

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

Safeguarding Rep. Anne Niven 01903 242624

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

Second Sunday of Advent

Saturday	3 rd	6.00 pm	Margaret Metcalf RIP
Sunday	4 th	8.15 am	Douglas Doll RIP
		10.30 am	Albert Davitt RIP
Monday	5 th	9.30 am	The Parish
Tuesday	6 th	9.30 am	Ester Park RIP
		7.00 pm	Choir Practice
Wednesday	7 th	9.30 am	Alec & Moira Marsh RIP
Thursday	8 th	9.30 am	Jane Melhuish RIP
Friday	9 th	9.30 am	Humphrey Niven RIP
Saturday	10 th	6.00 pm	Michael O'Driscoll RIP
Sunday	11 th	8.15 am	Bernard Bandy RIP
		10.30 am	The Parish



SATURDAY: Reconciliation: 10.15 -10.45 am and 5.15 - 5:45 pm

TODAY'S READINGS: Isaiah 11:1-10; Romans 15:4-9; Matthew 3:1-12

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS: Isaiah 35: 1-6, 10; James 5: 7-10; Matthew 11:2-11

COLLECTIONS: Church: £315 + Digital Collection: £40 LEPPA: £360 Thank you for your generosity.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS: Samuel Bezants, Thomas Boylan. 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, Ian Threlfall, Lelia Murray, Mary Murphy, 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: Rosa Ransley, Roy Pritchard, Angela McGowan, Bridget Daly, David Mitchell, Margaret Mould, David Mitchell, Chris Boucher, Amelia MacDonald, Nancy Leonard, Harry King, Cesare de Nero, Ida Crowley, Evelyn Foster, Ester Park, Daphne Day.

May they rest in peace and rise in glory

3. FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2023: Is your son or daughter in Year 3 this term? If so, they are at the age where they can start the preparation course for First Holy Communion. Please collect a letter and application form from the Sacristy and return it to the Parish Office as soon as possible. The first meeting for parents will be on Thursday 5th January at 7.30 pm in the church and the first lesson for the children will be on Tuesday 10th January from 4.30 – 5.30 pm

4. 'CURRY & CAROLS', full of Christmas festivities and a sing-along, will take place in the Barn next Saturday 10th December at 7.00 pm (following the 6.00 pm Mass). The proceeds will go to the Parish project in Kalingalinga. Tickets will be on sale after all Masses **this** weekend - Adults £8.00 Children £4.00 Raffle prizes please!

5. AN ADVENT GROUP meets on Tuesday mornings at 10.15 am in the Good Shepherd Chapel to follow a new Advent Course, which includes a short video followed by discussion. For those unable to come at that time the course will be repeated later the same day at 7.00 pm by Zoom. If you wish to join the Zoom course, please contact Dermot for a link – 07999 488326

6. PARISH CAROL SERVICE: On Tuesday 20th December at 7.00pm, we shall be holding our Parish Carol Service. It will be a festive opportunity for everyone to celebrate the coming of Christmas by taking part in our service of traditional carols and readings in the church, followed by refreshments of mulled wine and mince pies in the Barn. All are most welcome to attend so please come and join us!

7. THE ADVENT RECONCILIATION SERVICE will be held here on Thursday, 15th December at 7.30pm. There will be a choice of confessors as there will be at the other Reconciliation Services in the Deanery. These are listed in both porches

8. THE PARISH PRAYER GROUP meets on 1st and 3rd Thursday evenings, from 7.30 - 9.00 pm, in the Good Shepherd Chapel. All are very welcome.

9. CHRISTMAS DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES

Saturday 10th December - 7.00 pm - Curry & Carols Night
Thursday 15th December - 7.30 pm - Advent Reconciliation Service
Tuesday 20th December - 7.00 pm –Christmas Carols, Mulled Wine & Mince Pies
Saturday 24th December - 6.00 pm - First Mass of Christmas especially for children
- 9.00 pm – Vigil Mass preceded by Carols from 8.30 pm
Sunday 25th December - 8.15 am and 10.30 am Mass

10. HOME START: Home Start Arun, Worthing and Adur want to make sure every child has a present to open, to provide a Christmas food hamper to each family, and to continue their support through to the end of 2023...thus ensuring some festive joy. As happened last year we will not be able to put gifts for the children under the Christmas Tree in church but they do still need our support – financially. To do this please go on line to <https://cafdonate.cafonline.org/21807> to Find a Charity. Enter HomeStart Arun, Worthing and Adur and follow the instructions. In the 'Add instructions for this Donation' box please mention English Martyrs Church and send them a Christmas message. I am hopeful that we will have Gift Aid envelopes available in the church for those who prefer to donate in cash or by cheque.

11. USED POSTAGE STAMPS FOR THE MISSIONS: As the Christmas Cards start arriving please remember to rescue all those beautiful stamps, leaving about half an inch of envelope around the edges,(no more than this please as it makes them expensive to forward to the Missionary Society) and put them in the box in the Porch

12. MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION are invited to attend an afternoon formation session on Saturday 10th December, from 1.00 pm to 4.00 pm at the Holy Family Church, Lancing [BN15 9BB]. It is suitable for both new ministers and existing ministers who would like a refresher and update. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Home Communion for the Sick will be covered. To apply please speak to Father Liam

13. MARY'S MEALS COLLECTION POINT is one of the small boxes under the notice board to the right in the Front Porch. It costs just £15.90 to feed one child for a year! Your donations will always be much appreciated.

14. TURNING TIDES WISH LIST is appealing for the many items that they need in their Winter Wish List. Coffee, Long-life Milk, Sugar, Cooking Oil, Tins/Boxes of Chocolates, Festive Cake/Yule Logs, Non-Alcoholic Christmas pudding, Long-life Carton of juice, Snacks – Crisps/Nuts, Savoury Stuffing, Crackers, Large Bottles Fizzy Drinks, Lists are available in both porches. with further suggestions. Many thanks to anyone who is able to help. The collection box is under the bench in the West Porch..

FATHER LIAM SAYS: Recently COP27 took place in a well-known resort in Egypt, the name of which escapes me! COP stands for the 'Conference of Parties' and is the annual climate summit meeting organised by the United Nations. The name COP 27 indicates that this was the 27th such annual meeting, which brought together delegates from most countries over the world, who over a period of two weeks, tried to agree policies and measures that would make for a healthier future for our planet, which as we all know is seriously threatened. Perhaps by now many people will have forgotten not only that COP 27 took place in Egypt but that it took place at all! And that is in spite of the fact that there could be scarcely a more important issue. I have several grand nieces and grand nephews. I sometimes wonder how climate change will affect them and their contemporaries over the coming decades – if significant measures are not taken urgently to protect this home God has given us. Nearly everything we understand about fossil fuel emissions leading to global warming has been understood since 1980. But we have done more damage to the climate in the years since then than we did in the rest of human history put together. Not only was the knowledge not enough to stop the damage it was not enough to stop us doing it more and worse than ever.

Fifty years ago many more people smoked than they do now. It is not altogether surprising that so many people smoked then. Many people did not know how bad cigarettes were for your health. Tobacco companies knew but they did their best to suppress the information. They spent fortunes promoting a healthy image of smoking, even trying to associate nicotine with sport through advertising and sponsorship. But once the message got through of how damaging tobacco is many people broke the habit and many more decided not to indulge in the first place.

It is not especially shocking perhaps that people started using fossil fuels in the Industrial Revolution. They did not realise the consequences to people's health and to the environment. What is shocking is that once we did know we did not stop but increased our reliance and addiction. History has shown us time and time again that when we come together we are capable of big things. Our world today, despite its inequality and distress is better in so many ways than before. Global illiteracy has been halved between 1970 and 2005 as a result of collective action. Worldwide life expectancy has risen from 48 years in 1950 to over 71 today. In the last 25 years child mortality around the world has halved. When people are put at the centre of what we seek to do, we can achieve enormous success.

I wonder what the world of COP50 will be like. By then my grand nieces and grand nephews will be in their thirties and forties and will share the world with 9 billion people. How will they live together in social harmony, having enough water, food, access to health, education and spiritual and mental wellbeing? The threat of climate change has brought home to us our inter-connectedness - we are dependant on one another as never before. And the issue is far too important to be left to politicians. We all need to examine how we can exercise our personal responsibility. How can we learn from one another? One family from another? One parish from another? It is good to talk! It might help us to walk more purposely – to walk in the light of the Lord!

*May God Bless you,
Fr. Liam.*