people in our Diocese. This is Year I of that journey. They have called it the Year of the Cockerel. The cockerel is noted for waking people up. You can read the Year of the Cockerel Magazine on [www.journeyto2030.org](http://www.journeyto2030.org) and sign up for news. You might find suggestions that might lead you to get involved.

The Diocese of Arundel and Brighton is the third Catholic Diocese in England and Wales to move their funds away from supporting companies involved in fossil fuels. Bishop Richard said: 'Care for the world that has been given to us is an increasingly pressing need. It is therefore timely that the Diocese of Arundel and Brighton divests from fossil fuels. This positive step will contribute to the common good and, I trust, pave the way for further practical action to safeguard this and future generations.'

We need to make changes to the way we live because we live in a world that has changed. We are not the only creatures that have to make painful changes. The hermit crab does not have its own natural shell. Instead, it inhabits the abandoned shells of other sea creatures. These shells give it the protection it needs if it is to survive. But as it grows our crab has to discard its own shell and move into a larger one. While making the change from old to new it is especially vulnerable. It is a time of high risk for our crab. But if it does not make the change its growth will be stunted and its body deformed by the small size of the old shall.

We must not try to creep back into our old shells!



May God bless you,  
Fr. Liam.