

## PARISH OF THE ENGLISH MARTYRS Goring Way

8.06.2024

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## The Tenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Saturday	8 <sup>th</sup>	6.00 pm	K. Abraham RIP
Sunday	9 <sup>th</sup>	8.15 am	Breda O'Connor RIP
		10.30 am	The Parish
Monday	10 <sup>th</sup>	9.30 am	Intentions of Libby Philips
Tuesday	11 <sup>th</sup>	9.30 am	Holy Souls
		<b>2.00 pm</b>	<b>MASS FOR BABY GIANNA ELIZ DE GUZMAN</b>
Wednesday	12 <sup>th</sup>	9.30 am	Frances Stephenson RIP
Thursday	13 <sup>th</sup>	9.30 am	No Mass
Friday	14 <sup>th</sup>	9.30 am	Canon Peter Phillips RIP
Saturday	15 <sup>th</sup>	6.00 pm	Krissie White RIP
Sunday	16 <sup>th</sup>	8.15 am	The Parish
		10.30 am	Jack & Mary Haugh RIP



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

**TODAY'S READINGS:** Genesis 3:9-15; 2 Corinthians 4:13-5:1; Mark 3:20-35

**NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:** Ezekiel 17:22-24; 2 Corinthians 5:6-10; Mark 4:26-34

**COLLECTIONS: Church: £532 Dona: £157 Thank you for your generosity.**

**There will be a Second Collection next weekend for the Day for Life (NOT Gift Aid) Please see Note 5**

**PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:** Mirille Byrne, Peter Honiball, David Lancaster, Jim Simpson, Camilla Jane, Sophie Abbott, Michelle Dielt, Helen Gillespie, Harold Forrest, Maria Brooks, Tony Kearney, Paul Curd, Lola Samengo-Meehan, Maureen House, Joan Wand, Samuel Bezants, Terry Stanley, Glenn, Helena & Vittorio Villa, Lena, Ken Harvey, Sienna Coates, Brian Caplin, Valerie Halley, Pat Duggan, John Smith, Ian Threlfall, Lelia Murray, Mary Murphy, Noel & 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:** **ELLA DOLL** and those whose anniversaries occur about now: Wasył Szymuda, Raymond Tremayne, Mary Marsh, Simonne Brookes, Josette de Roland Peel, Marina Hatton, William Steadman, Bernard Carroll, Cynthia Hinchcliffe, Nuala Clarke, Wendy Lee, Rose Jeffery, Terry Sparrow, Jim Murphy, Pamela Dixon-Smith, Nicholas Murphy. *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. FIRST HOLY COMMUNION** will be received by fourteen of our children this Sunday during the 10.30 am Mass. Please pray for: Nancy Cahillane, Ornella Cocchiarella, Jude Devlin, Rose Greenaway, Adeline Howell, Verity Lumsdon, Arla Macauley, George Macauley, Corbin Ramiro, Alexia Stepney, Amelia Stepney, Karla-Noemi Timotin, Paul-Marian Timotin, Luke Tucker.

**5. DAY FOR LIFE:** The Church teaches that life is to be nurtured from conception to natural death. In England and Wales, Day for Life is celebrated on the third Sunday of June each year. This year it falls on 16 June. The theme is The Lord is my Shepherd – Compassion and Hope at the End of Life. A debate on end-of-life issues has been in the headlines in recent months with calls for assisted suicide being expressed, especially by celebrities, a view that opposes the Catholic view that life is a gift and that we are called to care for others at the end of their lives.

**6. HANDMADE CARDS FOR FATHER'S DAY** (which is on 13<sup>th</sup> July) are now available in the Shop. All proceeds from the sale of these cards goes to the Parish Project in Kalingalinga.

**7. ROSARY FOR PEACE AND JUSTICE IN THE HOLY LAND** will be prayed on the second Saturday of every month at 5.00pm. The next one is next Saturday, 8<sup>th</sup> June. Please put the future dates in your diary and make a special effort to come and pray for justice and peace.

**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. A MESSAGE FROM CO-CHAIRMAN OF ENGLISH MARTYRS SCHOOL:** Some of our children from English Martyrs Primary School will be making their First Holy Communion today at English Martyrs Church. This will be a joyous occasion for the children and one that we know they are looking forward to celebrating. Since September 2023, a new Religious Education Directory (RED) of teaching was introduced to all Catholic schools. This involved our school having to purchase new RE materials and resources at considerable cost to the school. Current spending is over £1,000. We are appealing to your generosity for financial support to buy new resources which the school will need to purchase for the start of the new academic year 2024/25. You might also like to know that English Martyrs School had their new Catholic Schools Inspection (CSI) in February and received a 'Good' rating overall with one of the three categories as 'Outstanding'. This was for 'Collective Worship'. This highlights the excellent RE teaching by the Head Teacher, all the staff and the children. We will arrange for a copy of the CSI report to be put on the school notice board for you all to read. Please be generous in your support to all the children at English Martyrs School. Thank you. (The collection from the First Holy Communion Mass will go to English Martyrs School.)

**10. TURNING TIDES WISH LIST** is appealing for the many items that they need urgently: Tinned Meat - Ham & Corned Beef, Tinned Fish, Cooking Sauces, Tinned Vegetarian, Meat Meals & Pies. Small Juices/Water, Tinned Rice Pudding & Custard. Carton Milk, Cooking Oil, Spreads - Sweet & Savoury. Easy Snacks - Pot Noodles, Mug Shots, Pasta-n-Sauce, Instant Noodles. Men's Boxer Pants & Socks. Washing Powder. Many thanks to anyone who is able to help.

**FATHER LIAM SAYS: Prominent people in today's world** are in the public eye as never before. This is especially true in the Western World where Social Media makes every effort to make as many revelations as possible about leaders and celebrities of all kinds. Again and again, there are instances where people felt secure that their conversations were private being horrified to find them carried on the wings of the wind, all over the world. Pope Francis is among the latest to suffer this fate.

There are tremendous advantages and opportunities for the Church stemming from the opening up of so many channels of communication but, obviously, there are no shortage of pitfalls. We live in a rapidly changing world and the way in which the papacy is received today is very different from how it was viewed in past centuries. Most Catholics today know the name of the Pope. Five hundred years ago at the time of the Reformation that would certainly not have been the case. How would they have known who the Pope was and what his role was? They would not have learned much from sermons. Sermons were not by any means a regular part of the Mass. This was especially the case in the countryside where most people lived. Sermons on the Feast of St Peter and St Paul might, in passing, say a word about the Pope. In past centuries he was known as 'the Vicar of Peter' not as 'the Vicar of Christ' but the Papacy was not always as important to Catholics as it is today and in the absence of Mass, media news depended on word of mouth.

During the Middle Ages instruction in the faith consisted of learning the Creed, basic prayers, the Ten Commandments and the Seven Capital sins. Perhaps also there would be some emphasis on the Beatitudes and the Works of Mercy. The contents of the early printed Catechism show this to be the case. The Papacy is not mentioned. The obvious occasion for doing so would be in connection with the article of the Creed: 'I believe in the holy, Catholic Church'. There was a question in these Catechisms: 'What is the Church'? The answer simply was: 'The congregation of Christian faithful, governed and illumined by God our Lord.' Nothing more! The great theologian of the Catholic Church was Thomas Aquinas, who died in 1274 – 750 years ago. His books on Theology were still used in my time at the Seminary. The Papacy is barely mentioned by St Thomas in his works.

To be a Catholic today, however, as most Catholics would say is "to believe in the Pope" and they know that Pope Francis 'runs the Church'. That means, among other things, that he appoints their bishops and the bishops in their turn, appoint their priests. But it is only in comparatively recent times that most bishops were appointed by the Pope. Popes for much of the history of the Church were also temporal rulers. They ruled over the Papal States, which comprised a considerable part of modern Italy. The Roman Emperor had abandoned Rome and ruled his Empire from Constantinople. This meant that the Popes had to deal with many huge issues on their doorstep. All kinds of foreign tribes – 'barbarians' as they were called – invaded the Western parts of the Empire and the Popes had to cope with a world of disarray.

In the middle of all this, Pope Gregory the Great, in 596, sent an unprecedented mission of forty monks, headed by St Augustine to bring the faith to the Angles of the South of the Country around Canterbury. This was an enterprise that surely surpassed Gregory's wildest hopes. This was the first time a Pope undertook launching an evangelising mission and it was almost the last. Such missions never figured large on the Papal agenda. In the great centuries of missionary activity Religious Orders and Kings of Spain, Portugal and France took the initiative. The Popes had their hands full in Europe. Dealing with the Papal states consumed an enormous amount of time, energy, and resources of the Papacy and in practice, it was often the top item. Pepin, King of the Franks and Father of Charlemagne donated his territory to Pope Stephen II in the middle of the 8<sup>th</sup> century. They were, as it were, a gift to St Peter and hence worth every effort to preserve. Good riddance eventually came in September 1870 when Papal temporal power came to an end.

During the Middle Ages the Pope added the Right to call an Ecumenical Council to the list of their responsibilities. Recognition of this Right grew gradually and was hotly contested. The Roman Emperor (or Empress on one occasion) convoked the first eight Ecumenical Councils. The Popes did not always play an important part in these. But the Popes, like many other bishops throughout the world, often convoked local Synods or Councils to deal with local issues.

The end of the Papal States and the Unification of Italy resulted in the appointment of bishops, that had previously been in the hands of various rulers, now being delivered to the Pope. Various agreements with other governments further increased Papal control of episcopal appointments. The Code of Canon Law in 1917, for the first time in history, stated that 'the Roman Pontiff freely nominates the bishops'. It also stated that the Pope could concede certain aspects of that right, but the assumption was that the authority rested with the Pope. The corresponding Canon of the 1983 Code, now in effect, is not so absolute. It says: 'The Supreme Pontiff freely appoints bishops or confirms those legitimately elected'.