

## PARISH OF THE ENGLISH MARTYRS Goring Way

15.01.2023

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

### **Second Sunday in Ordinary Time**

Saturday	14 <sup>th</sup>	6.00 pm	Michael O'Driscoll RIP
Sunday	15 <sup>th</sup>	8.15 am	Sheila Bishop RIP
		10.30 am	Roger Davis RIP
Monday	16 <sup>th</sup>	9.30 am	The Parish
Tuesday	17 <sup>th</sup>	9.30 am	John, Matthew & Alice Fury RIP
Wednesday	18 <sup>th</sup>	9.30 am	Alfred Puttick RIP
Thursday	19 <sup>th</sup>	9.30 am	Reg Marshall RIP
Friday	20 <sup>th</sup>	9.30 am	Rob Gibbs RIP
Saturday	21 <sup>st</sup>	6.00 pm	Danny Gould RIP
Sunday	22 <sup>nd</sup>	8.15 am	The Parish
		10.30 am	Ursula Beirne RIP



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

**TODAY'S READINGS:** Isaiah 49:3, 5-6; Corinthians 1:1-3; John 1:29-34

**NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:** Isaiah 8:23-9:3; 1 Corinthians 1:10-13, 17; Matthew 4:12-23

**COLLECTIONS:** Church: £443 Digital Collection: £20 Friends of the Holy Land: £

Thank you for your generosity.

**THIS SUNDAY** there will be a second collection for SPUC

**PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:** Maureen House, Joan Wand, Samuel Bezants, Thomas Boylan. John Mayock, Terry Stanley, Glenn, 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:** **PAT HUDSON** and those whose anniversaries occur about now: Sheila Bishop, Kathleen Bull, Anne Wapshott, Mary Bertolini, Michael Lambert, Michael Mills, Kathleen Smyth, Beatrice Wilson, Marie Terry, Geoffrey Gilbert, Margaret Scott, John Nolan, Alan Pockney, Phyllis Welling, Doug Headon, Andrea Pyle, Susan Perriman, Bernard Davy. *May they rest in peace and rise in glory*

**3. WHITE FLOWER APPEAL 2023** – The Society for the Protection of Unborn Children (SPUC) will be holding its annual appeal **this** weekend. SPUC wants a world where abortion is unthinkable and is raising awareness of the widespread problem of abortion coercion. According to an independent poll, 87% of GPs are concerned that the Government's 'pills by post' scheme leaves women vulnerable to coerced abortion. SPUC is calling on the Prime Minister to condemn this abhorrent tragedy. Please be as generous as you can to help defend unborn babies and their mothers by highlighting this urgent crisis.

**4. LARGE PRINT MISSALETTES** are now available in the Main Porch for those who find the print on Sunday Plus a little small.

**5. CHOIR PRACTICE** will resume of Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> January.

**6. WHAT IS YOUR NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION?** Or should it be '**YOUR PARISH NEEDS YOU!**' We are a busy parish with many good things happening in it but these only can happen if you are prepared to join in. At the moment help is urgently needed in Flower Arranging and why not join the Choir? At the end of March we open again to the public who wish to come and view the ceiling and our lovely stained glass windows. There is much to do but we really do need you to come and help where you can. Please contact Anne in the Parish Office for further information and with your offers of assistance.

**7. ANNUAL JUSTICE AND PEACE ASSEMBLY - Hungry for Change** will be held on Saturday 28 January 2023 from 9.30-1.30pm at The Philip Howard Centre, Crawley RH10 6RP. To find out about and book events hosted by the Diocese please visit our website events calendar W: <https://www.abdiocese.org.uk/diocese/events>

**8. MARRIAGE WEEK** celebrates the vibrancy of marriage as the basis for family life and is an annual event encouraging couples to invest in their marriage and relationships. The dates this year are 7-14 February and the focus is on ensuring we look after our marriage. Perhaps you might want to organise something in your parish to help each other or perhaps just take some time together as a couple. Google "Marriage Week" for some helpful links and suggestions or look at the Diocesan website. You can contact Katherine Bergin at E: [katherine.bergin@abdiocese.org.uk](mailto:katherine.bergin@abdiocese.org.uk) for further information.

**9. CAFOD** Could your New Year's resolution be to help build a better world through volunteering? CAFOD, the Catholic Agency for Overseas Development, is looking for people to give some time and join them in their mission. Could you help develop our work in parishes or Catholic schools? Or raise a voice and campaign for justice throughout the diocese? Training and support are provided. See W: [cafod.org.uk/Volunteer](http://cafod.org.uk/Volunteer) for more information or get in touch at E: [arundelandbrighton@cafod.org.uk](mailto:arundelandbrighton@cafod.org.uk)

**10. 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! £239 sent off to Mary's Meals last week. Your donations will always be much appreciated.

**11 TURNING TIDES WISH LIST** is appealing for the many items that they need. Coffee, Long-life Milk, Sugar, Cooking Oil, Small bottled/carton drinks/water, Cereal Bars, Biscuits, Snack Pots, Tinned meat/fish. Also Toilet Rolls, Washing-up Liquid, Washing Powder, Dish-washer Tablets Deodorant. Many thanks to anyone who is able to help.

**FATHER LIAM SAYS: The Church throughout the world** has been involved in the process of synodality for the past few years. It is due to come to a significant stage in October of this year and a more decisive and definitive position in October 2024. From all the effort that continues to be put into it, this Synod of the Church is indeed a major undertaking, the most important event in the life of the Church since the Second Vatican Council which was concluded nearly 60 years ago. The concluding stage of the Synod, which will take place in Rome, will coincide with the 60th Anniversary the conclusion of the Vatican Council.

Synodality means 'journeying together'. There was an effort to involve the whole Church in this search to discern the call of the Gospel for us today. This effort met with a mixed response. Covid didn't help and the level of enthusiasm for the exercise varied from place to place. Nevertheless, it was a significant opportunity for the Church at parish level throughout the world to prayerfully consider how we could more faithfully be the Church Christ is calling us to be. The Church has embarked on this journey with hope and with conviction that it is a necessary journey. The Church is always in need of renewal and strengthening in its mission to proclaim and live the Good News. At the present time this need is particularly evident, which is why Pope Francis is investing such time and effort into ensuring that the Church measures up to Christ's call. Vatican II has been probably the most significant event in the history of Catholicism since the Protestant Reformation. The discussions and documents of the Council ushered in significant changes that inspired and sustained renewal in the life of the Church. It gave us a new appreciation of the centrality of the scriptures and a renewed liturgy. Fewer and fewer people can remember how Mass was celebrated up to sixty years ago – in Latin and with the priest with his back to the people. Perhaps in 60 years from now, people who are now infants will look back in amazement at some of the structures and practices of the Church of today.

But Vatican II generated tensions and disagreements not unlike those we are witnessing now with regard to synodality. Perhaps we can learn from past controversies to enable us to deal with the tensions in today's Church! Change must happen. The Church has always been changing yet it has maintained unity and continuity over two thousand years. To live is to change. There were very many lively debates at Vatican II especially on subjects such as the liturgy and religious freedom. Many prominent Cardinals and Bishops were opposed to recognising people's right to religious freedom. They held that everyone – including the State – had an obligation to promote truth and to limit error. And to their way of thinking truth was to be found in the Catholic Church and its teachings. This was known as the 'Rights of Truth'. They held that error had no Rights. Religious freedom, some sincerely believed, could only be claimed by the Catholic Church. The vast majority of the bishops promoted religious freedom as a human right. People cannot be coerced into truth. It must be freely embraced. Religious freedom is now proclaimed as the most important of Rights, inseparable from human dignity. Can similar progress be chieived with regard to some of the disputed questions facing the Church of today? It has moved from a 'Rights of truth' approach to a 'Rights of the person' approach in the area of religious freedom. Is a similar shift of understanding needed in terms of understanding the nature and richness of human relationships. Does current Church teaching on sexuality adequately honour the richness and variety of expressions of human love, companionship and family. Pope Francis in his document 'Amoris Laeitia' (The Joy of Love) engaged with some of these controversial issues. He called for greater appreciation of the complexity of people's lives – 'a need to avoid judgements which do not take into account the complexity of various situations.' He calls for a greater appreciation of the sacredness of conscience and the pastoral responsibility 'to form consciences, not to replace them'. He says we must have a keener appreciation of God's mercy – 'mercy is the fullness of justice and the most radiant manifestation of God's truth. For this reason we should always consider inadequate any theological conception which in the end puts in doubt the omnipotence of God and especially his mercy.'

The Synodal path is a courageous journey. we should pray for its success. We are pilgrims. Journeying is what we were made for. Christ has come to accompany us. Let us not be afraid.