

PARISH OF THE ENGLISH MARTYRS Goring Way

15.03.2026

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

Fourth Sunday of Lent

Saturday	14 th	5.15 pm	Rosary for Justice & Peace in the Holy Land
		6.00 pm	Patrick McGrath RIP
Sunday	15 th	8.15 am	Intention of Bert Brinnard
		10.30 am	Mary Haugh RIP
		3.00 pm	Holy Hour & Benediction
Monday	16 th	9.30 am	The Parish
Tuesday	17 th	9.30 am	Kathy Haydon RIP
		7.00 pm	Choir Practice
Wednesday	18 th	9.30 am	Kevin Haydon RIP
Thursday	19 th	9.30 am	Holy Souls
Friday	20 th	9.30 am	Intention of Lesley & Laura Pegg
		10.00 am	Stations of the Cross
Saturday	21 st	6.00 pm	Yvonne Short RIP
Sunday	22 nd	8.15 am	Deceased Members of the Newman Family
		10.30 am	The Parish
		3.00 pm	Holy Hour and Benediction



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

TODAY'S READINGS: 1Samuel 16:1, 6-7, 10-13; Ephesians 5:8-14; John 9:1,6-9,13-17,34-38

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS: Ezekiel 37:12-14; Romans 8:8-11; John 11:1-45

COLLECTIONS: Church: £533 DONA: £90.00 Thank you for your generosity

Next weekend there will be a Second Collection for Flowers for our Church - Please see Note 6

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS: Derek LeMahieu, 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 Diett, 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 and those whose anniversaries occur about now: Frances Money, Elizabeth Hastie, Anthony Canneaux, Kathleen Kearney, Fred Melling, Peggy Dale, Maria Jones, Kate Rowe, Michael Conway, Joyce Whaling, Marjorie Leach, Stanley Hanson, Jenny Begley, Michael Hancox, Breda Gibson, Anna Kelledy, Mary Wilds, Darryl Cox, Gerry Potter. *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. THE LENT SERVICE OF RECONCILIATION will take place here on Thursday 26th March at 7.00pm. If you will be unable to come there are posters in the porches with details of services being held elsewhere in the Deanery. There will be a choice of confessors.

5. PRAYER PARTNERS are sought for our First Holy Communion children. Please sign against the symbol for the child of your choice on the poster on the wall at the side of the Church. We pray for these children who are preparing to receive their First Holy Communion on Sunday 7th June.

6. FLOWERS FOR OUR CHURCH: Our church is somewhat subdued during Lent and I am sure we all miss the beauty of the fresh flower arrangements that are there throughout the rest of the year. As with most things, the price of flowers is also rising and you are asked to be generous next week when we have a Second Collection for church flowers.

7. ST. PATRICK'S NIGHT 'HOOLEY' in aid of our Parish Project. All tickets are now sold.

8. DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:

Saturday 21st March – St Patrick's Night 'Hooley' – 7.00 pm
Thursday 26th March – Lent Service of Reconciliation – 7.00 pm
Thursday 2nd April - Mass of the Lord's Supper – 8.00 pm
Friday 3rd April - Solemn Liturgy of the Lord's Passion – 3.00 pm
Saturday 4th April - The Solemn Vigil of Easter – 8.00 pm
Sunday 5th April - Easter Sunday – Mass at 8.15 and 10.30 am



9. WHEN DID YOU LAST VISIT THE REPOSITORY? We now have a selection of Mother's Day, St Patrick and Easter cards in the shop together with the beautiful handmaid cards, the money from which, goes to the Parish Project in Kalingalinga.

10. CONGRATULATIONS TO JAMES WINTON for winning the John Ireland Prize competition and a prize of £500. This competition was a mixture of singers, pianists and an organist. James was the last person to perform, and the accompanist, didn't play the pieces in the right order. Despite not knowing which piece was going to be played next he not only took it in his stride he also won the competition. Well done James.

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: THE SPRING WISH LIST: Pot Noodles, Packet Ready Meals, Instant Super Noodles, Tinned Meat - Ham & Corned Beef, Tinned Ready Meals - Meat & Vegetarian, Tinned Fish & Tuna Fray Bentos Pies, Long Life Milk, Alternative Milk, Cooking Oil, Cartons of Juice, Bottled Water, Sugar, Instant Coffee, Ketchup, Brown Sauce, Chocolate Spread, Cereal Bars, Shaving Foams, Razors, Hair Brushes, Feminine Hygiene Products, Sun creams, Toilet Rolls, Lip Balms. Many thanks to those who are so generous in their donations throughout the year. It is much appreciated.

Father Liam says: Apart from Jesus, only one other person appears in the gospel reading every day in Holy Week until Good Friday. That person is Judas Iscariot. We have the clash of opposites, of good and evil, of love and selfishness.

On the Wednesday of Holy Week, Jesus is anointed with precious ointment for the burial. He knows and accepts that he is about to die. John tells us that Lazarus, Martha and Mary were among those gathered for a dinner in honour of Jesus. Mary anointed the feet of Jesus with very costly ointment. 'The house was filled with the scent of the ointment'. (12:3). Judas objects. His pretended concern for the poor: ('Why was not this perfume not sold for three hundred denarii and the money given to the poor') is pure hypocrisy. John tells us that Judas was in charge of the common purse – and helped himself from it.

Judas has a more fundamental reason for his rejection of what Jesus is doing. He has no use for a leader who is going to be put to death. For Judas this is not acceptable. What can be safely salvaged from this looming disaster? Perhaps Judas betrayed Jesus because in his view Jesus had already betrayed himself by voluntarily accepting failure and defeat.

Judas is not the only one who disapproved of what Jesus was doing. 'Jesus came to Simon Peter who said to him: 'Lord, are you going to wash my feet?' Jesus answered: 'You do not know what I am doing but later you will understand.' Peter said: 'you will never wash my feet'. (John 13:6-8) We admire Peter's humility. Who was he that Jesus should wash his feet? Washing people's feet was what slaves did. This made Simon Peter indignant. This wasn't the kind of messiah he wanted Jesus to be.

As the time of Jesus' passion and death draws near, a major disagreement between Jesus and even his closest disciples is arising. There is no sign here that Jesus is grateful for Peter's angry loyalty. He does not thank him or compliment him. On the contrary Jesus confronts Peter with a stark choice. 'Unless I wash you, you have no share with me'. Faced with that ultimatum, Peter submits – for the moment.

The incomprehension of the disciples about who Jesus really is and what course he has taken has persisted over the whole time that they had followed him. While they had learned so much from him their minds and hearts were still on a very different level. Most of the disciples wanted a political Messiah who would drive out the Romans and restore the fortunes of their people. They wanted to call down fire and brimstone on those who did not welcome them. Even on the final journey to Jerusalem, they are still arguing about which of them was the greatest – who would have the greatest influence in the new dispensation that they expected Jesus to bring about. Perhaps Judas is not the only one who thinks the precious ointment is being wasted.

On that journey to Jerusalem as Jesus was reinforcing the message that he was to undergo great suffering and be killed – and on the third day be raised – Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying: 'This must never happen to you'. (Matthew 16:21-22) What separates Peter's attitude from that of Judas? Both feel that Jesus is embarking on a way that is foolish and wrong. Matthew goes on to tell us the harshness of Jesus reply to Peter: 'Get behind me Satan! You are a stumbling block to me, for you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things'. (16:23) Peter renewed his efforts to set his mind on divine things. Judas gave up.

Perhaps our great challenge, not only during Lent but throughout our lives, is that of setting our minds not on human things but on divine things.