

PARISH OF THE ENGLISH MARTYRS Goring Way

3.11.2024

Father Liam O'Connor, 37 Compton Avenue,

Goring-by-Sea, West Sussex. BN12 4UE

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

Thirty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time

Saturday	2 nd	6.00 pm	Dominic Lambert, Lourdu, Mary Mark & Magdaline
Sunday	3 rd	8.15 am	Burholt & Whibley Families RIP
		10.30 am	Liz Harvey RIP
		3.00 pm	Holy Hour & Benediction
Monday	4 th	9.30 am	Norma Markham RIP
Tuesday	5 th	9.30 am	The Parish
		7.00 pm	Choir Practice
Wednesday	6 th	9.30 am	For the wellbeing of William Aitken
Thursday	7 th	9.30 am	Victoria Arhin RIP
Friday	8 th	9.30 am	Deceased relatives of the Bandy and Philips Families
Saturday	9 th	5.00 pm	Rosary for peace and Justice in the Holy Land
		6.00 pm	Attilio Rosalen RIP
Sunday	10 th	8.15 am	The Parish
		10.30 am	Singarayar & Arulamma RIP



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

TODAY'S READINGS: Deuteronomy 6:2-6; Hebrews 7:23-28; Mark 12:28-34

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS: 1 Kings 17:10-16; Hebrews 9:24-28; Mark 12:38-44

COLLECTIONS: Church: £449 Dona: £ Thank you for your generosity.
Next weekend there will be a Second Collection for the Retired Priest's Fund (Gift Aid)

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS: Andy Curd, David Steadman, Paul & Veronica Williams, Shirley Bradbury, Brian 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 & Kathleen Kearney, Lola Samengo-Meehan, Maureen House, Joan Wand, Samuel Bezants, Terry Stanley, Glenn, Helena & Vittorio Villa, Lena, 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: **SISTER CATHERINE** (after a long illness) and those whose anniversaries occur about now: Harold Thirkettle, Olive Oliver, Vincent Rasdale, Brian Hurst, Liz Harvey, Reginald Patten, Elizabeth Holding, Benjamin Dixon-Smith, Margaret Hanson, Leslie Lee, Brian Dunne, Francis Fisher, Billy McCann, Brian McHale, Phillip Horsfall, Edward Hetherington. *May they rest in peace and rise in glory.*

3. 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

4. FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2024: Is your son or daughter in Year 3 this term? If so, they are at the age where they can start the preparation course for First Holy Communion. Please collect a letter and application form from the Sacristy and return it to the Parish Office as soon as possible. The first meeting for parents will be on Thursday 2nd January at 7.30 pm in the church and the first lesson for the children will be Tuesday 7th January from 4.30-5.30 pm

5. CALLING ALL MEMBERS OF THE 100 CLUB AND THOSE WHO WOULD LIKE TO JOIN: The first Draw of the 100 Club New Year will take place on 1st December. If you wish to continue for the coming year or would like to join please put £12 (for every number you wish to keep/buy) in a sealed envelope with your name and telephone number in Capitals on the front. At the moment there are 50 tickets looking for winners!

6. A DELICIOUS CREAM TEA will take place on Sunday 17 November at 3pm in aid of the Society for the Protection of Unborn Children and Our Lady of Good Counsel Network, a pro-life Charity that offers support to women in crisis pregnancies. Tickets on sale next weekend £9 each. Raffle prizes gratefully received

7. NOVEMBER – IS THE MONTH FOR HOLY SOULS: 'November envelopes' are available in both porches. Any donations will go towards offering Masses for the Holy Souls. Please fill in and hand in to the Sacristy as soon as possible

8. NEW LECTIONARY INFORMATION EVENING: Worthing Deanery is offering a session on the introduction of the new Lectionary with its new translation of the readings and psalms that will come into effect on first Sunday of Advent this year. On Wednesday 20 November from 7pm-8.30pm, at St Michael's Parish Hall, Hayling Rise, Worthing BN13 3AL. All welcome – No booking necessary Contact mark.woods@abdiocese.org.uk for further information

9. OUR PARISH PRAYER GROUP meets on the 1st and 3rd Thursdays of the month at 7.30 pm in the Good Shepherd Chapel. There is praise and worship, scripture, intercessory prayer and much more. Our next meeting will be at 7.30 pm this **Thursday 7th November**. All are welcome so please come and join us. Any queries to Andy & Sandy (241236).

10. A BIG THANK YOU to all the loyal shop volunteers who have manned the shop since March. Their dedication is very much appreciated and very beneficial to our church by raising our profile worldwide. Visitors are impressed with the warm welcome and helpfulness from all of you so thank you.

11. CHRISTMAS DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES

Saturday 7th December - 7.00 pm - Curry & Carols Night
Thursday 19th December - 7.30 pm - Advent Reconciliation Service
Friday 20th December - 7.00 pm - Christmas Carols and Mulled Wine
Tuesday 24th December - 6.00 pm - First Mass of Christmas especially for children
- 9.00 pm - Mass preceded by Carols from 8.30 pm
Wednesday 25th December - 8.15 am and 10.30 am Mass

12. THE REPOSITORY will be open on Thursday mornings after Mass, until the mid-December, for the sale of seasonal and other gifts as well as beautiful cards.

13. ST MICHAEL'S SVP GROUP are using St Charles' Church as a storage facility for items needed to assist local families, Ukrainian families and some is sent to Ukraine. If you have any items to donate, please contact: Sheila Padwick email: presidenta010406@svp.org.uk or Keith Padwick: 07551 331330

13. MARY'S MEALS COLLECTION POINT is one of the small boxes under the noticeboard 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 growth of the Catholic church in the Worthing area has much to do with the Sisters of Sion. When they first came to Worthing in 1860 there was no Catholic church but there was a small Catholic community who gathered to celebrate Mass in the house of Thomas Gaisford at Offington hall – when a priest was available. The Sisters were a teaching order and they opened their first, temporary convent and school in Wortley House, North Street. The school opened with just one pupil in 1862. At that time the Sisters of Sion had not long been founded. They owed their origins – under God – to two German brothers, Theodore and Alphonse Ratisbonne who were born into a Jewish family in Strasbourg, Germany. The older brother, Theodore was born in 1802. He attended the local university, where he met a learned Catholic woman, Louise Humann, who ran a school for girls. This led to Theodore gaining a great interest in providing education for orphaned and poor children.

Theodore was baptised into the Catholic faith in 1827 and was ordained a priest in 1830. By 1840 he had set up schools in both Strasbourg and Paris for children who suffered deprivation because of poverty or race or religion. A group of women – followers of Louise Humann, helped to run the schools. These women eventually formed a religious community and they became the first members of the Sisters of Sion. Theodore was working as a priest in Paris when his brother Alphonse also became a Catholic in 1842. He too became a priest. The brothers felt called by God to establish links between the people of the Jewish and Christian faiths.

They worked together with the Sisters of Sion to set up school welcoming those from all faiths. They also established orphanages and workshops for disadvantaged children. By the time of Theodore's death in 1884, they had set up schools in 10 countries. Today there are Sion Communities in 21 countries across the world. Sadly, there is now no community of the Sisters of Sion in Worthing but their work of educating the young and bringing people of different faiths together still continues.

How did the Catholics in Worthing come to have a permanent church in which to worship? From 1859 Thomas Gaisford of Offington Hall welcomed them to worship in his private chapel. In 1862 the Sisters of Notre Dame de Sion (the Sisters of Our Lady of Sion) also made their chapel at their temporary convent in North Street available. The need for a permanent church was met by Thomas Gaisford who purchased a plot of land on the corner of Richmond Road and Crescent Road, where a church was built during 1863/64. The Sisters of Notre Dame de Sion also built a permanent convent and school in an adjoining plot in Crescent Road. The new church, known as St Mary of the Angels was designed in red brick, Gothic style by H. Clutton and was blessed by the Bishop of Southwark, Dr Grant on 9th September 1864 – 160 years ago.

The first Parish Priest was James Purdon who had been ordained in 1864 and came to Worthing in 1870 where we stayed as Parish Priest until he died in 1923 at the age of 83. He had been Parish Priest in Worthing for 53 years!

James Purdon was born in Kingston-Upon-Hull in 1839. He studied for the priesthood in the Seminary in Lisbon. No Catholic Seminaries were allowed in England at that time. One of his first actions was to open a small school and chapel in an old stable in St John's Street, Shoreham – in the site of the present Catholic church of St Peter. He continued to minister to the Catholics of Shoreham and Worthing until Shoreham had its own church and priest – funded by the Duchess of Norfolk. In 1908, the parish of Worthing was given an assistant priest. With their pupils, the Sisters were involved in the music and decoration of the church.