

PARISH OF THE ENGLISH MARTYRS Goring Way

25.08.2024

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

Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time

Saturday	24 th	6.00 pm	Frank & Sharon – 46 th Wedding Anniversary
Sunday	25 th	8.15 am	The Parish
		10.30 am	Roger Davis RIP
Monday	26 th	9.30 am	No Mass
Tuesday	27 th	9.30 am	Intention of Rosita
		7.00 pm	Choir Practice
Wednesday	28 th	9.30 am	Ann Mills RIP
Thursday	29 th	9.30 am	Fiona McDonald RIP
Friday	30 th	9.30 am	Humphrey Niven RIP
Saturday	31 st	6.00 pm	John Davidson RIP
Sunday	1 st	8.15 am	The Parish
		10.30 am	Yvonne Carter RIP



SATURDAY: Reconciliation: 10.15–10.45 am and 5.15 – 5.45 pm

TODAY'S READINGS: Joshua 24:1-2, 15-18; Ephesians 5: 21-32; John 6:60-69

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS: Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-8; James 1:17-18, 21-22, 27; Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

COLLECTIONS: Church: £413 Dona: £30 Thank you for your generosity.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS: Paul & Veronica Williams, Shirley Bradbury, Bryan Johnstone, Terence Wheeler, Sue Withnell, 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 and those whose anniversaries occur about now: Hilda Doyle, Anne Tims, Paul Lucas, Mary Rolph, Patricia Johnson, Stephen Smith, Jeremiah Daly, Father Sean McWheeney, Harold Hudson, Elizabeth Hoskins, Leonard Coombes, Chris Gale, Bridget Connolly, Donald Musgrove, Michael Walsh, Joan Moutrie, Peter Sivy, Nora Puttock, Canon Eric Flood. *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. CAFOD HARVEST SUPPER will take place on Saturday 14th September following the 6.00 pm Mass. The food will be delicious and there will be a raffle. Prizes would be welcome. Tickets will be on sale after all Masses **next** weekend Adults £10.00, Children £5.00. For further information please contact Teresa 01903 529260

5. CATECHISTS DAY is for all catechists and those involved in adult formation across our parishes: a day of formation, reflection and networking will take place on Saturday 21st September at Worth School and Abbey from 11.00 am until 4.00 pm. Refreshments available from 10.30am. During the day, we will be spending time reflecting on our personal faith and our role in passing on that faith to others. We will hear inspirational talks and have time to reflect and share with others in the beautiful setting of Worth. More information to follow and will be emailed to sign-ups. Any queries please email E: jon.harman@abdiocese.org.uk

6. TO USERS OF THE CHILDRENS ROOM (off the Front Porch) Please ensure all windows are closed before leaving at the end of Mass.

7. HAVE YOUR PRAYERS BEEN ANSWERED? If so and your loved one has recovered but is on the list in Item 1 please let Anne in the Office know so that the name can be removed – 01903 242624

8. BEAUTIFUL HANDMADE CARDS are now available in the shop. All proceeds will go to the Parish Mission in Kalingalinga, Lusaka

9. 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

10. TURNING TIDES HARVEST FOOD APPEAL has been split in three: 'A Breakfast Boost'; a Lunchtime Bite and a Super Supper. Copies of each are available in both porches. Please take one if you are able to help. Your help is always appreciated, especially at this time of the year when they are trying to fill the store cupboards.

Father Liam says: One of the most popular Nursery Rhymes we are all familiar with must be 'Ring-a-Ring o' Roses. Most people are confident that they know what it refers to. This rhyme usually accompanies a dancing game that ends with the children falling to the ground. It goes like this:

'Ring-a-ring o' roses,
A pocketful of posies.
A-tishoo! A-tishoo!
We all fall down.'

It is widely believed that it is associated with the plague – the Great Plague of London in 1665 or the Black Death of the late 1340's. A plague victim is assumed to have shown early symptoms of the disease by having red, circular rashes all over the body (a ring of roses). There was also a belief that if a person carried a pouch or pocket stuffed with herbs or posies, there was a lesser chance of infection. Sneezing is also seen as an indication that the victim was in an advanced state, certain to fall down dead pretty soon. But this does not really accord with the known symptoms of the illness. The early signs of the infection were headaches, chills, high fever, but not rosy rings. Following the fever would come the formation of buboes – inflammatory swellings in the groin and armpits. There is no historical record that posies or any other plants were used to ward off the disease. Sweet smelling flowers were sometimes carried to counter the odours caused by the infection. People were so terrified of catching the plague that extreme measures were sometimes taken, such as burning their clothes and other possessions – even their homes – in the hope of warding off the threat. There seems to be no reference anywhere to sneezing being a symptom.

If indeed the rhyme dates back centuries, why was it not written down until much later? No record of the rhyme has been found from that period. Samuel Pepys (1633-1703-, the noted diarist who chronicled the Great Plague) makes no mention of it. The first record of it being sung seems to be 1881, centuries after the event. And the first connection between the rhyme and either of the plagues was in 1961 when James Leasor came up with the idea in his book 'The Plague and the Fire'. It appears far more likely that it simply came from a children's party game.

Where does the name Humpty Dumpty come from? Is it the name of the most famous egg of all time? Humpty Dumpty of course, features in Lewis Carroll's 'Through the Looking Glass' (1871.) Alice is in deep conversation with Humpty Dumpty as he sits upon a high wall. The illustrator Sir John Tenniel contemplating the impossibility of him being put together after falling off the wall has him shaped like an egg with short arms and legs. This is the first known depiction of Humpty as an egg and it has become a definitive image.

'Humpty Dumpty sat on a wall,
Humpty Dumpty had a great fall;
All the King's horses and all the King's men
Couldn't put Humpty together again.'

The real Humpty Dumpty was a powerful cannon used by the Royalist forces during the English Civil War of 1642-51. The Royalists overpowered the Parliamentary stronghold of Colchester in 1648. The Parliamentarians – known as Roundheads – besieged the town in what became known as the Siege of Colchester but the Royalists grimly held on, thanks to the powerful cannon called 'Humpty Dumpty', which was positioned on top of the church tower of St Mary-at-the-Walls. The gunner, One-Eyed Thompson, managed to fend off the Roundhead troops for eleven weeks until the top of the church tower was eventually blown away, sending Humpty Dumpty crashing to the ground. It buried itself outside the city wall in deep marshland. The King's cavalry (the horses) and infantry (the men) hurried to retrieve the cannon in order to repair it but they couldn't put Humpty together again. So the Royalists were overrun.

There are another two verses before the better known one that tell the tale:

'In sixteen hundred and forty eight
When England suffered the pains of state,
The Roundheads laid siege to Colchester town
Where the King's men still fought for the crown.

There One-Eyed Thomson stood on the wall,
A gunner of deadliest aim of all.
From St Mary's Tower his cannon he fired,
Humpty Dumpty was its name.'

The rhyme was a piece of propaganda that celebrated the defeat of King Charles I. The Parliamentary troops taught their children to recite the tale of their victory.

(I am indebted to Albert Jack's book 'Pop Goes the Weasel')