

Parish OF THE ENGLISH MARTYRS Goring Way

16.05.2021

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

Seventh Sunday of Easter

Saturday	15 th	6.00 pm	Joan Norton RIP
Sunday	16 th	8.15am	Christine Watson RIP
		10.30 am	Lily O'Brien RIP
		6.00 pm	Polish Mass
Monday	17 th	9.30 am	Canon Peter Phillips RIP
Tuesday	18 th	9.30 am	The Parish
Wednesday	19 th	9.30 am	Intention of Sue McKain
Thursday	20 th	9.30 am	Desmond McNamara RIP
Friday	21 st	9.30 am	Intention of Tony Kearney (Significant Birthday)
Saturday	22 nd	6.00 pm	Bonnie Patrick RIP
Sunday	23 rd	8.15 am	Mary Murphy-Sopp IP
		10.30 am	Rose Brown & Imelda Torelores RIP



Perfect love drives out all fear. (1John 4.18)

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

TODAY'S READINGS: Acts 1:15-17, 20-26; 1 John 4:11-16, John 17:11-19

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS: Acts 2:1-11; Galatians 5:16-25; 16:12-15; John 7:37-39

COLLECTIONS: Church: £285 Missionary Endeavour of the Diocese: £219 Thank you for your generosity.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS: Norma Markham, Pat Duggan, Anne O'Halloran, Tony Grana, Sister Raymond, Liz Harvey, John Smith, Mick Brouder, Eileen Beech, Ian Threlfall, Thomas Duggan, Len Argent, Sister Catherine Lai, Justin Gould, Rose Little, Lelia Murray, Mary Murphy, Anne Steere, Margaret Birch, Lita Yong, Patrick Ryan, Brenda Peazold, Mary Wessel, Gina Palermo, Elizabeth Hoskins, Joan Cutmore, Gordon Milne, Alfred Deacon, Roni Horstead, Ronnie Tyler, 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: Jim Maloney, Sylvia Phillips, Isabella Ions, Olive Humphrey, Pat Lucey, Pouppy Baeza, V Rev Cn Desmond McCarthy, Kathleen Simmonds, Bert Copping, Anne Berendt, Jacqueline Davies, Patricia Trantor, Mary Benson.
May they rest in peace and rise in glory

3. DONA CONTACTLESS AND ONLINE CHURCH DONATIONS: A steady decline in cash donations in recent years has been further exacerbated by the effects of the lockdown. At the suggestion of the Diocese a new **cashless donation system is now cited in both porches**. This enables you to make Chip & Pin or Contactless donations instead of cash. A short introduction video is available to view on the front of the parish website

4. ENGLISH MARTYRS PRIMARY SCHOOL is looking to recruit a practising Catholic to join our Governing Body as a Foundation Governor. The Governing Body work as a team in co-operation with the Headteacher to ensure legal responsibilities are met and to preserve the Catholic character of the school. Lack of experience should not deter you from expressing an interest if you have a genuine desire to serve the school by devoting your time & expertise. The Governors of English Martyrs School Community are committed to a working environment that is diverse and all inclusive. For further information please contact the school on 01903 502868.

5. REOPENING OF THE CHURCH TO VISITORS TO THE CEILING will take place this Monday 17th May, More volunteers are needed if we are to be able to open the church Mondays 10.00 am – 1.00 pm and Tuesdays to Fridays 10.00 am – 4.00 pm as in the past. A 'session' for volunteers is from 10.00 am – 1.00 pm or 1.00 - 4.00 pm. If you are tempted and would like to find out more before committing yourself please contact Teresa 01903 529260 – you have nothing to lose!!

6. PLEASE PRAY FOR MARY'S MEALS: Since our humble beginnings, Mary's Meals, named after Mary the Mother of Jesus, has been built on a foundation of prayer and the many little acts of love from those who support us. This May, the month traditionally dedicated to Our Lady, we invite you to join us in prayer to celebrate the wonderful work of Mary's Meals and give thanks that we are now reaching more than 1.8 million children with a nutritious meal in 19 countries every school day. We also pray for God's continued blessing on our beautiful mission, that through his providence it will always flourish, enabling us to reach more hungry children.

7. CAFOD: 2021 - A year of opportunity - An online talk with Christine Allen, Director of CAFOD on 26th May at 7.30 pm, Cost £5. This year the UK will host two major international gatherings: the G7 and the Climate Conference (COP26). Christine Allen will explore ways in which these events could make a difference to our world, especially to the lives of people who live in poverty. She will reflect on the impact of COVID-19 and draw lessons for the future for our interdependence with one another and with our natural world as we seek to recover and heal after the pandemic. You can book online or T: 01428 642161

8. A PENTECOST VIGIL will be held on Saturday 22nd May from 4pm until the 6pm Mass with the Blessed Sacrament exposed during that period. We will need to observe covid distancing.

9. TURNING TIDES (WCHP): Items needed: Cereal bars, Sugar, Coffee, Small Juices, Cooking Oil, Squash, Carton Milk, Crisps. Also Hand Sanitisers, Liquid Soaps, Shampoo, Toilet Rolls, Kitchen Rolls, Toilet Cleaner, Washing Powder, Washing Liquid, Cream Cleaner, Black Sacks, Sandwich Bags, Ante-Bac Spray, Cereal Bowls, Small Tents, Bath Towels. Single Duvets. Men's Jeans, Jogging Bottoms, (Small/Medium) Men's Boxers (New please) Many thanks to those who are so generous in their donations.

FATHER LIAM SAYS: Please God we will soon be able to celebrate our Sunday Mass in the way we were accustomed to before Covid-19 came along. Congregational singing has had to be suspended as has been the Prayer of the Faithful and the presentation of the gifts of bread and wine – what used to be called the Offertory Procession. The Prayer of the Faithful should include prayer for the living Earth to which we belong. We must learn to celebrate the Earth not as a commodity that belongs to us. We are called to regard it with love and respect. We should see it as a commodity to which we belong. In the Mass we are constantly reminded that we share this earth with all living things and that the Holy Spirit is 'the Lord and giver of life.' God is the creator of all that is seen and unseen'. We profess our faith in Jesus Christ 'through whom all things are made'. God is the Father of all that is and our reverence for his wonderful creation is a powerful way of reverencing him. How can we honour God if we fail to respect the work of his hands. The Eucharist has always emphasised that the human family is part of a much bigger picture and in defiling God's creation and our environment we are dishonouring God as well as ourselves.

The gifts of bread and wine have been brought forward in procession from the earliest days of the Church. St Justin the Martyr describes in detail how the Mass was celebrated in his days. He wrote about it to the pagan Emperor Antonius Pius in the year 155 – a mere 120 years after the Resurrection. He was trying to get the Emperor to understand that the Christians did not deserve to be persecuted as they were no threat to the Empire. Having described how the people having listened to the homily 'all rose together and offered prayer for ourselves and for all others' then exchange the Sign of Peace. Then 'bread and wine and water are brought to him who presides over the brethren. He takes them and offers praise and glory to the Father of the Universe.' The Presentation of the Gifts is not meant to be their transfer from one place to another. This is the daily bread and wine for today's Eucharist. It represents the 'Work of human hands'. They are' what the earth has given' destined to become for us the 'bread of life and our spiritual drink'. When the Second Vatican Council described the People of God as sharing in Christ's priesthood it tells us that 'the believer must learn to recognise the inner nature of creation, its value and orientation to the praise of God'. A truly loving relationship with creation is expressed as together we are drawn into God's life of communion.

Ni Kolia Vavilov was a botanist who collected and classified tens of thousands of crop species in St Petersburg in the 1920s and 30s. His wheat collection alone included 26,000 varieties. On false charges he was banished to Serbia and died there. In 1942 the Germans besieged St Petersburg (Leningrad) and cut off the food supply. Over half a million people died. At the Institute of Applied Botany, hungry scientists remained to protect the vast collection of seeds from rats and the elements. Fourteen died of starvation surrounded by bags of rare seeds which they could have eaten to save their lives. We should not forget such costly sacrifice when we gather for the breaking of bread in the Eucharist and in how we respect food in our own homes. Jesus shows us the connection between grains of wheat and sacrifice in the words: 'Unless a grain of wheat falls on the ground and dies, it remains a simple grain of wheat. But if it dies it yields a rich harvest'. (John 12:24) In the opening words of the Eucharistic Prayer we pray: 'You are indeed Holy, O Lord, and all you have created rightly gives you praise'.

In his recent book 'Let us Dream', Pope Francis helps us to reflect on the path to a better future: This is what he says: 'We are born beloved creatures of our Creator, God of Love, into a world that has lived long before us. We belong to God and to one another and we are part of creation. And from this understanding, grasped by the heart, must flow our love for each other, a love not earned or bought because all we are and have is unearned gift.

How are we persuaded otherwise? How did we become blind to the preciousness of creation and the fragility of humanity? How did we forget the gifts of God and of each other? How to explain that we live in a world where nature is suffocated, where viruses spread like wild-fire and bring down our societies; where heart-breaking poverty co-exists with inconceivable wealth; where entire peoples like the Rohingya are consigned to the dustheap?

I believe that what has persuaded us is the myth of self-sufficiency, that whispering in our ears that the earth exists to be plundered; that others exist to meet our needs, that what we have earned or what we lack is what we deserve; that my reward in riches, even if that means that the fate of others is poverty. It is moments like these when we feel a radical powerlessness that we cannot escape on our own, that we come to our senses and see the selfishness of the culture in which we are immersed, that denies the best of who we are, and if, at such moments, we repent and look back to our Creator and to each other we might remember that the truth that God put in our hearts; that we belong to him and to each other. Perhaps because we have recovered in lockdown a little of the fraternity our hearts had painfully missed many of us have begun to feel an impatient hope that maybe the world could be organised differently, to reflect that truth'.