

Parish OF THE ENGLISH MARTYRS Goring Way

31.01.2021

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

The Fourth Sunday of the Year

Saturday	30 th	6.00 pm	James Hannigan RIP
Sunday	31 st	8.15am	Toni Judd RIP
		10.30 am	David Scard RIP
Monday	1 st	9.00 am	Yvonne Carroll RIP
Tuesday	2 nd	9.30 am	The Parish
Wednesday	3 rd	9.30 am	Toni Judd RIP
Thursday	4 th	9.30 am	Intention of Sharon McCluskey
Friday	5 th	9.30 am	Deceased Members of the Extended Meagher Family
Saturday	6 th	6.00 pm	Michael Murphy RIP
Sunday	7 th	8.15 am	Toni Judd RIP
		10.30 am	The Parish
		6.00 pm	Polish Mass



SATURDAY: Reconciliation: 10.15–10.45 am and 5.15 – 5.45 pm

TODAY'S READINGS: Deuteronomy 18:15-20, 1 Corinthians 7:32-35, Mark 1:21-2

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS: Job 7:1-4, 6-7; 1 Corinthians 9:16-19, 22-23; Mark 1:29-39

COLLECTIONS: Church: £462 Mary's Meals: £888 Thank you for your generosity.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS: Tony Grana, Sister Raymond, Liz Harvey, Mick Brouder, John Smith, Eileen Beech, Ian Threlfall, Thomas Duggan, Len Argent, Sister Catherine Lai, Maithé Bennett, Justin Gould, Rose Little, 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, 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. John McLening, John Crowley, Lawrence Connelly, Dirk Van Melsen, Edith Baker, Sheila Curties, Eileen Baynton, Lisa Parkes, Finlay Finlayson, Irene Miles, Catherine Fuller, Pauline Leyder, Edith Forrester, Colette Coombes, Hilda Holcroft.
May they rest in peace and rise in glory

3. CONFIRMATION 2021 will be celebrated in the Autumn. If you are in Year 10 or above and are considering joining the Confirmation programme, which will be via zoom, please email the Office (emgoring@english-martyrs.co.uk) for an Application Form.

4. A & B LOURDES PILGRIMAGE 2021 Due to Covid-19 it is unlikely that the Diocese will be able to take many Assisted Pilgrims to Lourdes this year, but the Lourdes Annual Collection will go ahead as usual on 14th February. The money will be put into a Restricted Fund, and if not used this year, will be used to help pilgrims in future years who would be otherwise unable to go to Lourdes. Not a penny will be lost or wasted. Gift Aid envelopes will be available in both porches from next weekend for those who are able to Gift Aid. For those yet to return to the church for Mass details of how to donate on-line are below.

Donating On-Line Information For those who wish to donate on-line to the A&B Lourdes Pilgrimage Appeal Collection, the following information shows how this can be done using the A&B Diocesan Lourdes Pilgrimage website.

1. Go to the Arundel & Brighton Diocesan Lourdes Pilgrimage website using this link: [A&B Lourdes Pilgrimage Website](http://www.abdiocese.org.uk/lourdes/home) or the website address <https://www.abdiocese.org.uk/lourdes/home>

2. Click on the Donate button on the right-hand side of the screen.

3. Please then click on the Donate button in the middle of the page and follow the instructions.

If you have any questions, please contact the A&B Lourdes Pilgrimage Office, either by email on lourdes.office@abdiocese.org.uk or call 01403 740110

5. TURNING TIDES (WCHP): Items needed: Cereal bars, Tinned Meats, Gravy, Tinned Rice, Tinned Custard, Cooking Sauces, Tea, Coffee, Washing Powder, Shampoo, Shower Gel, Pump Hand Soap, Sanitizer Sprays, Floor cleaner, Toilet Bleach, Washing-up brushes, Men's razors, Deodorants, Sleeping Bags Many thanks to those who are so generous in their donations

6. A PARISH LENT COURSE Called 'Discovering Jesus Through Lent' will be run via zoom and will consist of a short 30 minute film followed by sharing and discussion. The Course will start on Monday 22nd February at 11am. It requires no study but an open heart!!! Contact Dermot and Jane Anne on 07765403883

7. INVITED, LENT 2021 – The Mission Begins. The Diocesan Formation Team is hosting a mission for you this Lent. It will be the first of five seasons of mission, helping you to explore God's *Invitation* to live your life with him. What is a mission? An opportunity for everyone in the parish to sit back and reflect on the content provided. Season one is a series of programmes that help us to understand exactly how much we are loved by God, and features guest speakers such as David Wells, Eleanor Oliver and David Beresford. You will then be able to join a virtual conversation to meet like minded people and discuss what you have learnt. Visit www.abdiocese.org.uk/invited to find out more

FATHER LIAM SAYS: **Among the Religious Communities of men in our Diocese** is the Carthusian Community at Partridge Green near Horsham. We don't hear much about them primarily because they live an extremely secluded life and place great importance of a life of silence and prayer. Their monastery is called St Hugh's Charterhouse. All Carthusian monasteries are called Charterhouses – from the French name Chartreuse. The foundation of the first hermitages of the Chartreuse was in 1084 and owes its origin to St Bruno and his six companions. The Carthusian Order has the distinction of furnishing us with the first martyrs in the reign of Henry VIII. Three of their number were hung, drawn and quartered on the same day – 4th May 1535.

On 1st February 1535 the Act of Supremacy came into force, declaring it to be high treason to deny the King' was supreme head of the church in England. John Houghton was prior of the London Charterhouse. Born in 1487 he joined the Carthusian Community in London in 1516, having been a priest for the previous four years. He was Prior of the Beauvale Charterhouse in Northampton for a short time before becoming Prior of the London Charterhouse in 1531 shortly before the Reformation broke in England. Early in 1534 Henry and his Parliament decreed that all had to take an oath swearing that the King's marriage of 20 years to Catherine of Aragon was invalid and supporting his marriage to Anne Boleyn. This was the Act of Succession. On behalf of the Carthusian Order Houghton refused to take the oath and was imprisoned in the Tower of London. He later decided that the addition of the words 'so far as is lawful' meant he could take the oath and was released on 29th May 1534. Troops arrived at the Charterhouse forcing the other monks to take the oath. But in February 1535 everyone had to take the Oath of Supremacy. This was definitely a step too far for John. Some other religious orders and clergy succumbed to the King's command. The Carthusian Priors of the Charterhouses of Axholme in Lincolnshire and Beauvale in Nottinghamshire travelled to London to discuss events with John Houghton. These were Augustine Webster and Robert Lawrence.

Following three days of prayer these three Carthusian Priors contacted Thomas Cromwell to seek exemption from having to take the oath for themselves and their communities. Summoned to take the oath they flatly refused. Prior John asked Cromwell how a layman like the King could be Christ's vicar? Cromwell's feeble answer was 'You would make the King a priest, then?' He promptly had the three Priors arrested and imprisoned in the Tower in April 1535. Augustine Webster, the second of the trio, had been Prior of the Carthusian house near Epworth on the Isle of Axholme in North Lincolnshire since 1531. Formerly a monk of Sheen Monastery little is known of him except that he was a graduate of Cambridge University. During his interrogations by the Royal Commissioners he quoted St Jerome and St Augustine and St Ambrose in support of the primacy of the Bishop of Rome.

Of all the Forty Martyrs, the Carthusian Priors are the least well known. This is due to the fact that their religious lives were lived in such seclusion. We are perhaps not very aware that there is a Carthusian monastery a mere twenty miles from us! The third of the Priors is Robert Lawrence. It is thought that he may have come from a Dorset family. He spent some time as a monk at the London Charterhouse and he succeeded John Houghton as Prior of Beauvale Charterhouse. He went with the other two Priors to explain to Thomas Cromwell why they could not take the oath. Like the others he had to pay 6 shillings and 8 pence (one third of a pound) per week for the privilege of being given board and lodging in the Tower of London for the five weeks before their trial. Robert refused to speak at his trial because of his vow of silence.

They were not the only martyrs to lay down their lives on that day – 4th May 1535. Two more laid down their lives just after the Carthusian Priors. One of these was John Hale an aged priest of Isleworth in Middlesex. He too refused to take the Oath of Supremacy and had been decapitated. He is not among those canonised. The last to be martyred on that first day of King Henry's death penalties was Richard Reynolds. He was among the 40 canonised in 1970.

Richard Reynolds was born in Devon in 1492. He studied at Cambridge and was a Doctor of Divinity. He was a Brigittine monk at Syon Abbey in Isleworth. This was the only English house of the Brigittine Order, which was founded by St Bridget of Sweden in the 14th Century. The Abbey included nuns and priests, all of whom were overseen by an Abbess. Richard was reported to be the most fluent English monk in Greek, Latin and Hebrew. When brought to trial, unlike the three Carthusians, he followed no vow of silence. He boldly proclaimed: 'I have on my side the whole Christian world except those of this Kingdom. Nay, I do not say all of this Kingdom, for only the lesser part is with you. As to dead witnesses I have in my favour all the General Councils, historians of the last 800 years.' He had to witness the brutal killings of the Carthusians as they were, one after the other, hung, drawn and quartered and the beheading of the aged priest John Hale. Richard Reynolds would have heard John Houghton speak simply and concisely: 'Our Holy Mother the Church has decreed otherwise than the King and Parliament and therefore rather than disobey the Church we are ready to suffer'.

Thomas More was in prison in the Tower at this time. Looking down from his cell he commented to his daughter Margaret: 'Lo, dost thou not see, Meg, that those blessed Fathers be now going to their deaths as cheerfully as bridegrooms to their marriage'. Two weeks later Henry VIII had Bishop John Fisher beheaded. Another two weeks and Thomas More suffered the same fate.