

PARISH OF THE ENGLISH MARTYRS Goring Way

19.01.2025

Father Liam O'Connor, 37 Compton Avenue,

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

Presbytery 01903 242624 / Church repository 01903 506890

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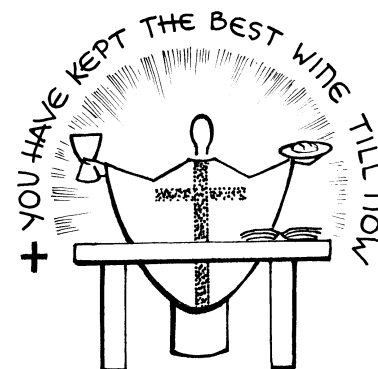
Deacon Gary Bevans 01903 503514

Safeguarding Rep. Anne Niven 01903 242624

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

The Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Saturday	18 th	6.00 pm	Alf Puttick RIP
Sunday	19 th	8.15 am	Intention of Maureen Duggan
		10.30 am	The Parish
Monday	20 th	9.30 am	Intention of Yvette Allan
Tuesday	21 st	9.30 am	William & Patrick O'Toole RIP
Wednesday	22 nd	9.30 am	Holy Souls
Thursday	23 rd	9.30 am	Intention of Eileen Whelan
Friday	24 th	9.30 am	Catherine Bandy RIP
Saturday	25 th	6.00 pm	Pauline McCaul RIP & deceased Family Members
Sunday	26 th	8.15 am	The Parish
		10.30 am	Intention of Mary Murphy



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

TODAY'S READINGS: Isaiah 62:1-5; 1 Corinthians 12:4-11; John 2:1-11

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS: Nehemiah 8:2-6,8-10; 1 Corinthians 12:12-30; Luke 1:1-4, 4:14-21

COLLECTIONS: Church: £470 Dona: £230.00 Friends of the Holy Land: £410.00

Thank you for your generosity.

This Sunday there will be a second collection for SPUC – Please see Note 3 below

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS: Natasha, Laura Allen, David Hall, Baby Ava Lily Jaswal, Andy Curd, David Steadman, Paul & Veronica Williams, Shirley Bradbury, Brian Johnstone, Terence Wheeler, 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, Glenn, Helena & Vittorio Villa, Lena, Sienna Coates, Brian Caplin, Valerie Halley, Pat Duggan, John Smith, Ian Threlfall, 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: JANINE VAN MELSEN and those whose anniversaries occur about now: Alan Pockney, Phyllis Welling, Doug Headon, Andrea Pyle, Susan Perriman, Bernard Davy, Agnes Winn, Debbie Beirne, Christopher Sheridan, Catherine Hebdige, Frances Green, Michael O'Connor, Joan Cutmore, John Hargadon, Rosemary Dovell. *May they rest in peace and rise in glory.*

3. WHITE FLOWER APPEAL 2025 - the Society for the Protection of Unborn Children (SPUC) will be holding its annual appeal this weekend. SPUC exists to radically transform culture so that abortion is not only abolished but becomes truly unthinkable. To accomplish this mission, the Society is positioning initiatives in politics, education, legislation and culture. Through these efforts we will restore a respect for the sanctity of human life to our society. This year's appeal postcards call on the Government to adhere to the United Nations' Convention on the Rights of the Child. Please be as generous as you can to help SPUC defend unborn babies and their mothers.

4. ARE YOU WORRIED ABOUT SCAMS? PCSO's from the local neighbourhood policing team will be at The Barn next Friday 24th January at 3pm to advise and talk about Scams. All are welcome

5. LEARNING ABOUT THE CATHOLIC FAITH: This year's course (RCIA), for those interested in finding out more about our faith with a view to being received into full communion with the Catholic Church, has started. If you know of anyone who would like to join us, please ask them to ring Father Liam on 01903 242624 for details. This course would also be suitable for those wanting to return to the practise of their Catholic faith.

6 HELEN HUNNISETT COMPLETED HER SPONSORED WALK on Saturday 30th November 2024 but is still awaiting the money so generously committed. If you have yet to pay, please put the money in an envelope with 'Helen Hunnisett' written on the front and either hand it in to the Sacristy or drop it through the Priest's House door. Helen will then collect it when she is next at Mass.

7. EFFATHA! Polska grupa biblijna. Otwórz się na Słowa Boga poprzez czytanie i rozważanie Pisma Św. Spotkania rozpoczynamy w piątek 31-ego stycznia 2025r o godz. 19.30 w Kaplicy Dobrego Pasterza w English Martyrs Catholic Church, Goring Way, Goring-by-Sea, Worthing, BN12 4UH. Zapraszamy. Masz pytania, napisz: sylwia.ceg@gmail.com

8. A MESSAGE FROM KALINGALINGA: Thank you very much for the cheque for Our Lady's Hospice, Kalingalinga for £3337.55. I met some of the patients that you support. One was a lady with no legs. She was run over by her husband, who has not since been seen – they have not been able to trace any of her family. She was taken to the Hospice by a White Father. The lady is now in a wheelchair but cannot talk. A man was digging a ditch when the rope broke. He has a broken back and is paralysed. Over a long period of time the Hospice has helped him to be able to sit up. He was orphaned as a child. Often these people are taken to the Hospice by a kind person who thinks that are going to die, but because of the medical care and support that they receive they are alive, and making progress, even if it is very slow. The Hospice is doing a lot of preventive work. Last year there were over 600 outpatients who were treated. By doing this very few become terminal. The local people say they receive better treatment than Government Hospitals. Wishing you and your Parishioners many blessings in 2025, Sr Margaret

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

Father Liam says: About 30 million tourists – and pilgrims – visit Rome every year. More than twice that number are expected to make the journey this year because 2025 is a Holy Year. The Jubilee started on Christmas Eve. Because of this

the city of Rome has been in chaos with closed roads and museums and churches being prepared for the influx. You can be sure that the Sistine Chapel will be among the most thronged places. Maybe, people realizing what Rome will be like might be tempted to visit Goring instead in even greater numbers to view our Sistine ceiling Reproduction.

The Sistine Chapel was built in 1475 and was a combination of a papal chapel and a fortification as the exterior suggests. It is called 'Sistine' after Pope Sixtus IV, a Franciscan who was Bishop of Rome from 1471 to 1484. Pope Sixtus had the ceiling painted as a blue sky with golden stars. The ceiling was so high that Sixtus thought it too great a challenge for elaborate painting. He concentrated on the walls and he commissioned splendid paintings by some of the great Renaissance masters – the life of Moses on the south wall and the life of Christ on the north wall. He wanted to show the close connection between God's revelations of himself to the people of Israel and God's self-revelation in Christ to the whole world.

In 1503 – 19 years after the death of Pope Sixtus, the Cardinals chose a nephew of Sixtus – who took the name Julius – as Pope. Shortly afterwards cracks in the vault began to appear and the soil beneath the chapel began to shift. Iron bars were installed in the ceiling and in the floor to hold the vault together and to steady the foundations. The chapel was stabilized but the ceiling was a mess. Pope Julius wanted to commission the brilliant artist from Florence, Michelangelo, to replace the starry sky motif. He had already hired Michelangelo to sculpt him a colossal tomb – but Michelangelo did not want to paint the ceiling and refused. He was a sculptor rather than a painter. But Pope Julius insisted and ordered Michelangelo to return to Rome and get on with it. Julius came up with a design but Michelangelo didn't like it and so came up with his own plan – the wonderful copy of which Gary has provided us with.

Gary's task was monumental but Michelangelo's was greater. How was he to cover 12,000 square feet of vaulted space with fresco on a surface with flat and curved spaces and make the entire design hang together. He decided to create a visual epic – the creation of the world and the early history of the human race. It stretched across the vault from West to East in nine great paintings – three on the creation of nature, three on the creation of humankind and three on the story of Noah. Filling the peripheries there were ancient prophets and sibyls, heralds of the world's redemption and crucial moments in the history of Israel. It took four years for him to execute the plan. When the people of Rome saw it on All Saint's Day 1512, everyone, including Pope Julius, was stunned. Nothing this magnificent had ever been done before. When Julius had finally stopped asking 'when will it be done?' Michelangelo must surely have thought that he was finished with the Sistine Chapel.

Perhaps the ceiling of the Sistine Chapel should be called the Julian ceiling, after Pope Julius. But over twenty years after completing it another Pope – the fourth successor of Julius – Paul III asked Michelangelo to execute a vast fresco of the Risen Christ on the chapel's altar wall, replacing a number of other frescoes. This time Michelangelo didn't resist. This painting is usually called 'The Last Judgement' and when it was completed in 1541 all Rome was once again awestruck.

In 1987 when on a pilgrimage to Rome, Gary was inspired to reproduce the Sistine Ceiling in our church. At that time the church ceiling was covered in fibreboard. He recovered the ceiling using marine plywood sheets. Shortly after starting this massive project the ceiling in Rome began to be restored. After 475 years the brilliant paintwork of Michelangelo was decidedly faded. Very nobly Gary was given pictures of what the renewed ceiling looked like, so it was extremely lucky that Gary did not embark on the project earlier. We now have the joy of seeing it in the very vivid colours that Michelangelo used. The acrylic paints that had just then become available for Gary to use gave a fresco like effect that after 35 years still sparkles.

On 8th April 1994 – Easter Friday – Pope John Paul II celebrated Mass in the Sistine Chapel to mark the completion of the restoration of the Michelangelo frescos. By that time Gary had completed his reproduction of one of the greatest artistic masterpieces of all time. Many people visit our church to admire it.