

PARISH OF THE ENGLISH MARTYRS Goring Way

2.11.2025

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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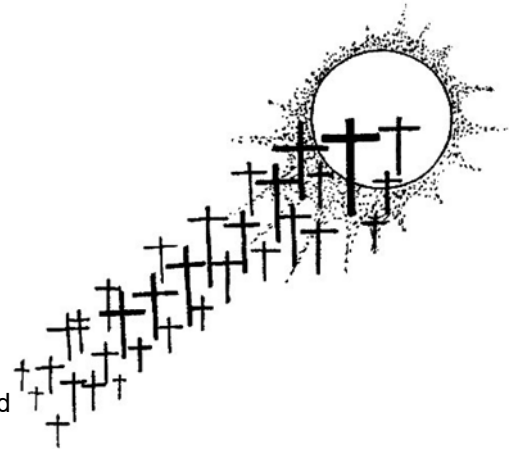
Deacon Gary Bevans 01903 503514

Safeguarding Rep. Anne Niven 01903 242624

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

All Saints

Saturday	1 st	6.00 pm	Paula, Fergus & Baby Maddy McMahon
Sunday	2 nd	8.15 am	The Parish
		10.30 am	Intention of Teresa Boyle
		3.00 pm	Holy Hour and Benediction
All Souls	3 rd	9.30 am	Holy Souls
Tuesday	4 th	9.30 am	Norma Markham RIP
		7.00 pm	Choir Practice
Wednesday	5 th	9.30 am	Kit Sullivan RIP
Thursday	6 th	9.30 am	NO MASS
Friday	7 th	9.30 am	Holy Souls
Saturday	8 th	5.15 pm	Rosary for Justice & Peace in the Holy Land
		6.00 pm	Deceased Relatives of Gina Marshall
Sunday	9 th	8.15 am	The Parish
		10.30 am	Liz Harvey RIP



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

TODAY'S READINGS: Revelation 7:2-4,9-14; 1John 3:1-3; Matthew 5:1-12

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS: Ezekiel 47:1-2,8-9,12; 1 Corinthians 3:9-11,16-12; John 2:13-22

COLLECTIONS: Church: £523 DONA: £15.00

Thank you for your generosity

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS: Laura Pegg, Olivia (was Bengston-Gear) & family, Marie Davidson 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: PATRICK McGRATH and those whose anniversaries occur about now: Mary Furman, Harold Thirkettle, Olive Oliver, Vincent Rasdale, Brian Hurst, Liz Harvey, Reginald Patten, Elizabeth Holding, Benjamin Dixon-Smith, Margaret Hanson, Leslie Lee, Brian Dunne, Francis Fisher. May they rest in peace and rise in glory.

3. 'JOURNEY OF FAITH' will be starting on Thursday 16th October exploring our Catholic Faith. The Course is aimed at those who are seeking to join the Catholic Church and any who are curious as to the why's and when of our faith. Contact Dermot on 07999 488326 or email dermot36@gmail.com

4. CONFIRMATION 2025/26: If you are in Year 9 or above and considering being Confirmed next year you are invited to join our preparation programme that will be starting soon. Please collect an application forms from the Sacristy and return to the Parish Office as soon as possible.

5. FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2026: Is your son or daughter in Year 3 this term? If so, they are at the age where they can start the preparation course for First Holy Communion. Please collect an application pack from the Sacristy and return it to the Parish Office by 19th December. The first meeting for parents will be on Friday 2nd January at 7.30pm in The Good Shepherd Chapel and the first lesson for the children will be on Tuesday 6th January from 4.30 – 5.30 pm. First Holy Communion will be on Sunday 7th June (Corpus Christi).

6. NOVEMBER – IS THE MONTH FOR HOLY SOULS: The usual 'November envelopes' are available in both porches for those wishing to remember their loved ones at the Altar. Any donations will go towards offering Masses for the Holy Souls. Please fill in and hand in to the Sacristy.

7. HEARTFELT THANKS to all our volunteers who helped to open up our church to visitors this year. Teresa wishes you all a peaceful Christmas and blessed New Year. Thank-you party – Thursday 6th November at 2.00 pm in the Barn.

8. 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, 8th November.

9. THE ANNUAL CONCELEBRATED REQUIEM MASS for the deceased members of the Deanery Clergy will be held on Thursday 13th November at 7.00 pm at St Mary of the Angels. You are invited to make every effort to come to this very important annual occasion to remember in prayer the clergy, now deceased, who once served in our Parishes.

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

11. OUR PARISH PRAYER GROUP currently meets on the 1st and 3rd Thursdays of the month at 7.30 pm in the Good Shepherd Chapel. There is praise and worship, scripture, intercessory prayer and much more. Our next meeting will be at 7.30 pm on **Thursday 6th November**. All are welcome so please come and join us. Any queries to Andy & Sandy (241236).

12. 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

13. TURNING TIDES: URGENT! 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: In the Apostles Creed we say 'I believe in the communion of Saints'. By that we mean that there is a community of fellowship between all the family of God. The family of God is made up of those on earth and those in heaven and those who have died and have not yet entered heaven. All these people are united in their love of God and in their love for one another. And it is Christ who unites us. Our unity finds its greatest expression in the celebration of the Eucharist. We all join with Christ in offering praise and glory to the Father and in strengthening the bonds of love between all the members of his family. All God's children are destined to be gathered around him in the glory of heaven that Christ has won for us by his death and resurrection. We who are still on this earth have been described as a Pilgrim People. We are still on a pilgrimage to our Father's house. This is our joint enterprise and we are meant to help and support one another on our joint journey. Christ is our great companion on our journey.

Because the Son of God became one of us and lived among us he knows our difficulties and he constantly helps and heals us and encourages us to raise our minds and hearts to God as we travel and to reach out to one another. We are constantly helped also by those who have completed the journey before us. They are our allies and are actively involved in our enterprise. St Paul likes to compare them to those gathered in a giant stadium. We are those taking part in the struggles of this life and we are being cheered on and supported by those who have completed their life's task.

But we believe that not all who have departed this life go straight to heaven. We don't start becoming saints the day we die. It is a lifelong objective. The word 'Saint' comes from the Latin 'Sanctus' meaning holy. To enter into the presence of the all-holy God may entail some final preparations. We may not be quite ready for it. We may need to wipe our feet before we take the ultimate step. Some people might be ready to go right in but we are not all so well prepared. The Church teaches us that there is a process whereby we are comfortable to start this new form of existence. It is called Purgatory, which simply means a final purification – a getting ready. The Church does not tell us anything more about it. That is all the Church knows and it is enough for us. But it does tell us that we are not on our own. We are surrounded by friends to help us. The communion of saints means that we are helped in our purgatory by the prayers of those on earth and by the prayers of those in heaven. There are no forgotten ones in purgatory.

The word 'purgatory' is not found in the bible. Neither is the word 'bible' but the bible has something to say about it. Praying for the dead is something we are encouraged to do in the Second Book of Maccabees, part of the scriptures that Christ used and that we hold to be the Word of God. It speaks of how the great Jewish hero Judas Maccabeus and his comrades reacted when they discovered that some of their fallen soldiers had objects dedicated to idols, on their persons. 'They gave themselves to prayer, begging that the sin committed might be completely forgiven'. Judas arranged that in the Temple in Jerusalem 'a sacrifice for sin should be offered, an action altogether fine and noble prompted by his belief in the Resurrection. For had he not expected the fallen to rise again it would have been superfluous and foolish to pray for the dead, whereas if he had in view the splendid recompense reserved for those who make a pious end, the thought was holy and devout. Therefore, he made atonement for the dead that they might be delivered from their sin. (12:43-46)

