

PARISH OF THE ENGLISH MARTYRS Goring Way

27.07.2025

Father Liam O'Connor, 37 Compton Avenue,

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

Presbytery 01903 242624 / Church repository 01903 506890

Email: emgoring@english-martyrs.co.uk Website: www.english-martyrs.co.uk

Deacon Gary Bevans 01903 503514

Safeguarding Rep. Anne Niven 01903 242624

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

Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Saturday	26 th	6.00 pm	Thomas Murray RIP
Sunday	27 th	8.15 am	The Parish
		10.30 am	Jack Haugh RIP)
Monday	28 th	9.30 am	No Mass
Tuesday	29 th	9.30 am	No Mass
Wednesday	30 th	9.30 am	No Mass
Thursday	31 st	9.30 am	No Mass
Friday	1 st	9.30 am	No Mass
Saturday	2 nd	6.00 pm	The Parish
Sunday	3 rd	8.15 am	Markham & Smith Families RIP
		10.30 am	Valerie Halley RIP
		3.00 pm	Holy Hour & Benediction



SATURDAY: Reconciliation: 5.15 – 5.45 pm

TODAY'S READINGS: Genesis 18:20-32; St Paul to the Colossians 2:12-14; Luke 11:1-13

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS: Ecclesiastes 1:2, 2:21-23; St. Paul to Colossians 3:1-5, 9-11; Luke 12:13-21

COLLECTIONS: Church: £402 DONA: £ 73 Thank you for your generosity

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS: Alice Headon, Shona, Jonathan Waywell, Elaine C, 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, Camilla Jane, Michelle Diett, 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, 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: Elsie Peeney, Timothy Payne, Patrick Harty, Joan Hawkins, Constance Lilleyman, Janet Flynn, Bernard Flynn, Sheila Mander, Deacon Pat Moloney, Brenda Allen, Douglas Kirkby, Doris Smith, Roger Stubbs, Kathleen Winsall.

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. WELCOME BACK to Father John Inglis, who will be saying the Masses this weekend.

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

6. CELEBRATING THE GIFT OF GRANDPARENTS. Grandparents, and the elderly have, since the earliest days of the Old Testament, played a key role in the forming and shaping of the family, and in passing on the faith to future generations and also, building those special and unique family traditions; albeit more challenging as families become widespread across countries and nations in today's world. The Holy Father has chosen the theme of the Fifth World Day of Grandparents and the Elderly, to be held this year on Sunday 27 July: **"Blessed are those who have not lost hope"** (Sir 14:2). Capturing the lived life and faith experience and the learned wisdom of perspective. The aim is to remind us that through trust and faith in God, we can face the future with confidence. How can you show the grandparents of your parish, the blessing that they are for all?

7. MINISTERS ROTAS FOR AUGUST are available in the Sacristy.

8. THE ANNUAL DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES, led by Bishop Richard, will take place between 25th and 31st July. Please remember to keep all those on the Pilgrimage in your prayers as they will you.

9. THE REQUIEM MASS FOR TONY HEADON will take place on Thursday 14th August at 11.00 am

10. ROSARY FOR JUSTICE AND PEACE IN THE HOLY LAND will be prayed on the second Saturday of every month at 5.15pm. The next one is next Saturday, 9th August. Please put the future dates in your diary and make a special effort to come and pray for justice and peace.

11. 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

12. TURNING TIDES: SUMMER WISHLIST – Hot weather can be life threatening with nowhere to escape heat, rough sleepers are at high risk of suffering heat-related illnesses. Much needed donations include: **Tins:** ham & corned beef, fish, veggie meals, fruit, custard, rice pudding, baked beans, spaghetti hoops. **Drinks:** Coffee, Carton milk, Sugar, Carton juice - large and small, water. **Spreads:** sweet & savoury. **Quick Meals:** Pot Noodles, Mug Shots, Pasta-n-Sauce, instant noodles, microwave rice. **Easy Snacks:** crisps, cereal & snack bars. **Toiletries:** suncream, lip balm. Reusable/insulated water bottles. Single pop-up style tents, new sun hats. Many thanks to those who are so generous in their donations throughout the year. It is much needed and appreciated.

Father Liam says: At this time of year particularly, many people go on holiday and hopefully are able to celebrate Sunday Mass wherever they are. Throughout most of the world the Sunday Readings at Mass are the same everywhere – whatever the language. So are the prayers of the Mass. But that has not always been the case. It was only in the last five hundred years that this degree of uniformity came about. The Council of Trent took place after the Reformation. It was a very chaotic time and it was felt necessary to ensure that the celebration of the Mass was standardised throughout the world. So, from that time, the rubrics and readings and prayers of the Mass are pretty much the same wherever we are.

The Council of Trent issued for the first time a Missal and a Lectionary for the entire Church. Though it did not insist on the use of Latin in the Western Church, that is indeed what happened. For the previous fifteen hundred years there was a great flexibility about the celebration of the Mass. In the very early Church, the scripture readings were at the discretion of the local church. The Eucharistic Prayer was composed by the priest but as time went on local churches began to learn from one another, with guidance no doubt from the bishop.

The first three centuries of the Church were ages of persecution. The Church at this time is known as the 'Church of the Martyrs'. One of the fiercest persecutions was unleashed by the Emperor Diocletian in 303. Yet throughout this long period the Sunday Eucharist was celebrated and the people took part in spite of every obstacle. In the Acts of the Martyrs there is an account of how the Christians of North Africa bore witness to their faith. In the town of Abitina some fifty Christians were arrested at the conclusion of Sunday Mass. They had defied the orders of the emperor and so were brought to trial on what was a capital offence. Not one of them denied having taken part in Christian Worship or renounced their Christian faith. A Lay Reader, Emeritus, when questioned under torture asserted 'We cannot live without the Eucharist'. Another, Felix, affirmed 'As well can a Christian live without the Mass as can the Mass be celebrated without Christians'. The idea of obligation hardly occurred to these courageous Christians. For them, sharing in the Eucharist was a vital necessity. As yet there was no Church law obliging them to attend Mass on Sunday. They could simply not live without their Sunday Eucharist.

With the conversion of Constantine, the era of persecution came to an end. Sunday, the Lord's Day, could now be celebrated with proper solemnity. In 321 the emperor ordained that within his empire Sunday should be observed everywhere as a day of rest. With this new found freedom a certain laxity crept in – Christians all too easily began to take their religion for granted and began to be careless about Sunday Eucharist. But there began much development in the chant and ceremonial surrounding the celebration of the Eucharist. The emperor poured money into the building of magnificent basilicas and the beautiful church buildings testified to the importance placed on the Sunday Mass. Nevertheless, there was a notable decline in the people's participation in the liturgy. It became increasingly the domain of the clergy. From the eighth century even the more fervent of the faithful limited reception of the Sacrament to a few times a year.

A delightful reminder of how Christians of an earlier age actually received the Eucharist was the discovery of a large chalice and communion dish dating from the 8th or 9th century. They were unearthed in 1980 near the site of an ancient abbey in Co. Tipperary. They were probably hidden during the turbulent 10th and 12th centuries, when Viking raids were common. In all, five liturgical vessels were found. The communion dish or plate was 36 cms. in diameter. This indicates that they were still using a loaf and breaking it as part of the celebration of the Eucharist. The large plate indicates that the loaf could have been broken into about 100 pieces. The chalice – like the famous Ardagh chalice found nearby and dating from the same period – has handles for giving and accepting it with ease and without spillage. It could have held about one and a half litres of wine – which would easily suffice for a hundred communicants who would receive more than a token sip. The plate was most artistically assembled from over 300 separate components and made from beaten silver bordered by a ring of gold filigree panels. The chalice is also regarded as one of the most outstanding religious items of Irish art. All this indicates how highly the Eucharist was valued.

*May God Bless you,
Fr. Liam.*