

PARISH OF THE ENGLISH MARTYRS Goring Way

14.09.2025

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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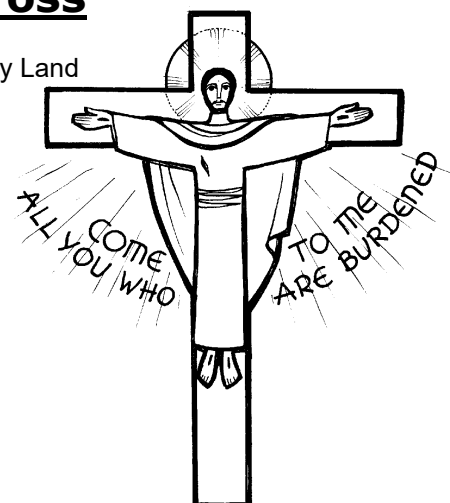
Deacon Gary Bevans 01903 503514

Safeguarding Rep. Anne Niven 01903 242624

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

Exaltation of the Holy Cross

Saturday	13 th	5.15 pm	Rosary for Justice & Peace in Gaza & the Holy Land
		6.00 pm	Helen Fernandes RIP
Sunday	14 th	8.15 am	The Parish
		10.30 am	Catherine Turner RIP
Monday	15 th	9.30 am	Sean Fanning RIP
Tuesday	16 th	9.30 am	Jim Simpson RIP
		7.00 pm	Choir Practice
Wednesday	17 th	9.30 am	Holy Souls
Thursday	18 th	9.30 am	Thanksgiving (Y. Allen)
Friday	19 th	9.30 am	Bernard Bandy RIP
		12.15 pm	REQUIEM FOR EMILY DOVE RIP
Saturday	20 th	6.00 pm	Martin Evans RIP
Sunday	21 st	8.15 am	The Parish
		10.30 am	Michael Shoer RIP



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

TODAY'S READINGS: Numbers 21:4-9; St Paul to the Philippians 2:6-11; John 3:13-17

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS: Amos 8:4-7; 1 Timothy 2:1-8; Luke 16:1-13

COLLECTIONS: Church: £506 DONA: £77 Mary's Meals: £1,174 Thank you for your generosity
Next weekend there will be a Second Collection for Evangelii Gaudium Sunday (Home Mission Sunday)

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS: Laura Pegg, Olivia (was Bengston-Gear) & family, Marie Davidson Patrick McGrath, Alice Heaton, 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: EMILY DOVE and those whose anniversaries occur about now: Philip Shave, Kathleen Foley, Richard Barnard, Catherine Mansfield, William Hebdige, Anthony Woodman, Hilda Smith, Alan Soper, Bernard Bleach, Kevin Shiel, James Doyle, Neil Halley, Roy Parker, Stanley Wakeling, Baby George Birks, Kenneth Munro, John Tuohy. *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. PARISHIONERS TRAVELLING TO THE FESTIVAL OF HOPE please meet the coach in English Martyrs Car Park at 8.20 am next Saturday 20th September. Don't forget your packed lunch!

5. CAFOD HARVEST SUPPER will take place on Saturday 27th September following the 6.00 pm Mass. The food will be delicious and there will be a raffle. Prizes would be welcome. Tickets will be on sale after all Masses **this** weekend. Adults £10.00, Children £5.00. For further information please contact Teresa 01903 529260.

6. KSC RACE NIGHT FOR PRO LIFE CHARITIES will take place on 11th October at St Oscar Romero School at 7pm. Across the UK, the Knights of St Columba will be raising funds for Pro Life charities from 2024 to 2026. These charities advocate a life ethic that values all human beings, defending life from the moment of conception. Please contact David for tickets on 07790480356 or david.wyndavies@yahoo.co.uk;

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

8. A DAY OF REFLECTION FOR MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARIST will take place on Saturday 1st November from 11am until 4pm at Christ the Prince of Peace, Weybridge. The day will be led by Bishop Richard and will include theological and practical talks, Eucharistic Adoration and Mass. Arrival from 10.30am for refreshments. Please bring a packed lunch. Parking is available in the church car park but we suggest that you car share, if at all possible. To book a place follow this link [Day of Reflection for Ministers of the Eucharist \(01-Nov-2025\) · ChurchSuite Events](#) or book through the events page on the Diocesan website.

9. 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

10. TURNING TIDES: – TIME FOR THE HARVEST WISHLIST, which helps fill the cupboards ready for the months ahead. Please see notices and leaflets in both porches. Many thanks to those who are so generous in their donations throughout the year. It is much needed and appreciated

Father Liam says: The situation in Gaza is intolerable. For almost two years the 2.3 million Palestinian inhabitants have been subject to continuous bombing. Most of the houses have been badly damaged. A large proportion are totally uninhabitable and the population – the majority of whom are women and children – have suffered an enormous loss of life and devastating injuries. It is thought that at least 377,000 Palestinians have disappeared since October 2023 – most of them believed to be buried under rubble.

In commenting on the situation in Gaza it is important to unequivocally condemn the attack on the Israeli community carried out by Hamas on 7th October 2023. Approximately 1,200 people were killed that day, 800 of whom were civilians and including many children. Many hostages were also taken. These attacks must be denounced in the strongest terms and Israel's right to self-defense must be acknowledged. But these atrocities do not grant Israel license to do whatever it wants nor does it exempt the Israeli government from scrutiny.

The unrelenting carpet bombing of Gaza has made life almost impossible for Palestinians and has made the whole area uninhabitable. The Israeli Defence Force (IDF) have also demolished key buildings – hospitals, bakeries, schools, water stations and sewage facilities. The result has been to create a wasteland, forcibly removing the indigenous population, paving the way for Israeli settlers to move in. To date an estimated 1,600 medical staff have been killed in Gaza. Many others have been taken prisoner by the IDF. The World Health Organization, Médecins Sans Frontiers, Human Rights Watch and other leading organisations have expressed grave concern for the wellbeing of doctors imprisoned in Israel. On 7th August Benjamin Netanyahu, the Israeli Prime Minister announced a plan to militarily take over all of Gaza. The United States has not condemned the announcement of a take over of the Gaza Strip.

More and more reports are emerging of killings by Israeli soldiers at food distribution sites. There are four sites operated by the Gaza Humanitarian Foundation, which works in coordination with the Israeli military. Roughly 900 Palestinians have been killed while attempting to obtain aid at these sites since they were set up at the end of May this year, replacing the system that had been operated by the United Nations. The Israeli government is widely accused of using the starvation of civilians as a weapon of war. The continued intentional deprivation of food, aid and basic services is widely judged to amount to a crime against humanity.

The IDF has killed more journalists in Gaza since October 2023 than have died in the First and Second World Wars, the Wars in Vietnam, Cambodia and Laos, the Yugoslav Wars and the War in Afghanistan and the Ukrainian War combined. Despite the insistence of the Israeli government that there are no food shortages and that there is no mistreatment or starvation of civilians, it refuses to allow outside journalists into Gaza to report on events inside the strip. However, the catastrophic events in Gaza are being acknowledged by many within Israel and among the wider Jewish diaspora. A number of Israeli human rights groups have concluded that the way the war is conducted constitutes genocide.

The world is witnessing violence towards unarmed civilians on a grotesque scale in Gaza. Criticism of how the Israeli government and the IDF operate should not be branded Pro-Hamas, or antisemitic. Defending the Rights of innocent Palestinians does not make someone a terrorist or a supporter of Hamas. But accusations of antisemitism are used to stifle informed, factual discussion of the realities in Gaza. The compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church states that "something of the glory of God shines on the face of every person. The dignity of every person before God is the basis of the dignity of every human being. 'God shows no partiality'. (Act10:34, cf Rom 2:11, Eph6:9) Every human person possesses an infinite dignity, inalienably grounded in his or her very being. This principle, which is fully recognizable even by reason alone, underlies the primacy of the human person and the protection of human rights."

Pope Leo, like Pope Francis, has appealed for an end to the violence in Gaza and for the release of all Israeli hostages. On 28th May he said: 'In the Gaza strip, the cry of mothers, of fathers, who clutch the lifeless bodies of children and who are continually forced to move in search of little food and safer shelter from bombing, rises ever more intently to the sky. I renew my appeal to the leaders: ceasefire, release all hostages, fully respect humanitarian law'. He condemned 'collective punishment, indiscriminate use of force and forced displacement of the population of Gaza'.

Christians have a responsibility to speak out. The Son of God became man and lived in Palestine. He spoke Aramaic, was exiled and forced to flee violence. Silence and indifference in the face of these events is a moral failure.