

Parish OF THE ENGLISH MARTYRS Goring Way

14.02.2021

Father Liam O'Connor, 37 Compton Avenue, Goring-by-Sea, West Sussex. BN12 4UE

Presbytery 01903 242624 / Church repository 01903 506890

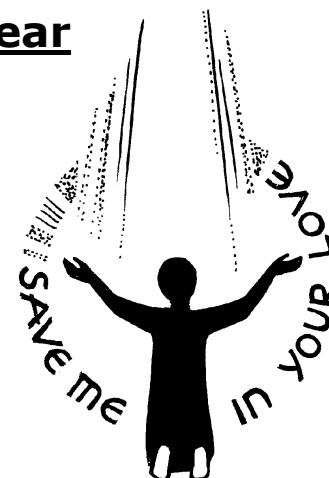
Email: emgoring@english-martyrs.co.uk Website: www.english-martyrs.co.uk

Deacon Gary Bevans 01903 503514

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

The Sixth Sunday of the Year

Saturday	13 th	6.00 pm	Mike Steere RIP
Sunday	14 th	8.15am	Andrea Pyle RIP
		10.30 am	David Scard RIP
Monday	15 th	9.30 am	Francesco Siriano RIP
Tuesday	16 th	9.30 am	The Parish
Ash	17 th	9.30 am	Sister Isabel Herd RIP
Wednesday		7.30 pm	Peter Williams RIP
Thursday	18 th	9.30 am	Andrée & Cyril Price RIP
Friday	19 th	9.30 am	Toni Judd RIP
Saturday	20 th	6.00 pm	Johanne O'Driscoll RIP
Sunday	21 st	8.15 am	Winifred Aherne RIP
		10.30 am	Susan Perriman RIP
		6.00 pm	Polish Mass



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

TODAY'S READINGS: Leviticus 13:1-2, 44-46, 1 Corinthians 10:31 – 11:1, Mark 1:40-45

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS: Genesis 9:8-15; 1 Peter 3:18-22; Mark 1:12-15

COLLECTIONS: Church: £281

Thank you for your generosity.

There will be a Second Collection this weekend for the Lourdes Pilgrimage Fund. Special Gift Aid envelopes available in both porches. (Please see Note 4)

Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, a day of fasting and abstinence

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS: Pat Potter, Patricia Knapman, 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, 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 JOHN SMITH (Sn) and those whose anniversaries occur about now. Sally Austin, Violet Way, James Melhuish, Peggy St John Farnon, Jack Wood, Sandra Forsyth, Maria Jackson, Severina Middleton, Jack Colclough, Reg Lehan, Joao Martinho, Laurence Sullivan, Winifred Jones, Royston Payne, Jerry Fortis, Albert Stone, Rosemary Hart. *May they rest in peace and rise in glory*

3. 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

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

6. WORLD DAY OF PRAYER will be held on Friday 5th March at 2.30pm. Due to current COVID restrictions it has been decided that the service this year will be held on Zoom. If you would like to take part either by Zoom or at home with a booklet please contact Sandy on 01903 241236.

FATHER LIAM SAYS: Italy as a distinct country is only 150 years old. King Victor Emmanuel of Italy made his official entry into his new Capital – Rome – on 2nd July 1871. Turin was briefly the first Capital of Italy. Now the various independent states of the Italian peninsula were finally united and the Papal States ceased to exist. Pope Pius IX – widely known as the Italian rendering of Pius the Ninth as Pio Nono – had vehemently opposed the loss of Papal territory. Rome had been ruled by the Popes for a thousand years but the movement for the unification of Italy had been growing from 1846, the year of Pius' election as Pope.

When Italian troops entered Rome on 20th September 1870 they found a Papal detachment waiting for them. Some volunteers from a number of countries, including Ireland, had joined the small Papal Army. But the fighting was soon over but not before it had left 49 Italians and 19 supporters of the Pope dead in the streets. There had been a plebiscite which registered 133,681 votes in favour of the incorporation of Rome into the Kingdom of Italy and 1,507 against. Rome was now part of Italy not by right of conquest only but by the will of the people. Only the tiny Vatican City remained an independent sovereign state. King Victor Emmanuel's entry had no signs of festivity about it. The King, a pious Catholic, was deeply saddened when the sentence of excommunication had been passed upon him.

Pope Pius made his last journey through Rome on 19th September 1870. It was to the Cathedral of St John Lateran – the Cathedral of Rome and it was outside Vatican City. He left his carriage and slowly and painfully made the long ascent of the Scala Santa – 28 marble steps said to have belonged to Pilates Palace in Jerusalem – associated with the trial of Jesus. When he reached the top he prayed and then, rising to his feet, blessed the Papal Troops who had escorted him. Then he returned to the Vatican, which he never again left until his death seven and a half years later. He outlived King Victor Emmanuel by a month. One of his last acts was to remove the excommunication by which the King would have been barred from receiving the Last Sacraments. Pius died on 8th February 1878. According to custom, Cardinal Pecci – soon to succeed him as Leo XIII – tapped his forehead three times with a little silver hammer, calling him by his baptismal name, Giovanni Maria. When there was no response he turned to the other Cardinals present with the traditional words 'The Pope is truly dead'.

It had been the longest pontificate – 31 years – in Papal history. He did not spend all his time trying to maintain the temporal power of the papacy. His first concern was always for the health and wellbeing of the Church. He established more than 200 new dioceses and re-established the Catholic hierarchies in Britain and the Netherlands. In 1854 he proclaimed the doctrine of the Immaculate Conception and 15 years later he convened a General Council of the Church to be known as the First Vatican Council. Many of the previous Councils to be held in Rome were held at the Lateran, then the Papal residence. But very many were held in various countries, notably in Eastern Europe in the first millennium. It had not been originally intended that the main issue at the First Vatican Council should be that of Papal Infallibility but, in fact, it did assume over-riding importance. This decree was promulgated on 20th July 1870 in an atmosphere of political crisis. On the next day the Franco-Prussian War was declared which led to the instant withdrawal of French troops who had been defending Papal rule in Rome. The ensuing Italian occupation of Rome brought the Council and the Papal State to an abrupt end.

The conclave held to elect a successor to Pio Nono was the first to take place since the loss of the Papal States. Cardinal Pecci was elected on 20th February 1878 at the age of 68 and took the name Leo XIII. He was known to be in poor health but exercised his office with remarkable efficiency for over 25 years. The problems he inherited were huge. The attitude of the Kingdom of Italy to the papacy was hostile. Leo was not even allowed to bless the crowd in the traditional manner after his coronation. The blessing to the City and to the World – Urbi et Orbi – instead had to take place in the seclusion of the Sistine Chapel. Over the next few years the situation grew steadily worse. Processions and outdoor services were banned, the bishop suffered from constant government interference, priests were conscripted into the army and fewer and fewer of them were allowed to teach.

Pope Leo regularly and vigorously spoke out for the Church. Leo spoke with a voice of calm and reason in contrast to the shrillness that characterised the pronouncements of Pio Nono. With other nations he adopted a similarly gentle approach. The Franco-Prussian War had changed the religious face of Europe. The dominant power was no longer Catholic Austria but fiercely Protestant Prussia. This left Catholic areas of Germany – especially Bavaria – very vulnerable. Bismarck and his government had instilled what was known as the Kulturkampf – the Culture Struggle. The Jesuits and several other Religious Orders were expelled and all Catholic schools and colleges were subjected to rigid State control.

Leo lost no time in seeking a reconciliation. Bismarck, fortunately, was losing confidence in his anti-clerical policy which was proving very unsuccessful and disruptive. He was only too pleased to avail of the Pope's overtures to soften his stance. By 1886 the Kulturkampf was a thing of the past. The only important exception was the ban on the Jesuits which was to remain in force in Germany until 1917.

Just as Prussia was adopting a friendlier policy France was revising its own brand of anticlericalism. Throughout the 1880s and 1890s in France it was the Kulturkampf all over again. When things began to look brighter the Dreyfus affair occurred. The Jewish Colonel Alfred Dreyfus was falsely convicted on a charge of treason and sentenced to life imprisonment. The anti-Semitic Catholic right-wingers strongly campaigned against Dreyfus. In 1906 – after 12 years of turmoil – Dreyfus was finally restored to his former rank, promoted and decorated. By then a strongly anti-Catholic party was in power in France. The wholesale expulsion of Religious Orders began. More than 10,000 Catholic schools were closed and thousands of priests, monks and nuns had fled France, many of them came to England. Leo XIII died in 1903 at the age of 93 and still energetic. But what a troubled pontificate he had!

