

## PARISH OF THE ENGLISH MARTYRS Goring Way

23.02.2025

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### The Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

Saturday	22 <sup>nd</sup>	6.00 pm	Tom Emery RIP
Sunday	23 <sup>rd</sup>	8.15 am	The Parish
		10.30 am	Frances Boylan RIP
Monday	24 <sup>th</sup>	9.30 am	Intention of Kevin & Jennifer Cummings
Tuesday	25 <sup>th</sup>	9.30 am	Nora McGinn RIP
		<b>7.00 pm</b>	<b>Choir Practice</b>
Wednesday	26 <sup>th</sup>	9.30 am	Holy Souls
Thursday	27 <sup>th</sup>	9.30 am	Brian Smith – Good health
Friday	28 <sup>th</sup>	9.30 am	In Thanksgiving
Saturday	1 <sup>st</sup>	6.00 pm	Paul Douglas Headon RIP
Sunday	2 <sup>nd</sup>	8.15 am	The Parish
		10.30 am	Janet Forkan RIP



If someone has done you wrong,  
do not repay him with a wrong. (Romans 12:17)

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

**TODAY'S READINGS:** 1 Samuel 26:2, 7-9, 12-13, 22-23; 1 Corinthians 15:45-49; Luke 6:27-38

**NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:** Ecclesiasticus 27:4-7; 1 Corinthians 15:54-58; Luke 6:39-45

**COLLECTIONS:** Church: £446    Dona: £    Thank you for your generosity

**PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:** Pope Francis, Richard Wells, Natasha, Henry Allen, David Hall, Baby Ava Lily Jaswal, David Steadman, Paul & Veronica Williams, Shirley Bradbury, Brian Johnstone, Terence Wheeler, Mirille Byrne, Peter Honiball, David Lancaster, Jim Simpson, Camilla Jane, 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** and those whose anniversaries occur about now: Leonard Bainbridge, Marion Gapp, Kathleen Geal, June Jakes, Kathleen Brennan, Joseph Shepherd, Noreen Sumner, Sheila Szymuda, Eileen Fuscuardi, Ron Watson, Mary Jackson, Cecelia Boakes, Mary Hancy, Ted Leach, Emilio Santangelo, Marion Kurkowski. *May they rest in peace and rise in glory.*

**3. WORLD DAY OF PRAYER** will take place on Friday 7th March at 10.30am - St Richard's Church, Collingwood Road, BN12 6HZ and 2.30pm - All Saints Church, Cissbury Drive, Findon Valley, BN14 0DT. The theme this year is 'I made you Wonderful' and the service was prepared by the Christian Women of the Cook Islands. For more information – [www.wwdp.org.uk](http://www.wwdp.org.uk)

**4. YOUNG ADULT JUBILEE PILGRIMAGE TO ROME:** Join our pilgrimage for young adults aged 18-30 to celebrate the special Jubilee year. Celebrate with other like-minded people, as we travel to the beautiful city of Rome for opportunities to hear from, and pray with, Pope Francis on the theme of Hope. E: [lizzie.wakeling@abdiocese.org.uk](mailto:lizzie.wakeling@abdiocese.org.uk) for information. **CLOSING DATE 31 MARCH**

**5. ON SUNDAY 2<sup>nd</sup> MARCH,** after the 10.30 Mass. there will be a cake sale in the Barn to raise money for Gabriel Hunnisett to go as a purple shirt to Lourdes A and B pilgrimage. Please do come along and enjoy the home baked goods. Thank you in advance

**6. ST. PATRICK'S NIGHT 'HOOLEY'** in aid of our Parish Project, will take place on Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> March at 7.00 pm in the Barn. Irish Step Dancers, three course traditional Irish Supper – Bacon & Cabbage - Homemade desserts, Irish Coffee, Bar, a Sing-a-long and Raffle. Come and enjoy an evening of fun, good food music and dance. Donations of Raffle prizes would be appreciated. Tickets on sale after all Masses **next** weekend: Adults £10.00, Children £5.00

**7. ST VALENTINE'S EVENING 'DO'** raised £650.40 for the Parish Project in Kalingalinga. Many thanks to all who helped to make it such an enjoyable evening.

**8. PARISH 100 CLUB DRAW** will take place after the 10.30 Mass on Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> March

**9. WHEN DID YOU LAST VISIT THE REPOSITORY?** We now have a selection of Mother's Day, St Patrick and Easter cards in the shop together with the beautiful handmaid cards, the money from which, goes to the Parish Project in Kalingalinga.

**10. EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION**, [often known as Eucharistic Ministers]. New ministers are required within the parish for this very important ministry, and you are invited to speak to Father Liam about taking on this role. No previous experience is necessary as all training will be given

**11. A LENT DAY OF RECOLLECTION** will be held on Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> March at Our Lady Star of the Sea, East Preston from 10.00 am until 3.00 pm. Please bring your own lunch, tea and coffee will be provided. The Speaker is Fr Ian Graffy whose talks will be based on the Readings at the Easter Vigil. This is an excellent opportunity for our Ministers of Holy Communion as well as anyone who would like to attend. Please see posters in both porches for further information.

**12. 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

**13. TURNING TIDES: WINTER WARMER WISHLIST** - Warm/Compact Sleeping Bags, Pop Up Tents, Waterproof & Rain Resistant Jackets, Thermals, Flasks/Insulated Mugs, Joggers/Hoodies & T-Shirts, Gloves, Socks, Boxers (NEW), Head Torches, Shampoo, Body Wash, Body Wipes, Deodorant, Many thanks to those who are so generous in their donations throughout the year. It is much needed and appreciated

**Father Liam says: More and more is being revealed** about the way people lived in past centuries. Advances in technology have enabled archaeologists to open up for us entirely new insights into how things were in former times. Medieval London is a particularly rich area for study as so much material – written and architectural – comes to light. London became the country's capital when the Royal Court relocated from Winchester to Westminster in the 12<sup>th</sup> Century. It was where the rich and the impoverished lived cheek by jowl. The city's docks connected merchants, traders and craftspeople, with Guilds across Europe. By the 14<sup>th</sup> century the population was close to 80,000 with many people having migrated from other parts of the British Isles, France, the Baltic, Italy and Spain. City records and archaeological finds allow us to get closer to the people at the time of the Black Death and its aftermath.

Excavations that took place around 1987 near the Tower of London are being revisited. An ancient graveyard in East Smithfield was created to accommodate the victims of the Black Death, the plague that decimated Europe. London was particularly badly affected with up to 60 per cent of the people wiped out. The constant movement of people and goods ensured the spread of the bacteria. Although already present throughout Europe, it was rampant in London by Autumn of 1348 leading King Edward III to close all ports. For the next two years roughly 300 Londoners died every day in London. Two emergency graveyards were set up by the Church and Crown, one in West Smithfield and another in East Smithfield. The site in East Smithfield continued to be used for burial up to the 16<sup>th</sup> century but the Black Plague pit was only active for about two years, providing a very useful site for study. In the 1980's the area was scheduled for redevelopment so a huge excavation took place. About 20,000 square meters – about half of the overall size – was uncovered.

When the graves were opened it was clear that all the bodies had been treated with the same level of respect. They were laid out carefully in rows, some in wooden coffins, with many fully dressed and even buried with other valuables. In total the bones of 634 individuals were excavated. Forty-one skeletons from the East Smithfield burial ground are now being analysed. These tests are time consuming. The results reveal that many of the bones belong to people who had lived in places outside of London, including Wales, Devon, Cornwall and the Western Isles of Scotland. Seventy-one per cent of the skeletons were identified as white European while 29 per cent were classified as Asian, African or dual heritage. Of these four women and three men had black African ancestry, while others displayed diverse ancestry.

In the 2021 London Census around 60 per cent of the population is recorded as white with the remaining 40 per cent as Asian, Black mixed and other. This suggests that Medieval London had a similarly diverse range of people. The bones of many people buried in the East Smithfield cemetery show evidence of health issues caused by living in a densely populated urban environment. The people of London were affected negatively in comparison to the rural populations as a result of unsanitary living conditions and overcrowding.

The first half of the 14<sup>th</sup> century was a particularly difficult time for England. Famine and natural disasters affected much of Northern Europe and the Great Famine of 1315-22 had dramatic and long-lasting impacts. Most of the skeletons excavated at East Smithfield had damage to their joints. Spinal degeneration was common suggesting that they underwent regular physical exertion. It seems that people who lived in seemingly remote locations had contact with people from many hundreds of miles away. The Medieval period was not as parochial as we may think. Trade brought commodities along roads and waterways. People moved too on pilgrimages, which were a regular part of many peoples lives.

The Church in Medieval times was served by clergy who moved across countries and continents to places where they were required. The Archbishop of Canterbury in the 7<sup>th</sup> century was Theodore of Tarsus, who was Greek/Turkish. The Abbot of the hugely influential monastery in Canterbury was Hadrian, a north African Berber. The Church and the world have always been diverse as had England itself.