

PARISH OF THE ENGLISH MARTYRS Goring Way

5.11.2023

Father Liam O'Connor, 37 Compton Avenue,

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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

Thirty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time

Saturday	4 th	6.00 pm	Private Intention (BM)
Sunday	5 th	8.15 am	The Parish
		10.30 am	Jane Melhuish RIP
		3.00 pm	Holy Hour & Benediction
Monday	6 th	9.30 am	Tony Casey RIP
Tuesday	7 th	9.30 am	John Townsend RIP
		10.00 am	An Advent Journey
		7.00 pm	Choir Practice
Wednesday	8 th	9.30 am	Petter/Wells Families RIP
Thursday	9 th	9.30 am	Joe Cattini RIP
Friday	10 th	9.30 am	Singarayar & Arulamma RIP
Saturday	11 th	6.00 pm	Carmelina Cavalho RIP
Sunday	12 th	8.15 am	The Parish
		10.30 am	Liz Harvey RIP
		3.00 pm	SPUC Cream Tea



They aren't willing even to lift a finger to help them. (Matthew 23.4)

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

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

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS: Wisdom 6:12-16; 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18; Matthew 25:1-13

COLLECTIONS: Church:378 Digital Collection: Turning Tides: £191 Thank you for your generosity.

This weekend there will be a Second Collection for the Retired Priests' Fund (Gift Aid) See Item 6

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS: Sophie Abbott, Michelle Dielt, 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: and those whose anniversaries occur about now: Brian Hurst, Liz Harvey, Reginald Patten, Elizabeth Holding, Benjamin Dixon-Smith, Margaret Hanson, Leslie Lee, Francis Fisher, Billy McCann, Brian McHale, Phillip Horsfall, Edward Hetherington, Elvira Fleming, Patricia Thompson.

May they rest in peace and rise in glory.

3. POSTPONED BLESSING OF GRAVES: As the blessing of graves had to be cancelled due to weather conditions on 2nd November Deacon Mark (from St Michael's Parish) is now planning to bless graves in Durrington Cemetery, Worthing on Friday on 10th November from 10.30am. If you would like a grave of a loved one in that cemetery blessed, if you have not already let him know then 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

4. SPUC CREAM TEA will take place in the Barn 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.

5. 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

6. 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!

7. 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

8. MINISTRY OF THE WORD FORMATION COURSE: Everybody who proclaims the word of God in the liturgy needs, whether new to it or a long time minister, to reflect on the importance of what they are doing and to practice their proclamation. To assist with that there will be a Deanery 'Ministers of the Word Course' on Saturday 18 November from 10.30am-12pm at English Martyrs in the church. Numbers are limited. Please book by contacting Deacon Mark Woods on email mark.woods@abdiocese.org.uk or tel: 01903 877801.

9. 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

10. 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

11. 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.

12. PRAYERS FOR THE PEOPLE OF GAZA AND ISRAEL We have been asked to pray especially for the peoples of Gaza and Israel, for peace and for an end to the hostilities. We've attached a link to pray for the Catholic community in Gaza at this time <https://www.catholicarena.com/latest/gazaisraelpriest131023>

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: When the Second Vatican Council took place about 60 years ago it immediately grabbed the attention not only of Catholics but of many other people as well. All the bishops of the world – who could manage to do so – gathered in Rome for several weeks each autumn for four years as they sought to find ways to make the Church more responsive to the challenges of the time. It might be very difficult to have a General Council of the Church on that sort of scale and in that form, again. For one thing there are far more bishops now than there were 60 years ago and a General Council in today's world would not just be a gathering of bishops and their advisors. We all constitute the Church. What has been happening in the Church of our time is an event that may come to be viewed as just as important as Vatican II. But for the moment it is taking place almost under the radar. An important stage of this Synod has concluded but the final stage will be ushered in at the end of the great enterprise twelve months from now.

The participants at the Synod are a representative number of bishops from all over the world but also many other Church members as well, including many non-ordained men and women who have deliberated and contributed and voted on an equal basis as the bishops for the first time. This is, in fact, the 16th Synod of the Church since Pope Paul VI decided on the idea in the wake of Vatican II. There has been one approximately every three years – but there has never been such a key Synod as this one. Pope Francis has been determined to make the process more effectual. 'Synod', as you know, means 'journeying together'. It has been described by Pope Francis as the people of God on the move'. He has been at great pains to see that it truly addresses the pressing issues of our time.

The Holy Spirit is the most important presence wherever Christians gather. The Church and every member of it flourishes when it listens to the Spirit. Our mission is to translate the Good News of the Gospel into lived reality. The Synod is meant to enable all of us to realise our shared dignity that flows from our baptism and unites us to Christ as his brothers and sisters. That is why an effort has been made to enable all Catholics throughout the world to share their reflections on faith today. The fruits of these meetings and consultations fed into the diocese and national and international conversations that have been taking place worldwide over the past couple of years. The summary document that forms the basis of the ongoing deliberations reflects the joys and pains and aspirations of Christian communities everywhere. The Synod has been discussing – and will continue to discuss – many practical questions that have emerged – dealing with cultural diversity, promoting justice, caring for creation, the role of women and all baptised people as we all share responsibility in our church. The Synodal process will require time to be fruitful. Pope Francis is especially anxious to preserve the unity of our Church and bring everybody on the journey. But he is determined that change will happen. We cannot live unless we change. To live is to change. To atrophy is to die.

There has been tremendous emphasis on the importance of prayer, of listening to what the Spirit says – and listening to the cries of the earth and the cries of the poor. When homeless people near St Peter's Square were asked about their expectations regarding the Church on the occasion of this Synod, they replied 'Love'. This love must always remain at the heart of the Church. The assembly that took place during the entire month of October met in the context of a world in crisis and that gave a particular gravity to their deliberations. They could never forget either that the Church is in crisis. Pope Francis said 'The world in which we live and which we are called to love and serve, demands that the Church strengthens co-operation in all areas of its mission. It is precisely this path of Synodality – journey together – which God expects of the Church.'