

PARISH OF THE ENGLISH MARTYRS Goring Way

16.04.2023

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

Second Sunday of Easter

Saturday	15 th	8.00 pm	Imogen Hassall RIP
Sunday	16 th	8.15 am	The Parish
		10.30 am	Michael Calfe RIP
Monday	17 th	9.30 am	Audrey Kelly RIP
Tuesday	18 th	9.30 am	Alfonso Dibiase RIP
		7.00 pm	Choir Practice
Wednesday	19 th	9.30 am	Barbara Dunne RIP
Thursday	20 th	9.30 am	Mary Haugh RIP
		6.00 pm	Film – The Shroud of Turin in the Barn
Friday	21 st	9.30 am	Ray Kelly RIP
Saturday	22 nd	6.00 pm	Mary Stone RIP
Sunday	23 rd	8.15 am	The Parish
		10.30 am	Bridget Cooney RIP

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

TODAY'S READINGS: Acts 4:42-47; 1 Peter 1:3-9; John 20:19-31

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS: Acts 2:14. 22-23. Peter 1:17-21. Luke 24.13-35

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS: Paul Curd, 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

2. THOSE WHO HAVE DIED RECENTLY: TRUDI LOWER (WILDING) and those whose anniversaries occur about now: John Clarke, Margaret McCarthy, Vincent Devereux, John Russell, Joseph Liston, Max Welton, Joan Briggs, Jim Corcoran, Marie Stovold, Win Coughlan, Edna Catley. *May they rest in peace and rise in glory.*

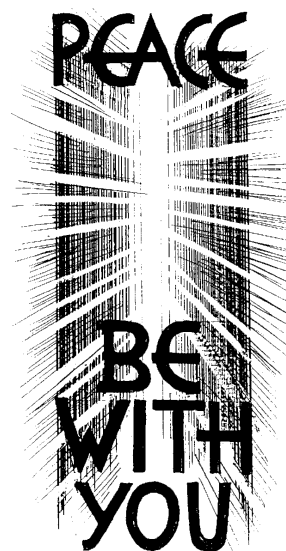
3. WELCOME TO ANY VISITORS to our Parish this weekend. We do hope that you have enjoyed your stay.

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

5. SALE OF CAKES will take place next weekend in The Barn, following the 10.30 Mass. Gabriel Hunnisett is attending a 3 year discipleship programme for young Catholics at Worth Abbey. Through mentoring on a one to one basis, weekly online groups and weekend retreats Gabriel is experiencing formation and friendship. He has experienced sacramental and personal prayer experiences. He even woke up in the early hours of the morning one weekend at Worth to sit with the Blessed Sacrament with his dormitory friends! Please help support Gabriel in attending this fun journey to make his faith come alive. 'Ascent' is organised by volunteers, so please come and buy some homemade cakes!

6. PARISH CORONATION STEET PARTY: Our Celebration of King Charles III Coronation is to be held on Monday 8th May from 2 till 5 pm. A shared tea with drinks provided, children's monarchy-based fancy dress, a light-hearted quiz and a DJ. Beginning in the church with songs from the choir and congregation for half an hour, then processing to the Barn for a fun filled afternoon suitable for all ages. Please contact Teresa for further information on 07932 042759.

7. PRAYER PARTNERS are sought for our 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



8. THE SHROUD OF TURIN: There will be a film about the Shroud of Turin shown in the Barn at 6.00pm this Thursday, 20th April. All are welcome.

9. EDGE YOUTH GROUP will be meeting this Sunday, 16th April, in the Barn, from 6.00 until 7.30 pm. All young people 11+ welcome. Contact Niall for more information nfarrell@stromeros.co.uk.

10. KNIGHTS OF ST. COLUMBA RACE NIGHT, with Fish and Chips Supper will be held on Saturday 20th May at St Oscar Romero School. The KSC will be raising funds for Lourdes Red Shirts from St Oscar Romero School with this event. Please help them to achieve their goal to attend this year's Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes. For tickets, price £9.00, please contact David on 07790 480356.

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: The Scriptures that Jesus knew and read and heard and prayed, had come into being over many centuries. Because it was God's Word it was treasured by the Jewish people and it continues to be treasured by Christians. It was the only scriptures that the first Christians knew and it formed the Liturgy of the Word in their celebrations of the Eucharist. Scriptures refer to the written word but the early Church also treasured the memories that had been passed on to them by word of mouth of what Jesus had said and done.

These memories began to be committed to writing and were collected. There were the letters that St Paul wrote to various Christian communities. These were copied and circulated and began to form part of the Eucharistic celebrations. Then the gospels began to be written and other texts about the life, death and resurrection of Jesus and how his followers lived out their belief in him. Over time these were gathered into a definitive collection and came to be known as the New Testament. They were recognised by the Church as the Word of God and so formed an important part of the Liturgy of the Word alongside the Hebrew Scriptures in their life of prayer and worship. The New Testament is about one third the length of what now came to be known by Christians as the Old Testament. All the books of the New Testament were written in Greek over a period of fifty years or so by authors, many of whom had some contact with one another. The Old Testament books were written over a much longer period – all before the birth of Jesus. Most of them were written in Hebrew, though a few (which originated in Jewish communities outside of Israel) were written in Greek.

All four gospels tell us in great detail the events surrounding the condemnation, suffering and crucifixion of Jesus – although they all proclaim that he conquered death. The gospel – the good news – is precisely that, he has shared his triumph and victory with us. He triumphed – not in spite of his suffering and crucifixion – but through his suffering and crucifixion. So intense was the suffering of Jesus that the early Christians could not bring themselves to depict it. We have almost from the very beginning of Christianity pictures that convey a distinctively Christian message. There are grave slabs as early as the first century that depict the Church as the saving ark of Noah. In the catacombs there is a mosaic of Christ as the Unconquered Sun, and a picture of the Good Shepherd. There are many portrayals of the Last Supper. There is a fresco of the Mother and Child but nowhere is there a crucifixion scene. The first one is carved in wood and is one of many scenes from Jesus' life in a door of the Basilica of Santa Sabina, a Roman church of the fifth century on the Aventine Hill. It took the early Christians four centuries to bring themselves to portray the crucifixion of Christ. By that time, they are no longer the early Christians, they are appearing at the beginning of the Middle Ages.

The truly awful suffering and death of Jesus traumatised the first Christians. Crucifixion was the ultimate form of Roman humiliation and people were all too familiar with it. People were crucified in public in order to instil fear into people. Citizens passed by quickly with averted eyes while the more cruel among them taunted the nailed men, twisted with pain and stripped for all to see. After death they were carted off for burial – often in a communal grave. Jesus endured the public flogging and the mock crowning with thorns+ and he did not enjoy the sense of the presence of his Father. He cries out in the words of Psalm 22 – 'My God, my God, why have you deserted me?'

Only in the 5th century, nearly a century after the Roman State had discontinued the practice of crucifixion and no-one living had witnessed such a procedure, did Christians begin to make pictures of it. By this time the Roman Empire was beginning to crumble in the West and tribes from the North (called barbarians, meaning foreigners) were pouring in. Crucifixion – because it had disappeared – had lost much of its terror. Yet the Christians were depicting the crucifixion but depicting Christ as victorious on the cross. They don't show his sufferings but portray him as King and High Priest, dressed in royal or priestly garments, as is still the case in the East. In the Western Church, when they portrayed him as he crucified, they assumed that Jesus was nailed through the palms of his hands and this is how we see him depicted down to the present day. Now we know that people were crucified through their wrists. If the palms of the hands were nailed the body on the cross would not be supported, as the weight would be too great.

Many people believe that the linen cloth found in the tomb on Easter Sunday were treasured by the early Church and carefully preserved and are still venerated. The cloth that covered his body and the one covering his head (that John in his gospel speaks of) may have many things to reveal to us about the death of Jesus.