Parish OF THE ENGLISH MARTYRS Goring Way

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Second Sunday of Easter

23rd Joan Williams RIP Saturday 8.30 pm 24th 8.15 am Christine Watson RIP Sunday HEN WE PUT 10.30 am The Parish 25th Nancy Mooney RIP Monday 9.30 am OUR PROBLEMS IN 26th 9 .30 am Deceased Members of the McCluskey Family Tuesday 27th Joan Williams RIP Wednesday 9.30 am GOD'S HANDS, Thursday 28th 9.30 am Father Robert Ellis RIP Friday 29th 9.30 am Margaret Dunne RIP HE PUTS HIS PEACE IN Saturday 30th 6.00 pm Jim White RIP OUR HEARTS. Sunday 1st 8.15 am The Parish 10.30 am Maureen Holland RIP

SATURDAY: Reconciliation: 10.15 – 10.45 am & 5.15 - 5:45 pm

<u>TODAY'S READINGS:</u> Acts of the Apostles 5:12-16; Apocalypse 1:9-13. 17-19; John 20:19-31 **NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:** Acts of the Apostles 5:27-32. 40-41; Apocalypse 5:11-14; John 21:1-19

COLLECTIONS: Good Friday Holy Places: £377 Digital Collection: £35 Lenten Alms: £84 Thank you for your generosity.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS: John Mayock, Terry Stanley, Glenn, Ken Ellis, Helena & Vittorio Villa, 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, Ian Threlfall, Thomas Duggan, Len Argent, Rose Little, Lelia Murray, Mary Murphy, Margaret Birch, Lita Yong, Brenda Peazold, Mary Wessel, 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: Pamela Axworthy, Mary Lambrou, Stella Broadhead. Bernard Joyce, Mike Begley, Monica Day, Bernard Stone, Roy Jacobs, Margaret Dunne, Anne Wesley, John Field
- 3. WELCOME TO ANY VISITORS to our Parish this weekend. We do hope that you have enjoyed your stay
- **4. A VERY BIG THANK YOU** on behalf of the Parish to all who helped make the ceremonies of Holy Week and Easter so special the flower arrangers, musicians, choir, servers and not least our James for singing the Exultet. Also a personal and huge 'thank you' for your very generous Easter offerings
- <u>5. THE BOX IN THE FRONT PORCH</u> next to the main door is, for the next three weeks, will be used for donations to Mary's Meals. They are no longer able to ship Back-packs but they are continuing to feed ??? million children every day, worldwide and so funds are always urgently needed.
- <u>6. RED SHIRTS:</u> William Clarke and Dominic Winton have volunteered to be Red Shirts for the Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes later this year. They need to raise the money for their fares and to do this they will be holding a Cake Sale in the Barn next Sunday 1st May after the 10.30 am Mass. In addition, they will be doing a bike ride to the Brighton Viewing Tower and back on the following Sunday and are looking for sponsorship. Your help will be greatly appreciated.
- 7. FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2022 CLASSES will resume next Tuesday 26th April in the Church.
- **<u>8. EDGE YOUTH GROUP</u>** will be meeting on Sunday, 1st May, in the Barn, from 6.00 until 7.30 pm. All young people 11+ welcome. Contact Niall for more information <u>nfarrell@stromeros.co.uk</u>
- <u>9. GRANDPARENTS DAY</u> Wednesday 8 June at West Grinstead. A pilgrimage to the shrine at West Grinstead. If you would like to find out more please contact E: katherine.bergin@abdiocese.org.uk
- 10. CHOIR PRACTICES resume on Tuesday 3rd May at 7.00 pm. All welcome

<u>It is recommended that we continue</u> to wear masks, use hand-sanitiser, hymn books returned to either porch AND, most importantly, going to Holy Communion row by row – out one end of the bench and back by the other end.

11. A DAY AT THE SEASIDE FOR YOUNG ADULTS (18-35) Join our community of young adults on 7 May for a day in East Preston with Fr Stephen Ortiger. We will start with Mass, followed by a walk on the beach then share lunch at a wonderful beachside café. A great opportunity to get to know other Catholics your age. Contact E:lizzie.wakeling@abdiocese.org.uk for more information.

12. TURNING TIDES (WCHP): Items needed: Carton Milk, Honey, Fruit Juices, Tinned Vegetarian Meals, Tinned Meals, Pot Noodles, Pasta in Sauce, Instant Noodles, Small Carton Juices, Coffee, Cooking Oil, Cling Film,. Many thanks to those who are so generous in their donations. (Sadly we are no longer able to deliver clothes and other such goods).

FATHER LIAM SAYS: Easter eggs are very much part of our Easter Celebrations. They have been for a very long time but they haven't always been of the chocolate variety. When I was a child they certainly were not. This was the era when war-time rations continued to be the order of the day – even for some years after the end of the war. Not many people indulged in luxuries. The Easter eggs of those days were real eggs. Some people painted their eggs in a variety of colours and we all realised that eggs were a powerful symbol of Easter. Many people, especially if they lived in the country, frequently witnessed the wonder of the egg. They may well have often seen the shells of those eggs that had been laid by expectant mother-hens, being cracked from inside and the tiny little chicks emerge. They would not immediately be fluffy. They would, however, quickly dry and flap their wings. It was truly a beautiful and wonderful sight and a demonstration of the miracle of life. It was a lovely illustration of the Easter event when Christ, who had lain in the stony tomb triumphantly emerged on Easter morning as our Risen Lord and Saviour.

This is, of course, the central and glorious belief of all Christ's followers. We profess our belief in it at every Sunday Mass in the Creed. The full beauty of our profession of faith is somewhat obscured, I feel, by the wording we now have in the Apostles Creed where we say that Jesus Christ 'was crucified, died and was buried; he descended into Hell; on the third day he rose again from the dead'. Before the latest translation of 2010 the Apostles Creed said of Christ: 'he descended to the dead.' That surely was a more accurate and happy rendering of the Creed. So much has been lost in translation.

There is a lovely hymn in the prayers of the Church for Holy Saturday, which is a beautiful reflection on what Christ achieved by his death and Resurrection and his descent to the dead.

'His cross stands empty in a world grown silent

Through hours of anguish and dread;

In stillness earth awaits the Resurrection,

While Christ goes down to wake the dead.'

To wake the dead surely means that by his Resurrection he does not enter the glory of heaven alone. In his Risen body he leads those who have died to enjoy the glory of heaven body and soul. Through his bodily Resurrection all who believe in him enjoy bodily resurrection also. Are we to believe that only Jesus and his mother Mary are the only people – until the last day – to inhabit heaven in their full humanity?

I normally give Easter eggs to our brilliant altar-servers as a token of gratitude for helping us all to enter into the spirit of Easter. But this Easter I did not – I gave them gift vouchers instead. One reason for doing this was that perhaps they had enough Easter eggs already and it is possible to have too much of a good thing. The main reason, however, was that chocolate is not necessarily a good thing. Certainly not of the Cadbury variety if reports are to be believed. Shocking revelations have emerged about how Cadbury uses child labour to place their delicious product before us. Anthony Bennett, a respected investigative journalist, with other members of the team who worked for the Dispatches programme on Channel 4 visited a number of farmers in Ghana which supply Cadbury with cocoa beans grown on thousands of farms, which according to the Cadbury website 'help communities in cocoa regions'. The website boasts about how sustainable its chocolate is and it appears to show how their Cocoa Life scheme improves the lives of the families and their children. Cocoa Life is run by the giant U S Confectionary firm Mondelez International which bought Cadbury in 2010. The Cadbury company was set up in Birmingham in the 18th Century by the Cadbury family who were noted philanthropists. The Mondelez company is sadly very different. Its website claims that it tackles the challenges of 'poverty and child labour.'

Most of the children who worked on the farms are forced to miss school to help their families who are living in absolute poverty. Under Ghanian law no child under 13 should be working on cocoa farms. Any hazardous tasks that are harmful to a child's health or safety are classed by the United Nations as 'the worst form of child labour' and this is supposed to be banned in Ghana for anyone under 18. The programme, which was shown on 4th April shows two brothers aged 10 and 12 slashing at weeds using long machetes almost half their size. They were pouring with sweat after hours of this back breaking and dangerous work to help ensure the cocoa trees get enough water. Working beside the brothers was their cousin who was about 14 years old. She was from the north of Ghana and was led to believe when she left home that she would help with childcare. Instead she was put to work on the farm and had no contact with her parents for five years and was not allowed to go to school.

The investigation team spoke to several Cocoa Life farmers, most of whom were struggling to make ends meet and were forced by financial constraints to use their children to work on the plantations. This year the harvest has been poor and some workers told the team that that their whole family would get pay equating to £1.35p a day – around the price of two small bars of Dairy Milk. Most of the workers never had the luxury of tasting chocolate. Last year Mondelez made \$4 billion in profits and its chairman and chief executive, Dirk Van de Put was paid more than \$18 million. I refrained from saying 'he earned it'.

Are Cadbury much different from other chocolate companies?