

PARISH OF THE ENGLISH MARTYRS Goring Way

5.04.2026

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 Website: 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

Easter Sunday

Saturday	4 th	8.00 pm	The Parish
Sunday	5 th	8.15 am	Mike Chatfield RIP
		10.30 am	Eugene Labon RIP
Monday	6 th	9.30 am	NO MASS
Tuesday	7 th	9.30 am	John Mannion (sick)
Wednesday	8 th	9.30am	Helena Cebo RIP
Thursday	9 th	9.30 am	Muriel Burns RIP
Friday	10 th	9.30 am	Intention of Brian Smith
Saturday	11 th	5.15 pm	Rosary for Justice & Peace in the Holy Land
		6.00 pm	Mireille Byrne RIP
Sunday	12 th	8.15 am	The Parish
		10.30 am	Intention of Derek Le Mahieu



SATURDAY: Reconciliation: 10.15 -10.45 am and 5.15 - 5:45 pm

TODAY'S READINGS: Acts 10:34, 37-43; Colossians 3:1-4; John 20: 1-9

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS: Acts 4:42-47; 1 Peter 1:3-9; John 20:19-31

COLLECTIONS: Church: £552 DONA: £145 Thank you for your generosity

THE COLLECTIONS AT THE EASTER VIGIL AND EASTER SUNDAY MASSES ARE YOUR PERSONAL GIFTS TO FATHER LIAM (GIFT AIDED)

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS: Derek LeMahieu, Ruth Waywell, John, Christopher Williams, Laura Pegg, 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 Dielt, 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, 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: Edith Gibbs, Kathleen Keohane, Frank Shave, Mary Mawe, Kathleen Cregan, Laura, Ray McGuinness, James Morrell, Father Stephen Tynan, Helena Cebo, Muriel Burns, Michael O'Brien, Sabina Concannon, Mary Rains, Joan Gibbs.
May they rest in peace and rise in glory.

3. YOUR OFFERINGS AT THE EASTER MASSES are your personal gift to Father Liam. (Gift Aid applies) If you are not Gift Aiding, special Easter Offering envelopes are in the Porch. If you will be away for Easter you might like to use these envelopes to make your gift either beforehand or afterwards.

4. LIFE IN THE SPIRIT SEMINAR: 14th April – 2nd June at St Joseph's Catholic Church, Redhill (and online). You are warmly invited to take part in an upcoming *Life in the Spirit Seminar* in support of the Diocesan Pastoral Plan, taking place in Redhill starting 14th April 2026. This journey over 7 sessions is an opportunity to deepen your relationship with Jesus and to experience anew the abundant power of His Holy Spirit. Each session includes inspiring teaching from excellent speakers, personal testimonies, small-group sharing and prayer. The seminar series is free to attend, and all are welcome—whether you are attending online from home, in a local Parish hub or in-person at St Joseph's Catholic Church in Redhill. Please register to take part at www.abcharismatic.org. Please see posters in both porches.

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. PLEASE COLLECT YOUR GIFT AID LETTER: If you Gift Aid your contributions to the church please collect a letter to advise you of the amount of income tax refunded to the Diocese/Parish from your contributions over the past financial year. **To save postage these letters are available now in the front church porch.**

7. A MARY'S MEALS WALKING PILGRIMAGE: The Way of Our Lady of Consolation from West Grinstead to Storrington and onto Arundel Cathedral is taking place from 8-9th May. You are very welcome to join us for a single day, for both days. Come on your own or as a group. To find out more or to sign up, please go to <https://www.marysmeals.org.uk/get-involved/charity-events/walk-for-hope> or contact Roy Peachey from Mary's Meals at info@marysmeals.org.

8. 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

9. 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: Easter is the greatest feast of our faith. It was the only feast in the early Church when every Sunday was celebrated as a little Easter. The greatest solemnity of course, was reserved for the great annual celebration of the Resurrection of Christ, but every Sunday was a day of great solemnity as well. Later, especially when Christianity was no longer outlawed in the Roman Empire, other feasts were celebrated around Easter. The events of Holy Week were marked in a special way, originally in Jerusalem and then more widely. The Ascension and Pentecost flow, of course, from the Resurrection and began to have their own ceremonial, as did the feast of the Nativity. But without the Resurrection there would be no Good News – no Christian faith – no Christian Scriptures. Jesus never told his disciples – as far as we know – that they were to write accounts of his life, death and Resurrection. They were told to go out and preach. The gospels did not come to be written until many years after the Resurrection. By this time, St Paul had written all the letters to the various churches as he himself had been martyred. The only encounter with the Risen Christ that Paul gives us details of took place on the Road to Damascus when he came to realise that the Risen Lord was speaking to him and revealing himself as the Risen Messiah.

The four gospels conclude with their accounts of the triumph of Jesus over suffering and death in his glorious Resurrection. Paul, of course, places the greatest emphasis of his entire writings on the Resurrection of Jesus. But we rely on the gospels for accounts of what happened. No one, of course, witnessed the Resurrection but many people saw the Risen Christ. Those who encountered the Lord were the first to bear witness to the truth of the Resurrection.

Perhaps the greatest proof we have of the Resurrection of Jesus is that the apostles and disciples were prepared to suffer all kinds of suffering and deaths in witnessing to that fact. They were such ordinary people who had all kinds of doubt and lack of faith. Jesus had promised that he would not leave them orphans. He would send the Holy Spirit to strengthen them. For almost two thousand years, billions of people, men and women, young and old of countless nationalities have followed Jesus with joy, making him the centre of their lives and trying to show their joy with others. Paul had not been a follower of Christ. On the contrary he tried to destroy this new movement and was involved in the killing of the very first Martyr, St Stephen. In the Acts of the Apostles, we are told that he 'worked for the total destruction of the church. He went from house to house arresting both men and women and sending them to prison'. (8:3) When he came to believe in Jesus he proved to be an untiring disciple and the Apostle of the Gentiles and finally gave his life in Rome for his witness to Jesus.

Easter cards often depict Jesus emerging from the tomb clothed in a white garment, holding a triumphant banner in his hand. When we read the scriptures there is no description of Jesus emerging from the tomb. What we read is that when the women and other disciples went to the tomb, they found it empty. What the scriptures describe is what happened after the Resurrection. Paul in his first letter to the Corinthians, written about twenty years after the event, gives us a list of the people to whom the Risen Jesus appeared. (15:3-8) He does not tell us anything about the time, the place or circumstances of the appearances. He tells us that 'last of all he appears to me too.' It is only when we come to the Gospels, written anywhere from 40-70 years after the Resurrection, that we find the more familiar details. There are minor discrepancies but these did not concern the gospel writers. They are not like modern journalists or historians from whom we would expect to gain a precise account of events they have witnessed. The gospel writers are concerned with telling the Good News that Christ has truly Risen and he is truly present with them until the end of time.

Today then, we encounter the Risen Christ present among us when we gather in his Name and offer support and reconciliation to one another. He is present in his Word, addressed to us in the Scriptures and in the most intimate way when we share his Body and Blood in the Eucharist meal. Our prayer should be that we grow in faith to recognise that Christ is truly Risen and Present among us.