

PARISH OF THE ENGLISH MARTYRS Goring Way

2.04.2023

Father Liam O'Connor, 37 Compton Avenue,

Goring-by-Sea, West Sussex. BN12 4UE

Presbytery 01903 242624 / Church repository 01903 506890

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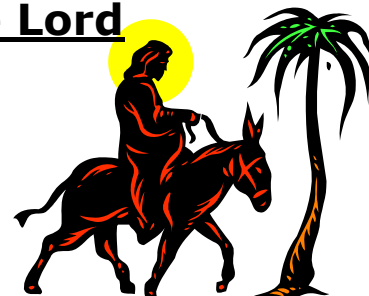
Deacon Gary Bevans 01903 503514

Safeguarding Rep. Anne Niven 01903 242624

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

Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

Saturday	1 st	6.00 pm	Sinead McCarthy (Recovery)
Sunday	2 nd	8.15 am	The Parish
		10.30 am	Ursula Trübe RIP
Monday	3 rd	9.30 am	Family Petter-Wells
Tuesday	4 th	9.30 am	Intention of Sue Withnell
		7.00 pm	Choir Practice
Wednesday	5 th	9.30 am	Reg Marshall RIP



Holy Thursday	6 th April	8.00pm	Mass of the Lord's Supper <i>Helena Cebo RIP</i>
Good Friday	7 th April	10.00 am	Family Stations of the Cross, especially for children followed by Children's Confessions
		3.00 pm	THE PASSION OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST
		7.30 pm	Stations of the Cross followed by Confessions
Holy Saturday	8 th April	8.00 pm	Easter Vigil & First Mass of Easter <i>Anne & Mike Steere RIP</i>
Easter Sunday	9 th April	8.15 am	Mass <i>Norah O'Brien</i>
		10.30 am	Mass <i>The Parish</i>

HOLY SATURDAY – Sacrament of Reconciliation 10.00 – 10.30 am and 5.00 – 5.30 pm

TODAY'S READINGS: Isaiah 50:4-7; Philippians 2:6-11; Matt 26:14-27;66

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS: Acts 10:34, 37-43; Colossians 3:1-4; John 20: 1-9

COLLECTIONS: Church: £412 Digital Collection: £57 Flowers for our Church: £698 *Thank you for your generosity. Good Friday is a day of fasting and abstinence. There will be the usual collection for the Holy Places*

THE COLLECTIONS AT THE EASTER VIGIL AND EASTER SUNDAY MASSES ARE YOUR PERSONAL GIFTS TO FATHER LIAM (GIFT AIDED)

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS: Baby Thomas Dario Castanho (ill in a London Hospital), Jed Armstrong, Lola Samengo-Meehan, Sue Withnell, Maureen House, Joan Wand, Samuel Bezants, Thomas Boylan. John Mayock, Terry Stanley, Glenn, Helena & Vittorio Villa, Peggy Gallagher, Lena, Ken Harvey, Sienna Coates, Chris Judge, Brian Caplin, Valerie Halley, Pat Duggan, Tony Grana, Sister Raymond, John Smith, Ian Threlfall, Lelia Murray, Mary Murphy, Brenda Peazold, Mary Wessel, Gordon Milne, Alfred Deacon, Roni Horstead, Ronnie Tyler, Bill Hogg, Michaela Finn, Winifred Lyons, Yvette Allen, Kerry McStravick, Lydia Van Melsen and Pope Francis.

2. THOSE WHO HAVE DIED RECENTLY and those whose anniversaries occur about now: Michael Last, Anthony Lawton, Bernard Smyth, Catherine Edwards, Gladys Feaver, Marie Garselis, Paul Dillon, Edith Gibbs, Kathleen Keohane, Frank Shave, Mary Mawe, Kathleen Cregan, Laura, Ray McGuinness, James Morrell, Father Stephen Tynan. *May they rest in peace and rise in glory.*

3. TWELVE VOLUNTEERS for the Washing of the Feet ceremony on Holy Thursday are required. Please put your name on one of the lists in either Porch

5. EASTER POSTERS have once again been supplied by our local Knights of St Columba. If you would like to display one in a prominent window of your home, as an act of witness at Easter, they are available in the porches.

6. ST GEORGE'S NIGHT 'DO' will take place on Saturday 15th April at 7.00 pm in the Barn for Chestnut Tree House Children's Hospice. There will be a 'Delicious Supper' and Raffle. Raffle prizes will be gratefully received. Tickets will be on sale this weekend price £10.00 for adults and £5.00 for children or from Teresa 01903 529260

7. YOUR OFFERINGS AT THE EASTER MASSES are your personal gift to Father Liam. (Gift Aid applies) If you are not Gift Aiding, special Easter Offering envelopes are in the Porch. If you will be away for Easter you might like to use these envelopes to make your gift either beforehand or afterwards.

8. PRAYER PARTNERS are sought for our fifteen First Holy Communion children. Please sign against the symbol for the child of your choice on the poster on the wall at the side of the Church. We pray for these children who are preparing to receive their First Holy Communion on Sunday 11th June.

9. EDGE YOUTH GROUP will be meeting this Sunday, 2nd April, in the Barn, from 6.00 until 730 pm. All young people 11+ welcome. Contact Niall for more information nfarrell@stromeros.co.uk.

10. SAFEGUARDING TRAINING ACCESS TO TES/EDUCARE ONLINE PROGRAMMES. Volunteers who are in roles with children or vulnerable adults are required to complete safeguarding training every three years. There are eleven CPD accredited online safeguarding programmes available within the Catholic Church. These are free to the user and simply require registration via the Diocesan Safeguarding Office. Each programme is modular and divided into a bite-sized format. Modules within the programme can be saved once completed with the remainder returned to at the convenience of the learner. For access to the Tes/Educare training please Email: safeguarding@abdiocese.org.uk with your name, preferred email address, role, and parish. The diocesan Safeguarding Office will register your interest with Tes/Educare who will send a welcome email enabling instant access to the training programmes. Please let Anne know when you start a course.

11. MARY'S MEALS COLLECTION POINT is one of the small boxes under the notice board to the right in the Front Porch. It now costs £19.15 to feed one child for a year! Your donations will always be much appreciated.

12. 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: Easter is the oldest and most solemn of all the Christian feasts because it is the great celebration of the Resurrection of Christ. It is also called the Pasch or the Passover after the Jewish feast commemorating the setting free of the people of Israel from the slavery in Egypt. The deliverance of the Jews foreshadowed the Christian Passover. It was at Christ's last celebration of the Passover on the night before he died that he instituted the Eucharist, the last act before he laid down his life for us.

Other feasts of the Church's year depend upon the date of Easter, which occurs on the first Sunday following the first full moon after the Spring Equinox. So the date of Easter varies from year to year, unlike Christmas and the feasts associated with it, which have a fixed date. The Church considers each Sunday of the year to be a continuation of Easter. Sunday is the Lord's Day. Its name in Latin is Dominica, which derived from Dominus, meaning Lord. In the early centuries the only feast that the Church observed was Easter and every Sunday was celebrated as 'little Easter.'

The importance of Easter is emphasised liturgically by the long preparation of Lent leading to the special ceremonies of Holy Week as well as by the whole Easter Season which runs until Pentecost Sunday. Pentecost is a word that refers to the fiftieth day. The Jewish feast of Pentecost is celebrated fifty days after the Jewish Passover and we celebrate the Christian feast of Pentecost as the concluding celebration of Eastertide.

The characteristic features of Easter and the entire season is the Pascal Candle and the frequent repetition of 'Alleluia', the chant of joy and victory at Christ's Redemption. In the words of St Augustine, 1,600 years ago: 'We are an Easter people and Alleluia is our song'. The Easter Candle is lit on every Sunday Mass during the fifty days of the Easter Season celebrating the Risen Christ.

The high point of the Easter celebration is the Easter Vigil, which takes place after sunset on Holy Saturday. In Jewish reckoning, a new day begins at sunset. The Jewish Sabbath therefore would end at sunset and the first day of the week would begin. The gospel of St John tells us that 'early on the first day of the week, when it was still dark, Mary of Magdala came to the tomb and she saw that the stone had been moved away from the tomb'. (20:1). That is why our Easter celebrations begin after sunset – and we are urged to gather outside, around a fire. This again is connected with Jewish ritual. The lighting of the fire is a Christian version of an ancient Jewish 'Lighting of the Lamps' that took (and takes) place on the eve of the Sabbath. It initiated the Sabbath celebration that was celebrated in the home. The head of the family blessed God for the gift of light. The light we come to celebrate is Christ the Light of the World, who by his passage from death to life has overcome the power of darkness and turns the night into day, in the words of the great Easter hymn, The Exultet.

The Christians originally met in darkness for the celebration of the Sunday Masses. Christianity was outlawed in the Roman Empire and Sunday was a working day. Many of the first Christians came to the faith from Judaism and cherished their sacred Jewish customs so they continued to start their Eucharist with a ceremonial fire. From the fire they would light the candles which illuminated their place of worship. This fire, therefore, had a symbolic and practical purpose. And the Paschal fire too links us with our Jewish past. Christ's birth, life, death and Resurrection were never meant to be seen as a break with the past but as its fulfilment and culmination. It is because of this that the Church in its liturgy from the beginning has clung to the Jewish words of joy and celebration – Amen! Alleluia! Hosannah!

The Easter Candle that is such a feature, not only of our Easter ceremonies but also of our baptismal and funeral ceremonies, is also a reminder of the pillar of fire that accompanied the Israelites on their long and anxious journey to the promised land. The candle has reminders on it of the wounds our Saviour suffered. Each year is marked on the candle asking Christ to strengthen us as we travel. The candle carries the Alpha and the Omega – the first and last letters of the Greek alphabet. These are the divine titles given to Christ in the Letter to the Hebrews and in the Book of Revelation proclaiming that Jesus is the Christ, yesterday and today, the Beginning and the End.