

PARISH OF THE ENGLISH MARTYRS Goring Way

14.06.2026

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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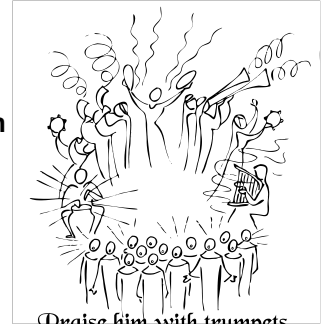
Deacon Gary Bevans 01903 503514

Safeguarding Rep. Anne Niven 01903 242624

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

Eleventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

Saturday	13 th	5.15 pm	Rosary for Justice & Peace in the Holy Land
		6.00 pm	Louis & Kamala Labon RIP
Sunday	14 th	9.00 am	The Parish
		3.00 pm	Celebration of Father Liam's 60th Jubilee of Ordination
Monday	15 th	9.30 am	Kathy Haydon RIP
Tuesday	16 th	9.30 am	Jim Simpson RIP
		7.00 pm	Choir Practice
Wednesday	17 th	9.30am	In Thanksgiving (Y.Allen)
Thursday	18 th	9.30 am	Intention of Caspar Irani (ill)
		2.30 pm	Memorial Mass
Friday	19 th	9.30 am	Jack & Mary Haugh RIP
Saturday	20 th	6.00 pm	Teresa O'Connell & Micky Arnold RIP
Sunday	21 st	8.15 am	The Parish
		10.30 am	Intention of Margaret Davie



Praise him with trumpets,
Praise him with drums and dancing.
Praise him with harps and flutes.
Praise the Lord, all living creatures.
(Psalm 150.5-6)

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

TODAY'S READINGS: Exodus 19:2-6, Romans 5:6-11, Matthew 9:36-10:8

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS: Jeremiah 20:10-13; Romans 5:12-15; Matthew 10:26-33

Second Collection next weekend for The Day For Life (NOT Gift Aided)

COLLECTIONS: Church: £ 514 Dona: £168 Thank you for your generosity

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS: Shirley Shiel, Angela Day, Clare Howse, Derek LeMahieu, Ruth Waywell, John, Christopher Williams, Laura Pegg, Marie Davidson, Alice Headon, Shona, Jonathan Waywell, 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: Rose Jeffery, Terry Sparrow, Jim Murphy, Pamela Dixon-Smith, Nicholas Murphy, Winifred Roland, Thomas Smith, John Foley, Liam McCann, Dorothy Firth-Scott, Frances Smith, Daniel Ions, Sylvia Smyth. *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. CONGRATULATIONS TO FATHER LIAM ON THE 60th ANNIVERSARY OF HIS ORDINATION TO THE PRIESTHOOD and thank you for being our Parish Priest for the last 20 years. For those unable to attend the Celebration Mass at 3.00 pm, the Mass is being streamed and can be found directly at www.visual-memorials.co.uk/liam-oconnor

5. A MEMORIAL MASS will be held here on Thursday 18th June at 2.30 pm to remember those who have died in recent years. An opportunity to make an act of remembrance for a loved one by lighting a candle will take place during Mass which will be followed by Afternoon Tea. All are welcome.

6. GRANDPARENTS PILGRIMAGE to The Shrine of Our Lady of Consolation & St Francis, West Grinstead, on Wednesday 17 June from 11am until 3pm. A day of sharing and prayer with other Grandparents with Mass, Benediction, Rosary, tours of the secret chapel and lots of chat. Please bring a packed lunch. To register: [Grandparents' Pilgrimage to West Grinstead \(17-Jun-2026\) · ChurchSuite Events](http://www.abdiocese.org.uk). If you have any questions about the day please contact Deacon Simon South, Marriage & Family Life Adviser E: simon.south@abdiocese.org.uk

7. HANDMADE CARDS FOR FATHER'S DAY (which is on 21st June) are now available in the Shop. All proceeds from the sale of these cards goes to the Parish Project in Kalingalinga.

8. PRESBYTERY MAJOR MAINTENANCE: Work will begin on the fabric of the Presbytery and so scaffolding should be appearing soon. The work will be a considerable undertaking including wall-ties, the removal of a chimney and wall-cladding. It is at least ten years since the house received attention and so much is required!

9. AN APPEAL FROM STELLA MARIS (formerly called Apostleship of the Sea) is seeking one volunteer from this parish please to help with Sea Sunday (which falls on 11/12 July this year) in this parish. This is the day when the Church comes together to pray for seafarers, fishers and their families, and takes a second collection to support the work of Stella Maris. The volunteer will read out the appeal (which Stella Maris will provide) at the end of Masses that weekend. If you can kindly do this, please contact roland.hayes@stellamarismail.org

10. MARRIAGE ANNIVERSARIES MASS will take place on Saturday 3 October at Arundel Cathedral. Whether you are you celebrating a special anniversary or simply giving thanks for your marriage this year, come and join us for our annual celebration of the joys and grace of sacramental marriage. Mass will be celebrated at 11.30am. There will also be a wonderful opportunity to renew your wedding vows during Mass. This will be followed by a small drinks reception in the Cathedral Centre. Family and friends are very welcome. The Cathedral and Centre are wheelchair friendly. If you have any questions do not hesitate to contact Deacon Simon South, Marriage and Family Life Adviser at E: simon.south@abdiocese.org.uk. To book your free place, you can scan the QR code on the poster or go to the Events page of the Diocesan website W: www.abdiocese.org.uk/diocese/events

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. It is much appreciated.

Father Liam says: The first three centuries in the life of the Church were marked by persecutions. In the Roman Empire people were required to acknowledge the Emperor as a god and offer sacrifice to him. The Jewish people of course refused to do this and the Emperor was wise enough not to compel them. But when Christianity came on the scene the Empire did not want to tolerate another group of people who did not bend the knee to the Emperor, so great efforts were made to make them comply.

The earliest years of the Church are chronicled in the New Testament book, called The Acts of the Apostles, written by Luke, the author of the third gospel. It would be more accurate to call it 'Acts of Apostles' as the Greek title has it. Like all the books of the New Testament it was written in Greek – the vernacular at the time of most inhabitants of the Roman Empire. It gives us an account of some acts of some of the apostles. As Luke was a fellow worker of St Paul, much of the book is an account of the ministry of Paul.

We learn from Luke that these early Christians referred to themselves as 'followers of the Way'. Joining this community was a life transforming experience. Many of them 'had all things in common. They would sell their possession and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need'. (2:44,45) No doubt, followers of the Way were known at least as much for what they did as what they believed. Today we are still members of a pilgrim Church, realizing that we are on the Way, led by Christ. The Church is a community of saints and sinners. All of us have our saintly and our sinful moments. Even the Pope approaches the Sacrament of Reconciliation. The Church gets its holiness from Christ. We strive to stay united to Christ. This is our very reason for being. The Church is the 'body of Christ' – dedicated to carrying out his mission on earth. Whatever our limitations, Jesus is calling us all to join him in transforming the Word into the way God intended it to be.

The document on the Church produced by the Second Vatican Council in 1964, refers to the Church as 'the people of God' and it emphasizes that each of us have our own role to play: 'each part contributes its own gifts to the other parts and to the whole Church'. Pope John XXIII, who convened the Council said: 'we are not on earth as museum keepers, but to cultivate a flourishing garden of life and to prepare for a glorious future'. St Paul often uses the image of a human body to emphasise the important role we are all called to play in God's plan: 'For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ.' (1 Cor. 12:12)

Paul in his letters to the various Christian communities repeatedly calls the people he is addressing 'saints'. He is under no illusion as to what they were really like, 'warts and all'. He was not slow in pointing out the ways in which they were falling away from the Way but they were saints because of their baptism. They were sanctified and consecrated as brothers and sisters and so were made holy. Paul referred to himself as the least of all the saints and the greatest of sinners. He liked to remind his listeners and us of our dignity – and the importance of living up to that dignity. As well as being called followers of the Way and being called saints, the New Testament referred to Christ's followers as witnesses. Christ commissioned his disciples to be 'witnesses throughout the world; (Acts 1:18) Great numbers of Christians in the early Church witnessed to their faith in Christ by being ready to lay down their lives rather than deny him. They still do in our times. The word 'martyr' literally means 'witness' because those put to death for their faith witnessed to their faith in Christ in a definitive way. So, who are we? In God's sight we are martyrs and saints because we are followers of the Way.