

PARISH OF THE ENGLISH MARTYRS Goring Way

21.01.2024

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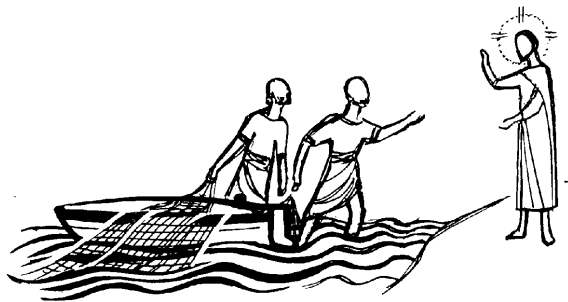
Deacon Gary Bevans 01903 503514

Safeguarding Rep. Anne Niven 01903 242624

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

The Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Saturday	20 th	6.00 pm	Intention of Mary Murphy
Sunday	21 st	8.15 am	Julie Alfranan-Heron RIP
		10.30 am	The Parish
Monday	22 nd	9.30 am	Dinny Murphy RIP
Tuesday	23 rd	9.30 am	Reg Marshall RIP
Wednesday	24 th	9.30 am	Catherine Bandy RIP
Thursday	25 th	9.30 am	The Intentions of Teresa & Family
Friday	26 th	9.30 am	William O'Toole RIP
Saturday	27 th	6.00 pm	Marney Witney RIP & Paula Witney
Sunday	28 th	8.15 am	The Parish
		10.30 am	Antoinetta Macari RIP



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

TODAY'S READINGS: Jonah 3:1-5, 10, 1 Corinthians 7:29-31, Mark 1:14-20

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS: Deuteronomy 18:15-20, 1 Corinthians 7:32-35, Mark 1:21-2

COLLECTIONS: Church: £385 Digital Collection: £138 SPUC £558

Thank you for your generosity.

THIS SUNDAY there will be a second collection for Mary's Meals See Note 4 below

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS: Jim Simpson, Breda O'Connor, Camilla Jane, Sophie Abbott, Michelle Dielt, Helen Gillespie, Harold Forrest, Maria Brooks, Sarah Johnstone, Tony Kearney, Ella Doll, Paul Curd, Lola Samengo-Meehan, Maureen House, Joan Wand, Samuel Bezants, Thomas Boylan, 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: Agnes Winn, Debbie Beirne, Christopher Sheridan, Catherine Hebdige, Frances Green, Michael O'Connor, Joan Cutmore, John Hargadon, Rosemary Dovell, John Murray, Patrick Jackson-Burrows, Barbara King, Jan Gejda, Eileen Beech, Josephine Shore. *May they rest in peace and rise in glory.*

3. THE WHITE FLOWER APPEAL 2024 raised the sum of £505.96. With grateful thanks to you all for your continued support of the unborn.

4. MARY'S MEALS – 'DOUBLE THE LOVE APPEAL': Mary's Meals gives hope for the next generation because many illiterate families, frequently subsistence farmers, are unable to provide food for their children and they are keen that their children should learn and be enabled to become a nurse or a teacher. Mary's Meals provides porridge for school children, enabling them to grow well and make the most of their education. Donations made up to **£1.1 million** can now be matched **until the end of January** so you have time to make an even bigger difference. We will hold a Second Collection this weekend for Mary's Meals and Gift Aid forms and envelopes are available in both porches.

5. WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY: We have been invited by St Richard's Maybridge to join them **this** Sunday 21st January at 6.15 pm for Evening prayer with Songs from Taizé. Please see notice in each porch.

6. A HEARTFELT MESSAGE FROM TERESA: 'I would like to thank all who participated in the CAFOD auction helping us raise a magnificent £1,271.45. The evening was fraught to begin with yet ended successfully. Thank you for bearing with us. A very special thanks to Cathy Humphrey's grandson Declan whose electrical knowledge saved the day. Charles kept beautifully calm and carried on with his family's help. Apologies for any inconvenience. Teresa and team'.

7. CHOIR PRACTICE will resume on Tuesday 30th January.

8. ANNUAL DIOCESAN JUSTICE & PEACE ASSEMBLY will take place on 27th January from 10.00 am – 1.30 pm at St Philip Howard Centre, Crawley, RH10 6RP. This year's assembly will address violence and abuse in our homes, families and wider community, with speakers from Restored, Lifecentre and Pax Christi.

NB To find out about and book events hosted by the Diocese please visit the Diocesan website events calendar W: <https://www.abdiocese.org.uk/diocese/events>

9. CALLING ALL MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARIST: A Day of Reflection for Ministers of the Eucharist will take place on Saturday 10th February at St Michael's, High Salvington, from 11.00am until 4.00 pm. Bishop Richard will lead the day of reflection and formation and will include theological and practical talks, Eucharistic Adoration and mass. Please register using the link [Day of Reflection for Ministers of the Eucharist \(10-Feb-2024\) - ChurchSuite Events](#) or see the notice in each porch and scan the 'qr' code. The day is free of charge and you need to bring a packed lunch.

10. THOMAS BOYLAN would like to thank everyone for their prayers and support for the last 21 months. Doctors say his Prostate Cancer is cured.

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: Everyday items are always needed: Coffee, Sugar, Long-life Milk, Carton juice - large and small, Ketchup, Brown sauce, Marmalade, Jam, Cooking Oil, Hot Chocolate, Tinned Ham, Corned Beef, Tinned Fish, Tinned Meat and Vegetarian Meals. Many thanks to all who are able to help.

FATHER LIAM SAYS: Julian of Norwich's 'Revelations of Divine Love' is the first book by a woman known to be written in English. She wrote two versions of her book. The 'Short' and the 'Long' text. The 'Long' text was the culmination of twenty years of thought and meditation on the visions she received in 1373. She was born in 1342 and died in 1416. Little is known of Julian's personal life, except that she became an anchoress, dedicating her life to prayer and contemplation. She lived permanently alone in a cell attached to St Julian's Church in Norwich. Almost certainly she took her name from that church. In the book she describes herself as a 'symple creature, unlettyred'. By unlettered she meant she had little knowledge of Latin. The visions or 'shewings' were experienced by her during a serious illness. In the book she presents a view of the incarnation and crucifixion of Christ in a profoundly intimate and personal way, emphasising his humanity. She is regarded as one of the greatest English theologians.

The most acute problem with which Christians have constantly wrestled is that of suffering and evil. If God is all powerful and all loving, how is it possible for him to permit so much evil in the world? This was an issue that greatly exercised the mind of Julian – especially in view of the world in which she lived. Norwich fell victim to the Black Death three times during Julian's lifetime – in 1349, 1362 and most virulently in 1369, so she had severe experience of pain and loss. She struggled to fathom out how the immense suffering she witnessed could be squared with God's mercy and the mystery of Redemption.

Her revelations made it clear that divine love is the 'ground of all being'. 'And in this (vision), he showed me a little thing, the size of a hazelnut, lying in the palm of my hand, it seemed, and it was as round as any ball. I looked thereupon with the eye of my understanding, and I thought, 'What may this be?' And the answer came to me, 'It is all that is made.' I wondered how it could last, for it was so small I thought it might suddenly disappear. And I was answered in my understanding, 'It lasts and ever shall, for God loves it, and so everything has its beginning by the love of God.'

In this little thing I saw three properties: the first is that God made it, the second is that God loves it, the third is that God cares for it.'

Near the conclusion of her book she articulates this point well. 'From the time it was revealed, I desired many times to know in what was Our Lord's meaning. And fifteen years after and more, I was answered in spiritual understanding and it was said: What, do you wish to know your Lord's meaning in this thing? Know it well, love was his meaning. Who reveals it to you? Love. What did he reveal to you? Love. Why does he reveal it to you? For love. Why does he reveal it to you? For love. Remain in this and you will know more of the same. But you will never know different, without end.'

It is this emphasis on the love of God for all creation and for all humanity in particular, that shines through Julian's whole text. Her implacable faith and optimism was grounded on the comforting words she received from Jesus: 'I shall make all things well.' For Julian, this divine love is revealed in many ways. The compassion, loving condescension and kindness of God empties himself in order to enter fully into the pain of his creation. It is God's love, she stresses, which holds us in being. 'He is our clothing, who wraps and enfolds us for love, embraces us and shelters us, surrounds us for his love, which is so tender that he may never desert us'. She draws parallels between Jesus and earthly mothers. 'The mothers service is nearest, readiest and surest. No one might ever or could perform this office fully, except only him. We know that all our mothers bear us for pain and for death... But our true Mother Jesus, he alone bears us for joy and for endless life, blessed may he be. The mother can give her child to suck of her milk, but our precious Mother Jesus can feed us with himself and does most courteously and most tenderly, with the blessed Sacrament, which is the precious food of true life. The mother can lay her child tenderly to her breast but our tender Mother Jesus leads us easily through his sweet open side and shows us there a part of the godhead and of the joys of heaven with inner certainty of endless bliss.

Noting how Julian of Norwich's life and writings are "increasingly being acknowledged and celebrated," Pope Francis said that "her maternal influence, humble anonymity and profound theological insights stand as timely reminders" of the importance of faith in God and assisting one another.