

## PARISH OF THE ENGLISH MARTYRS Goring Way

9.04.2023

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

### Easter Sunday

Saturday	8 <sup>th</sup>	8.00 pm	Anne & Mike Steere RIP
Sunday	9 <sup>th</sup>	8.15 am	Norah O'Brien RIP
		10.30 am	The Parish
Monday	10 <sup>th</sup>	9.30 am	No Mass
Tuesday	11 <sup>th</sup>	9.30 am	No Mass
		<b>7.00 pm</b>	<b>Choir Practice</b>
Wednesday	12 <sup>th</sup>	9.30 am	No Mass
Thursday	13 <sup>th</sup>	9.30 am	No Mass
Friday	14 <sup>th</sup>	9.30 am	Holy Souls
Saturday	15 <sup>th</sup>	6.00 pm	Imogen Hassall RIP
Sunday	16 <sup>th</sup>	8.15 am	The Parish
		10.30 am	Michael Calfe RIP



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

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

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

**COLLECTIONS:** Church: £458 Thank you for your generosity.

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

**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** and those whose anniversaries occur about now: Helena Cebo, Muriel Burns, Michael O'Brien, Sabina Concannon, Mary Rains, Joan Gibbs, Maureen Holland, Herbert Hasney, Gerry Donnelly, William McGlynn, Patricia Jones, Mary La Roche. *May they rest in peace and rise in glory.*

**3. 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.

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

**5. 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 11<sup>th</sup> June

**6. ST GEORGE'S NIGHT 'DO'** will take place on Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> 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. EDGE YOUTH GROUP** will be meeting next Sunday, 16<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:nfarrell@stromeros.co.uk).

**8. 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.

**9. 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:** I remember, as a child, being told by my father that if Easter Sunday morning happened to be bright you could see the sun dancing as it rose. As most Easter Sundays were overcast, I didn't ever get to see the sun dancing but the thought helped me to realise how special Easter is.

Easter is the oldest and greatest of the Christian feasts. Its celebration in the Easter Vigil is the heart of the Liturgical Year. The celebration, prepared for by the forty days of Lent is extended throughout the whole period of fifty days which we call Paschal-tide or Easter Time. Thus is the great season of rejoicing, culminating in the Feast of Pentecost, which completes the Easter celebrations. The first Pentecost was the culmination and completion of Christ's redeeming work.

During the time of Easter we not only celebrate the Resurrection of Christ. The glorious mysteries of Ascension and Pentecost also belong to this time. They are all part of the great paschal mystery. The fifty days are as much a continuous Pentecost as a continuous Easter. The whole period in the early Church was sometimes known as 'Holy Pentecost'. The very word Pentecost refers to fifty days. An important element of this season is a keen awareness of the presence of the Risen Christ in the Church until the end of time. This presence is highlighted by the Paschal candle in the Sanctuary. It is an expression of our joy at having the Risen Christ with us.

No other liturgical season is characterised by such joy. Everything in the liturgy is meant to give expression to this. Flowers have been absent from church for the past 40 days so that our Easter flowers are all the more striking. the music and song and readings also give evidence of our joy. The exuberance is summed up in the cry of Alleluia. This cry had been suppressed during the long penitential season and now it breaks forth with renewed force as the Easter Eucharist is celebrated. Alleluia is a Hebrew word which simply means 'Praise God'. It is an acclamation which the Church has inherited from the Old Testament. It is a link with the worship in the temple and synagogue. It is one of the keywords of the Easter Liturgy. This is how St. Augustine, back in the fifth century spoke of it: 'The Alleluia is sung throughout the fifty days, for Alleluia indicates praise of God. Hence to us who are labouring it signifies the attainment of our rest. For when we come to that rest after this period of labour, our sole occupation will be the praise of God, our action there will be Alleluia. There Alleluia will be our food, Alleluia will be our drink, Alleluia will be our peaceful action, Alleluia will be our whole joy'. This is the constant theme of Augustine who observes: 'These holy days which are celebrated after the Resurrection of the Lord, signify the life that is to come after our Resurrection'. Throughout the fifty days, the gospel of St John predominates. It is the voice of John we have, almost exclusively, on Sundays and on Weekdays. A large portion of John's Gospel is read at this time.

During the Season of Easter the first reading of the Mass comes from the Acts of the Apostles. Normally the first reading on Sunday comes from the Old Testament. The Old Testament speaks of the Saviour to come but Eastertime is the time of fulfilment and this fulfilment is celebrated in the writings of the first Christian commentary. The readings from the Acts shows us how the first Christian communities set about attempting to witness to the Resurrection in their daily lives. It puts before us their triumphs and their failures. They, like us, had to struggle to keep Christ ever in view.

How special Easter is, is expressed every year in the special hymn at the Easter Vigil called in English 'The Easter Proclamation' and in Latin 'The Exultet'.

Exult, let them exult, the hosts of heaven,  
exult, let Angel ministers of God exult,  
let the trumpet of salvation  
sound aloud our mighty King's triumph!  
Be glad, let earth be glad, as glory floods her,  
ablaze with light from her eternal King,  
let all corners of the earth be glad,  
knowing an end to gloom and darkness.  
Rejoice, let Mother Church also rejoice,  
arrayed with the lightning of his glory,  
let this holy building shake with joy,  
filled with the mighty voices of the peoples.  
It is truly right and just, with ardent love of mind and heart  
and with devoted service of our voice,  
to acclaim our God invisible, the almighty Father,  
and Jesus Christ, our Lord, his Son, his Only Begotten.  
This is the night,  
when once you led our forebears, Israel's children,  
from slavery in Egypt  
and made them pass dry-shod through the Red Sea.

This is the night  
that with a pillar of fire  
banished the darkness of sin.  
This is the night  
when Christ broke the prison-bars of death  
and rose victorious from the underworld.  
Our birth would have been no gain,  
had we not been redeemed.  
O wonder of your humble care for us!  
O love, O charity beyond all telling,  
to ransom a slave you gave away your Son!  
O truly necessary sin of Adam,  
destroyed completely by the Death of Christ!  
O happy fault  
that earned so great, so glorious a Redeemer!  
has shed his peaceful light on humanity,  
and lives and reigns for ever and ever.  
Amen.