

PARISH OF THE ENGLISH MARTYRS Goring Way

22.02.2026

Father Liam O'Connor, 37 Compton Avenue,

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

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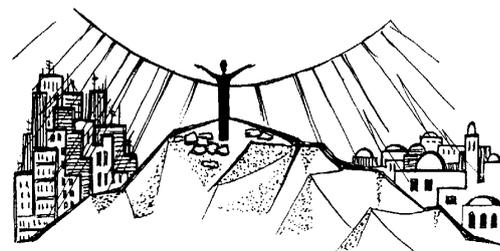
Deacon Gary Bevans 01903 503514

Safeguarding Rep. Anne Niven 01903 242624

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

First Sunday of Lent

Saturday	21 st	6.00 pm	Helen Gillespie RIP
Sunday	22 nd	8.15 am	The Parish
		10.30 am	Richard Armitage RIP
		3.00 pm	Holy Hour & Benediction
Monday	23 rd	9.30 am	Holy Souls
Tuesday	24 th	9.30 am	Intention of the Butler Family
		7.00 pm	Choir Practice
Wednesday	25 th	9.30 am	Nora McGinn RIP
Thursday	26 th	9.30 am	Helen Gillespie RIP
Friday	27 th	9.30 am	The intention of Eric Gallagher and James Christmas
		10.00 am	Stations of the Cross
Saturday	28 th	6.00 pm	The Parish
Sunday	29 th	8.15 am	Anthony Iago RIP
		10.30 am	Kitty Griffin RIP
		3.00 pm	Holy Hours and Benediction



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

TODAY'S READINGS: Genesis 2:7-9, 3:1-7; Romans 5:12-19; Matthew 4:1-11

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS: Genesis 12:1-4; 2 Timothy 1:8-10; Matthew 17:1-9

COLLECTIONS: Church: £526

Thank you for your generosity

Friday is CAFOD Lent Fast Day and next weekend there will be a Special Collection for CAFOD Lent Fast Day. Special Gift Aid Envelopes are available in both porches

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS: Bernard Markham, Ruth Waywell, John, Christopher Williams, Laura Pegg, Olivia (was Bengston-Gear) & family, Marie Davidson, 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, David Lancaster, Camilla Jane, Michelle Dieltz, Harold Forrest, Maria Brooks, Tony & Kathleen Kearney, Lola Samengo-Meehan, Maureen House, Joan Wand, Samuel Bezants, Glenn, Helena & Vittorio Villa, Lena, Sienna Coates, 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, Ernest Hare, Cyril Woodgar, George Welch, Mark Zenkteler.

2. THOSE WHO HAVE DIED RECENTLY: PHILIP LUCAS and those whose anniversaries occur about now: Timothy Babington, Francis McHugh, Leonard Bainbridge, Marion Gapp, Kathleen Geal, June Jakes, Kathleen Brennan, Joseph Shepherd, Noreen Sumner, Sheila Szymuda, Eileen Fusciardi, Ron Watson, Mary Jackson, Cecelia Boakes, Mary Hancy, Ted Leach, Emilio Santangelo, Marion Kurkowski. *May they rest in peace and rise in glory.*

3. THE LENTEN ALMS BOX is in the front porch next to the main door. The proceeds are sent to the Contemplative Orders of Women in the Diocese.

4. ST. VALENTINE'S EVENING CANDLELIT DINNER was a great success and our thanks go to all who worked so hard to make this so. £905 was raised for the Parish Project.



5. CAFOD Lent Appeal – Family Fast Day collection: This Lent, live out the Gospel call to love your neighbour. By fasting and giving what you save, you join in Christ's compassion and help another family put food on the table. Your donation can help families around the world grow food in difficult conditions – such as on flood-resistant floating gardens or using solar-powered water pumps in times of drought. Collect a CAFOD envelope to bless others with your support, donate online at cafod.org.uk/envelope or call 0303 303 3030. Text CAFODLENT to 70085 to donate £10.

6. AN APPEAL FROM ONE OF OUR ORGANISTS: Dee has an aunt in the Philippines who is suffering from cancer. Money is needed for her treatment and Dee has created a crowd-funding page. If you are able to help the address is: https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/dee-hockett?utm_medium=CF&utm_source=CL

7. A VISITATION FROM THE WORLD APOSTOLATE OF FATIMA FOR ENGLAND & WALES will take place at St Peter's Church, Shoreham-by-Sea, BN43 5WG on Saturday 7th March 2026 from 09.45 until 16.45 with the National Pilgrim Virgin Statue of Our Lady of Fatima, along with relics of Saints Jacinta and Francisco. The day includes a procession and mass, prayer, veneration of relics, adoration and video presentation. There will be items for sale, and you are welcome to all or part of the day. (Tea/coffee available; please bring a packed lunch) Email: adurvalley@abdiocese.org.uk for more information or visit the website here: <https://www.worldfatima-englandwales.org.uk/the-first-five-saturdays-devotion-explained>

8. GRANDPARENTS' FORMATION DAY: Thursday 23 April 10-4pm at St John the Evangelist parish hall, Horsham Join us for what promises to be a wonderful, engaging and affirming day with guest speaker, David Wells. You will be able to listen to the inspirational experience of David Wells as evangelist, father and grandfather. A chance to meet with people from across the grandparent network of the diocese and those who are keen to bring the faith to the next generation. For more details on David's powerful, fun and engaging talks on our faith you might like to visit his website W: davidwellslive.com To register, go to the Events page of the Diocesan website W: www.abdiocese.org.uk/diocese/events If you have any questions about the day please contact Deacon Simon South, Diocesan Marriage & Family Life Adviser E: simon.south@abdiocese.org.uk

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: URGENT! THE WINTER WISHLIST: Waterproof & Water Repellent Jackets, Thermals T-shirts M/L Hoodies, Fleece, Sweatshirts, M/L Tracksuit Bottoms, M/L NEW Gloves, Socks, Winter Hats, NEW Women's Pants S/M, NEW Men's Boxers S/M. Also Shampoo, Body Wash, Body Wipes, Deodorant, Toothbrush, Toothpaste, Razors & Shaving gel. Many thanks to those who are so generous in their donations throughout the year. It is much appreciated.

Father Liam says: Apart from our Blessed Lord, there are only two people in the New Testament who are described as 'good'. They are an unexpected couple, Joseph of Arimathea and Barnabas. St Luke says of both of them, that they were good men. The reference to Joseph is in the gospel and he speaks of Barnabas in the sequel to his gospel – Acts of the Apostles.

In each case we are given the impression that here was a brave man who came forward and did what was needed to be done. No one else was prepared to do it and what a loss it would be if it was not done. We might be able to learn from the example of Joseph and Barnabas as we begin the Season of Lent. We could learn from them to be alert to what is happening about us and respond generously and promptly.

Joseph of Arimathea comes quite suddenly on the scene on Good Friday. This is the only mention he gets in the scriptures. He is not venerated as a saint – there is no feast day in his honour and there are no particular devotions to him. What he did took tremendous courage and faith and yet, after the events of Good Friday, there is no further mention of him. He approached Pontius Pilate when Jesus was crucified and asked permission to look after the dead body of Jesus. Amazingly Pilate agreed. Joseph was an influential person Luke tells us, 'he was a member of the 'Council'. He had not consented to what the others had planned and carried out. He came from Arimathea, a Jewish town and he lived in the hope of seeing the Kingdom of God'.

Luke tells us that he took the body of Jesus 'wrapped it in a shroud and put it in a tomb which was hewn in stone and which had never held a body'. Everything had to be done in haste as the Sabbath – the Passover Sabbath – was about to begin at sundown. John tells us that the grave was in a garden near the place where Jesus was crucified. If Joseph didn't do what he did, what would have happened to the body of Jesus? We know that it was the lot of crucified criminals to be buried in a common grave with other convicts – as the two thieves crucified with Jesus had been. We can't imagine how that would have changed the whole Easter event. And what courage Joseph showed in opposing his fellow members of the Jewish Council. Yet Joseph has attracted comparatively little attention. Luke gives us the epitaph 'A good and upright man'.

We know a great deal more about Barnabas. He was a native of Cyprus, who features strongly in the life of the infant Church. He was active in welcoming Gentiles into the Church. He recruited the services of Paul to assist in the task. But many of the leaders of the Church did not trust Paul. He had been a persecutor of the Christians and was involved in the murder of the first martyr, St Stephen. Some of the Apostles kept their distance from Paul. Many Christians may have regarded him as a spy rather than a genuine Christian. But Barnabas defended Paul and convinced his colleagues that Paul was a true Apostle. Paul and Barnabas took part together in the great missionary journeys. Luke was also with them, which is why Paul and Barnabas feature so strongly in the Acts of the Apostles, written by Luke. Barnabas was 'a good man' Luke tells us and how he influenced the growth of the early Church. He ensured that Paul was brought out of the shadows and was such a force in the life of the infant Church. He continues through his letters to build up the Body of Christ.

Could we perhaps imitate Barnabas and take note of people left out in the cold and do something about it. And have we the courage of Joseph in rising promptly to the occasion and do the noble deed despite the consequences.