

## PARISH OF THE ENGLISH MARTYRS Goring Way

17.08.2025

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](mailto:emgoring@english-martyrs.co.uk) Website: [www.english-martyrs.co.uk](http://www.english-martyrs.co.uk)

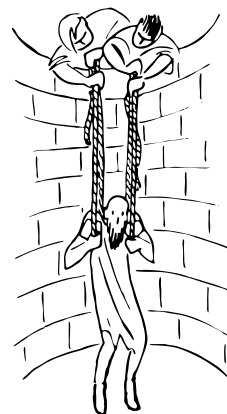
Deacon Gary Bevans 01903 503514

Safeguarding Rep. Anne Niven 01903 242624

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

## Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Saturday	16 <sup>th</sup>	6.00 pm	Lelia Murray RIP pm
Sunday	17 <sup>th</sup>	8.15 am	The Parish
		10.30 am	Walter & Catherine Drohan RIP
Monday	18 <sup>th</sup>	9.30 am	Holy Souls
Tuesday	19 <sup>th</sup>	9.30 am	Tony Headon RIP
Wednesday	20 <sup>th</sup>	9.30 am	Intention of Cecilia
Thursday	21 <sup>st</sup>	9.30 am	Stephen Puttick RIP
Friday	22 <sup>nd</sup>	9.30 am	Mary Cathryn O'Connor RIP
Saturday	23 <sup>rd</sup>	6.00 pm	John McCarthy RIP
Sunday	24 <sup>th</sup>	8.15 am	The Parish
		10.30 am	Roger Davis RIP



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

**TODAY'S READINGS:** Jeremiah 38:4-6, 8-10; Hebrews 12:1-4; Luke 12:49-53

**NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:** Isaiah 66:18-21; Hebrews 12:5-7, 11-13; Luke 13:22-30

**COLLECTIONS:** Church: £504 DONA: £123 Thank you for your generosity

**PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:** Patrick McGrath, 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, Peter Honiball, David Lancaster, 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, 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:** MIRILLE BYRNE and those whose anniversaries occur about now: Toal Gallagher, Ralph Murphy, Raymond Hamill, Gordon Kennedy, Margaret McDade, Patricia Tuttlebee, Mary Mills, George Furman, Beryl Hockmuth, Alan Beech, Anne Beagley, Babs O'Regan, Pauline Stocking, John Smith, Joan Jacobs, Richard Wood, Syd Colbran, Baby Grace Hudson, Anne McAlinden. *May they rest in peace and rise in glory.*

**3. IN MEMORIAM:** There will be a second collection on Sunday 7th September for Mary's Meals in memory of Tony Headon.

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

**5. 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?

**6. 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

**7. USED STAMPS FOR THE MISSIONS:** Many thanks to those collecting used stamps for St Patrick's Missionary Society, who collect them to raise money for their important work. Please remember a maximum of half an inch (1.4 cms) around the edge of the stamp.

**8. HOME-START ARUN, WORTHING & ADUR** Thank us for our support at Christmastime. This year they are celebrating 25 years of walking alongside local families and the work continues to grow in both scale and importance. According to a recent report over 18,000 children across Arun, Worthing and Adur are living in relative poverty after housing costs – that is 27% of children living on our doorstep. With more parents than ever facing challenges like poverty, postnatal depression, bereavement or isolation, your support helps give children the safe and loving start they deserve. They have just published their 2024/25 Impact Report -copies in the main porch - and it is full of real-life stories and hope that your generosity has helped to make possible. [www.home-startawa.org.uk](http://www.home-startawa.org.uk)

**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 Saturday, 13<sup>th</sup> September. 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:** sunscreen, 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: What is a Parish?** Canon Law – the law of the Catholic Church – says that ‘a parish is a certain community of the Christian faithful stably constituted in a particular church whose pastoral care is entrusted to a pastor under the authority of the diocesan bishop (515). Let us look at the first ten words telling us that ‘a parish is a certain community of the Christian faithful’. This helps us to understand how we are called to be right now, and how we are going to have to be into the future. We are a community – ‘a certain community’. We are the Catholic community in Goring. We are preparing to be part of a wider community – the new parish of Worthing. It tells us that our faith is not a private matter. Even though we are called to have a personal relationship with God, we are also called to have a personal relationship with others – ‘with the community of the Christian faithful’.

From the very beginning the followers of Jesus were first known as ‘followers of the Way’. We are called to band together with others to follow him. But our sense of community in all kinds of ways has been eroded. People live lives that are more isolated than in the past and as Christians we tend to see our faith as a private matter between God and us. But we are called to help each other to live out our faith. We are called to look out for one another. The word ‘church’ owes more in its meaning to ‘a gathering of people’ than it does to ‘a building’. The word church means a gathering, a coming together. We come together because Christ calls us to work together, to pray together, to grow together.

Does having three Sunday Masses help us to form a community? In the future we won’t have three weekend Masses. Perhaps in time there will be one weekend Mass. There is a sense in which unity is strength. In the first description of how Sunday Mass was celebrated St Justin, writing in the year 155 AD says: ‘on the day we call the day of the sun all who dwell in the city or country gather in the same place’. There was no multiplicity of Eucharistic celebrations. Even though people had to walk they all gathered in one place because they saw themselves as a community – the community of Christ, gathered to celebrate his presence with them and their willingness to support and strengthen one another. This they did in spite of fierce persecution. Justin was writing to the emperor to desist from persecuting them because they were no threat to him. But he, like so many others, were martyred for their faithful fidelity to the Eucharist. It is good to look to the past and learn lessons from it. There are many things there that we should learn to treasure and emulate. There are also indications for us to find new ways forward. Someone said that the past is a good place of reference and a terrible place of residence. St Oscar Romero has this to say: ‘It is good now and then to stand back from things and to look at them in perspective. Our endeavours will not achieve the Kingdom of God. That is way beyond even the horizon of our sight. In our lifetime we bring to completion only a tiny fraction of the colossal enterprise. That will reveal the fulness of God’s creation. No statement expresses all that can be said. No creed exhausts the depths of our faith. No evangelization unites all minds and hearts. No programme completes the Church’s mission. No setting of goals includes all and everything. That is our situation, our limitation. We plant the grain of seed that one day will burst open and grow. We water the buds that have already sprouted, knowing much more is promised. It is a liberating experience when we become aware of this. It makes us capable of doing good and doing it very well. It may be imperfect but it is a start, a step on the way. An opening for God’s grace to intervene and do the rest. We cannot do everything ourselves. We may never be able to see the final result. But that is the difference between the architect and the labourer. We are labourers, not architects. We are prophets of a future that does not belong to us alone’.