

## Parish OF THE ENGLISH MARTYRS Goring Way

23.01.2022

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## The Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Saturday	22 <sup>nd</sup>	6.00 pm	Intention of Lily Barrow
Sunday	23 <sup>rd</sup>	8.15am	Rose & Tommy McIntyre
		10.30 am	The Parish
Monday	24 <sup>th</sup>	9.30 am	Catherine Bandy RIP
		11.00 am	<b>REQUIEM FOR ANTONIO MACCARRONE RIP</b>
Tuesday	25 <sup>th</sup>	9.30 am	Bernadette Martin RIP
Wednesday	26 <sup>th</sup>	9.30 am	Alec & Moira Marshall RIP
Thursday	27 <sup>th</sup>	9.30 am	Intention of Frank & Sharon McCluskey
Friday	28 <sup>th</sup>	9.30 am	Mrs Coates RIP
Saturday	29 <sup>th</sup>	6.00 pm	Intentions of Mary Murphy & Family
Sunday	30 <sup>th</sup>	8.15 am	The Parish
		10.30 am	Christopher Hatton RIP



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

**TODAY'S READINGS:** Nehemiah 8:2-6,8-10; 1 Corinthians 12:12-30; Luke 1:1-4, 4:14-21

**NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:** Jeremiah 1:4-5,17-19, 1 Corinthians 12:31–13:13; Luke 1: 1-4; 4:14-21

**COLLECTIONS:** Church: £245 Digital collection £80 Mary's Meals: £2,3146

Thank you for your generosity.

Next Weekend there will be a second collection for SPUC

**PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:** Peggy Gallagher, Lena, Ken Harvey, Sienna Coates, Kathleen Brennan, Chris Judge, Brian Caplin, Valerie Halley, Pat Duggan, Tony Grana, Sister Raymond, John Smith, Mick Brouder, Eileen Beech, Ian Threlfall, Thomas Duggan, Len Argent, Sister Catherine Lai, Justin Gould, Rose Little, Lelia Murray, Mary Murphy, Margaret Birch, Lita Yong, Patrick Ryan, Brenda Peazold, Mary Wessel, Gina Palermo, 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: Debbie Beirne, Christopher Sheridan, Catherine Hebdige, Frances Green, Michael O'Connor, John Hargadon, Rosemary Dovell, John Murray, Patrick Jackson-Burrows, Barbara King, Jan Gejda, Josephine Shore, Veronica Harwood, Freddie Griffin, Mary Corcoran. . *May they rest in peace and rise in glory*

**3. CHILDRENS' LITURGY** is back up and running! Bring your young children to the 10.30am Sunday Mass and join us in the barn for our liturgy, which is suitable for all ages, until they have made their 1st Holy Communion. Volunteers are desperately needed to join the rota for delivering the Childrens' Liturgy. All resources are provided, and it would only be once every 4-6 weeks, depending on how many volunteers come forward. Catch Peter Clarke after 10.30am Mass for further details.

**4. SYNOD BOOKLETS:** Please complete and return your Synod Booklets by next weekend. Your opinion does matter so do please make it known through the booklet.

**5. CONFIRMATION 2022:** On Friday 28<sup>th</sup> January at 7.00 pm a Deanery Service of Commitment will be held at English Martyrs Church followed by refreshments in the Barn. Please collect an application form from the Sacristy and return to the Parish Office as soon as possible, if you have not already done so.

**6. CHOIR PRACTICES:** These will resume on Tuesday 1st February at 7pm. New members are always welcome.

**7. WHITE FLOWER APPEAL 2022:** The Society for the Protection of Unborn Children (SPUC) will be holding its annual appeal next weekend. SPUC is currently campaigning to protect Pro-Life speech. Pro-life witness is being

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restricted now more than ever; we must be able to speak freely to protect unborn babies. Please be as generous as you can to help SPUC defend unborn babies and their mothers from this new attack.

**8. MARY'S MEALS COLLECTION:** A huge THANK YOU to all who gave so generously and raised £2,346.10 for Mary's meals - which will be doubled. In addition, a further £570 was raised through Gift Aid. An amazing result!

**9 EDGE YOUTH GROUP** will be meeting this Sunday, in the Barn, from 6.00 until 7.30 pm. All young people 11+ welcome. Contact Niall for more information [nfarrell@stromeros.co.uk](mailto:nfarrell@stromeros.co.uk).

**10. SAFEGUARDING TRAINING:** This training is aimed at PSR's, Group Leaders, and Coordinators of activities in parishes, who also need to know the elements of our Creating a Safe Environment Policy. The next dates for our Creating a Safer Environment Training: are Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> February 19:00-20:30, Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> February 14:00-15:30 and Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> March 10:30-12:00 on Zoom. If you would like to register to attend one of these training sessions, please email [Safeguarding@abdiocese.org.uk](mailto:Safeguarding@abdiocese.org.uk) with your name and role and a Zoom link will be circulated to you nearer the time. The world of Safeguarding has changed in the last few years with many more forms to complete. This training is very good and alerts us to what we need to be doing to ensure our young people and vulnerable adults are kept safe.

**11. LOURDES PILGRIMAGE:** Online applications for the 2022 Diocesan Lourdes Pilgrimage for all those who do not require any assistance in Lourdes or on the journey can now be found on our website [lourdes@abdiocese.org.uk](mailto:lourdes@abdiocese.org.uk). Paper applications for those who require assistance will be posted out in the new year. If you or someone you know would like to receive an Assisted Pilgrim Application Form, please email us with the name and postal address.

**12. TURNING TIDES (WCHP):** Items needed: Tinned Vegetarian Meals, Tinned Meals, Horlicks, Hot Chocolate. Coffee, Cooking Oil, Cling Film, Small Tents, Sleeping Bags, Hand Warmers, Drinking Flasks, Mattress Protectors, Pillow Protectors. Men's Jeans, Jogging Bottoms, (Small/Medium) Men's Boxers (New please), Men's Fleece (Small/Medium) Waterproof Coats, Fingerless Gloves, Trainers Sizes 8 – 12. Small Armchairs, Chest of Drawers, Single Bed Frames, Single Mattresses, Bedside Cabinets. Many thanks to those who are so generous in their donations.

**FATHER LIAM SAYS: How do we see ourselves in the Church?** What is your idea of 'church'? What is distinctive about us? What has God got to say about us? The pictures that the scriptures give us of who we are as church are many and precious. So many of them come from Christ himself. He tells us that we belong to him as intimately as sheep belong to their shepherd. He speaks of the union that exists between us and him is like the union between a vine and its branches. We draw our strength from the vine and we are meant to share our strength and vitality and life with one another. We must never imagine that we are alone. We belong. A powerfully grounded scriptural image of the Church that has been emphasised over the past sixty years – ever since the Second Vatican Council – is that we are the pilgrim people of God. We are on a journey together. Jesus leads us on that journey. He speaks to us of his plans for us and he nourishes us with his word and his living presence with us.

Pope Francis has been encouraging us to dwell on these great realities by inviting us to take part in this synodal pathway. Synod means walking together. Our whole purpose is summed up in that word. We are pilgrims. We are travellers. Unity happens when we walk together. We have a destination and a purpose. We are called to look out for one another and support and encourage one another. Above all we are called to recognise Jesus as the one who calls us together and forms us into his people. He, the Son of God, became one of us to lead us in the task of building a world of justice, love and peace and his great joy is to share his love and peace with us for all eternity.

This particular synodal pathway started back in October when Catholics throughout the world were invited to embark on this exercise of prayer and reflection and consultation and will reach an important stage in October next year when the reflections gleaned from the participants all over the world will form the subject matter of the 2023 Synod and we are all invited to participate. Our manner of participation has not been as thorough as it might have been. We have been constrained by the virus but apart from that it would have been difficult for many people to get enthused amid the various concerns with which we have to cope.

Synods have been a feature of the Church on a regular basis for the past sixty years or so but this is one that has received by far the greatest publicity and the one that we are all encouraged to be involved in. Pope Francis proposes that this synodal pathway should be characterised by three considerations: Communion, Participation and Mission. Communion: we are brothers and sisters in the Lord, all equally children of God, uniquely loved by him. We are called upon to gather around the Table of the Lord to participate in the Eucharistic banquet together. We listen together as God speaks to us when the scriptures are spoken to us.

Participation: We are called to be actively involved in the life of the parish. We are a community and community depends on its members playing their part. We all have our own various talents and gifts to contribute to the vitality of our local church community. We have been emphasising in recent Newsletters how much we need more volunteers in all kinds of areas: Readers, Children's Liturgy, Flower Arranging. We need people to prepare the money for banking and to bank it each week. There is no one, only me, who has been doing this for the past year or more. Those who were doing it are over 80 and so not covered by insurance. I am running out of time myself! Singers, musicians, people with expertise in building and maintenance, arts and crafts, welcomers at Sunday Masses and for church visitors – we need the gifts of one and all to keep going. St Paul emphasises all this so powerfully in today's Second Reading.

Mission: The Good News must be spread, and we are all commissioned to spread it. We are called to speak about the things of God to others. We have been entrusted with a great message, not a secret. The means of communication are ever expanding. But Christ needs messengers. Please remember to respond to the Questionnaires.

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