

PARISH OF THE ENGLISH MARTYRS Goring Way

29.10.2023

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

Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Saturday	28 th	6.00 pm	Helena Fernades & Family RIP
Sunday	29 th	8.15 am	The Parish
		10.30 am	Intention of Teresa Boyle
		3.00 pm	HARVEST CELEBRATION
Monday	30 th	9.30 am	Peter Baldwin RIP
Tuesday	31 st	9.30 am	In Thanksgiving for St Oliver Plunket
ALL	1st	9.30 am	Neil Hurley RIP
SAINTS		7.30 pm	Ray Hosier RIP
Thursday	2 nd	9.30 am	Domini, Lourdu Mary Mark & Magdaline RIP
		7.30 pm	Holy Souls
Friday	3 rd	9.30 am	Caroline Casey RIP
Saturday	4 th	6.00 pm	Private Intention (BM)
Sunday	5 th	8.15 am	The Parish
		10.30 am	Jane Melhuish RIP



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

TODAY'S READINGS: Exodus 22:20-26, St. Paul to the Thessalonians 1:5-10, Matthew 22:34-40

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS: Malachi 1:14-2:2,8-10; 1 Thessalonians 2:7-9,13; Matthew 23:1-12

COLLECTIONS: Church: £488 Digital Collection: £87 World Mission Sunday (Missio): £ 495

Thank you for your generosity.

Wednesday is All Saints, a Holy Day of Obligation. Thursday is All Souls Day

Next weekend there will be a Second Collection for the Retired Priests' Fund (Gift Aid) See Item 9

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS: Helen Gillespie, Harold Forrest, Maria Brooks, Sarah Johnstone, Brian Dunne, Ian Follett, Tony Kearney, Ella Doll, Paul Curd, Lola Samengo-Meehan, Maureen House, Joan Wand, Samuel Bezants, Thomas Boylan. John Mayock, Terry Stanley, Glenn, Helena & Vittorio Villa, Lena, Ken Harvey, Sienna Coates, 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, Michaela Finn, Winifred Lyons, Yvette Allen, Kerry McStravick, Lydia Van Melsen

2. THOSE WHO HAVE DIED RECENTLY: **PHILIP JENKINS** and those whose anniversaries occur about now: Roy Bellm, Brian Hayes, Donald Rodrigues, Josephine Hills, Father Robert Ellis, Doris Hayes, Mary Furman, Harold Thirkettle, Olive Oliver, Vincent Rasdale. *May they rest in peace and rise in glory.*

3. 'OUR WONDERFUL WORLD OF HARVEST AND CREATION': This Sunday 29th October from 3pm, we are having a musical celebration with hymns and readings. This will be followed by refreshments in the Barn. There will be a voluntary collection for Turning Tides, Worthing's charity that works with homeless people.

4. AN ADVENT JOURNEY: Focus on some of the key moments of the life of Christ as we Journey through to Christmas. Starting on Tuesday 7th November at 10am for 7 weeks. We will focus on the Joyful Mysteries of the rosary with a short film shot in the Holy Land followed by a time for prayer and conversation. For more information contact Dermot 07999488326 or Jane Anne 07765403883

5. BLESSING OF THE GRAVES: Deacon Mark (from St Michael's Parish) is planning to bless graves in Durrington Cemetery, Worthing on the Feast of the Holy Souls on 2nd November from 10.30am. If you would like a grave of a loved one in that cemetery blessed please either let Deacon Mark know the person and where it is in the cemetery, or join him at Mill Lane entrance nearest to St Michael's on the Arundel Road at 10.30am. His contact details are Tel: 01903 877801 or email: mark.woods@abdiocese.org.uk

6. SPUC CREAM TEA will take place on Sunday 12th November at 3pm in aid of the Society for the Protection of Unborn Children. Tickets will be on sale this weekend £6 each. Raffle prizes gratefully received.

7. EXPLORING THE CATHOLIC FAITH is a course aimed at those who are interested in exploring our faith in a relaxed informal setting with the aim to join or rejoin our Catholic family. Please phone the Parish Office on 01903 242624 or email Dermot: dermot36@gmail.com

8. THE DEANERY READERS' COURSE will take place here at English Martyrs Church on Saturday 18th November from 10.30 till 12.00 noon. The Course will be led by Deacon Mark Woods and it is hoped that **all** readers will attend together with anyone who thinks they might like to become a reader.

9. THE RETIRED PRIESTS FUND – there are thirty-two (and rising) retired priests in our diocese, many of whom are cared for in Nursing Homes. The diocese exercises its duty of care through your generous response to this collection and the need increases year on year so please help!

10. CONFIRMATION 2023/24: If you are in Year 10 or above and considering being Confirmed next year you are invited to join our preparation programme that will start with the Parent's Meeting on Thursday 14th November at 7.00 pm and the First Confirmation Candidates Meeting on Thursday 21st November at 6.30 pm. Please collect an application form from the Sacristy and return, with a copy of your baptism certificate, to the Parish Office as soon as possible

11. NOVEMBER – IS THE MONTH FOR HOLY SOULS: The usual 'November envelopes' are available in both porches for those wishing to remember their loved ones at the Altar. Any donations will go towards offering Masses for the Holy Souls. Please fill in and hand in to the Sacristy as soon as possible

12. HOLY HOUR & BENEDICTION will be reintroduced during Advent at 3pm on Sunday afternoons in the main church, for a time of quiet prayer for personal intentions and for peace in the world finishing with simple benediction. There will also be Holy Hour and Benediction on Sunday 5th November at 3pm. Please come and spend some time with Our Lord.

13. 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.

FATHER LIAM SAYS: The clocks have changed and we are in Wintertime! The Autumn leaves can dazzle us with their magnificent colours – red, purple, yellow, gold in countless variations and combinations. Then, having shown us their awesome beauty, they fall to the ground and die. As we prepare to get used to the bare trees, we are grateful for the beauty we saw in them and we wait hopefully for a new Spring.

November is the month when we especially remember those who have died. When our loved ones die, it seems that part of us dies too. We sometimes have to wait a long time before our hearts have fully said 'good-bye' and the pain of our grief begins to recede. On Wednesday we celebrate All Saints Day. The Saints are our brothers and sisters, calling us to become like them and to share with them in the glory and joy of Our Father's home. Those who have been canonised form a very small part of that array who have trod this earth before us. We grieve for our departed loved ones because their lives have been part of our lives and grief is the price we pay for love. But God has not made us for separation but total unity with him and all our loved ones.

When St Pope John XXIII canonised Maria Goretti, the man who had murdered her was sitting in the front row of those participating at that ceremony. When St Pope John Paul II canonised Maximilian Kolbe, a Polish Priest, over 40 years ago, the man whose place St Maximilian took in the death cell in the concentration camp at Auschwitz was sitting close by. Maximilian had pleaded that his fellow prisoner be spared because he had a young family and so he died in his place. The representative of Pope Francis in the Holy Land, Cardinal Pizzaballa, the Patriarch of Jerusalem, has offered to exchange himself for Israeli children taken hostage by Hamas and held in Gaza. He said: 'I am ready for an exchange, anything, if this can lead to freedom, to bring the children home. No problem. There is total willingness on my part. The first thing to do is to try to win the release of the hostages'.

When we celebrate the Feast of All Saints and commemorate the Faithful Departed, we are celebrating the Communion of Saints – how close we are to those whose earthly journey is completed and how close they are to us. Shortly before her death, St Theresa of Lisieux said that she would spend her life in heaven in doing good on earth. What a good way to picture what all our departed friends are doing – doing good for us. And their efforts on our behalf are precious and powerful. They won't have eternal rest until we are safely gathered home!

With the exception of Mary, the Saints, like the rest of us, had their faults and failings. Before we enter the banquet hall of heaven we must be in a proper state of preparedness. If you were invited to a very special event with very important people present, you would be glad of the opportunity to freshen up before entering the banquet hall. When our life here comes to an end there is a great likelihood that some of the dust of sin will still be clinging to us. This process of final preparation for the glory of heaven is called purgatory. It simply means being liberated from everything that is at odds with God and the glory he has won for us through the death and resurrection of his Son.

There are only two things that the Church teaches about purgatory. The first is that it exists and the second is that those who have died are helped by the prayers of others. When St Monica was dying she told her son, St Augustine, that it did not matter where her body was buried 'All I ask of you is that you remember me at the altar of God.' No Mass is ever celebrated without the dead being remembered. For those who have gone before us, their life has changed, not ended. And what change they have undergone is completely beyond our imagining – because God himself is beyond our imagining and we are destined to share his glory.