

PARISH OF THE ENGLISH MARTYRS Goring Way

20.09.2026

Father Liam O'Connor, 37 Compton Avenue,

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

Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Saturday	19 th	6.00 pm	The Parish
Sunday	20 th	8.15 am	Seamie Flynn RIP
		10.30 am	Liane Mc McCurley RIP
Monday	21 st	9.30 am	Ann Lacey RIP
Tuesday	22 nd	9.30 am	Intention of Klara
		7.00 pm	Choir Practice
Wednesday	23 rd	9.30am	Pauline Adams RIP
		12.30 pm	REQUIEM FOR PATRICIA DUGGAN RIP
Thursday	24 th	9.30 am	Margaret Casey (Unwell)
Friday	25 th	9.30 am	REQUIEM FOR Dr RICHARD CALLAGHAN RIP
Saturday	26 th	6.00 pm	William F Evans RIP
Sunday	27 th	8.15 am	Laura Pegg RIP
		10.30 am	Neil Halley RIP



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

TODAY'S READINGS: Isaiah 55:6-9, St Paul to the Philippians 1:20-24, 27, Matthew 20:1-16

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS: Ezekiel 18:25-28, St Paul to the Philippians 2:1-11, Matthew 21:28-32

COLLECTIONS: Church: £493 Dona: £105 Mary's Meals: £669 Thank you for your generosity
Next weekend there will be a Second Collection for Home Missions

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS: Friedel Herrmann, Sarah Johnstone, Angela Day, Derek LeMahieu, Ruth Waywell, John, Marie Davidson, Alice Headon, Shona, Jonathan Waywell, Richard Wells, Natasha, Henry Allen, 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, 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 Zenteler.

2. THOSE WHO HAVE DIED RECENTLY and those whose anniversaries occur about now: Baby George Birks, Kenneth Munro, John Tuohy, Alice Hoppe, Orazio Castro, Harry Wadsworth, Anne Rose, Michael Irving, Ray McGlone, Patricia Knox, Betty Hayes, Mary Empson, Anne Casement, Theresa Steer, Joy Wood, Patricia Brown, Kathleen Tyler, Pamela Simblett, Martine Jackson. *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. CAFOD HARVEST SUPPER will take place Saturday 26th September following the 6.00 pm Mass. The food will be delicious and there will be a raffle. Prizes would be welcome. Tickets will be on sale after all Masses **this** weekend - Adults £10.00, Children £5.00. For further information please contact Teresa 01903 529260.

5. ARE YOU INTERESTED IN LEARNING MORE ABOUT OUR CATHOLIC FAITH? If so "the Journey in Faith course" is for you. Starting on 4th October at 12.00 noon following the 10.30 Mass in the "Good Shepherd Chapel". Contact Dermot on 07999488326 for any further details

6. 'HARVEST OF CREATION': There will be a Harvest Festival service on Sunday 11th October at 3pm in the church, with hymns and readings followed by a voluntary collection in aid of charities for the homeless. All are most welcome to join us in taking part in this event and afterwards in The Barn, where refreshments will be served.

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

8. THE (WOMEN'S) WORLD DAY OF PRAYER, GORING BRANCH is looking for someone to represent our church on the Committee, in preparation for a service celebrating the centenary of this wonderful organisation. The service is to take place on the 5th March 2027 at St Mary's Church, 7 Mulberry Lane, BN12 4NR (please make a diary note) and we have our first meeting on the 14th September at 2.30p.m. If anyone is interested in joining the Committee please contact Marilyn Catterill on 07762 794613 for further details. It would be a very sad indictment of our Parish if we were unable to fill this role. Please give it serious thought and let Father Liam know if you would take it on.

9. TURNING TIDES: The "Making a Meal for Harvest" appeal calls on schools, churches, businesses and residents to help us 'swell the shelves' at our Donations Hub. Our Harvest appeal aims to fill our shelves so we can feed hundreds of people throughout the year who haven't got a place to call home. Last year Turning Tides supported 978 people experiencing homelessness in West Sussex alone, many of whom face significant barriers to stay nourished and hydrated. Our community hubs and outreach teams provide food for people rough sleeping and our supported residential services house around 250 people each year, who are waiting to find permanent accommodation. Please take a leaflet, available in both porches, for items that are needed.

Father Liam says: The Prayer of the Church, also known as the Divine Office, gives us a homily by St John Chrysostom who lived from 347 to 407 and is recognised not only as a Saint but also as a great preacher. He was Archbishop of Constantinople but was expelled because of his denunciation of vice in high places. The name Chrysostom was given to him over a century after his death, because of his eloquence. The word means 'golden mouthed' and his preaching has been passed on to us for over 1600 years.

'Would you honour the body of Christ? Do not despise his nakedness. Do not honour him here in church clothed in silk garments and then pass him by unclothed and frozen outside. Remember that he who said 'This is my Body' and made good his words also said: 'you saw me hungry and gave me no food' and 'in so far as you did it not to one of these you did it not to me'. In the first sense, the body of Christ does not need clothing, but worship from a pure heart. In the second sense it does need clothing and all the care you can give it.

We must learn to be discerning Christians and to honour Christ in any way in which he wants to be honoured. It is only right that honour given to anyone should take the form most acceptable to the recipient, not to the giver. Peter thought he was honouring the Lord when he tried to stop him washing his feet but this was far from being genuine homage. So, give God the honour he asks for, that is give your money generously to the poor. God has no need of golden vessels but of golden hearts.

I am not saying you should not give golden vessels and so on but I am insisting that nothing can take the place of almsgiving. The Lord will not refuse to accept the first kind of gift but he prefers the second and, quite naturally, because in the first case only the donor benefits. In the second case the poor get the benefit. The gift of a chalice may be ostentatious: almsgiving is pure benevolence. What is the use of loading Christ's table with gold cups while he himself is starving. Feed the hungry and then if you have any money left over, spend it on the altar table. Will you make a cup of gold and withhold a cup of water? What use is it to adorn the altar with cloth and gold hangings and deny Christ a coat for his back! What would it profit you? Tell me: if you saw someone starving and refused to give him any food but instead spent your money on adorning the altar with gold, would he thank you? Would he not rather be outraged? And if you saw someone in rags and stiff with cold and then did not give him clothing but set up golden columns in his honour, would he not say that he was being made a fool of and insulted?

Consider that Christ is that homeless person who comes in need of a night's lodging. You turn him away and then start laying rugs on the floor, draping the walls, hanging lamps on silver chains on the columns. Meanwhile the homeless person is locked up in prison and you never give him a glance. Again, I am not condemning munificence in these matters. Make your house beautiful by all means but also look after the poor, or rather, look after the poor first. No one was ever condemned for not adorning his house but those who neglect the poor were threatened with hell fire for all eternity and a life of torment with devils. Adorn your home if you will but do not forget your brother in distress. He is a temple of infinitely greater value.'

John Chrysostom was the greatest preacher and orator of his time – among the greatest the Church has ever known. Nearly all of his writings survive to this day – testimony to the high regard his contemporaries and succeeding generations of Christians had for his thoughts. His teaching on the Eucharist is an important part of the legacy that has come down to us. Some words of his on the Eucharist:

'Believe that there takes place now the same banquet as that in which Christ sat at table and that this banquet is in no way different from that. For it is not true that this banquet is prepared by a man while that was prepared by Himself. Today, as then, it is the Lord who wants and offers all. We assume the role of servants. It is He who blesses and transforms. It is not man who causes what is present to become the Body and Blood of Christ, but Christ himself who was crucified for us. The priest is the representative when he pronounces those words but the power and the grace are those of the Lord. 'This is my Body' he says. This word changes the things that lie before us and as that sentence 'increase and multiply' once spoken, extends through all time and gives to our nature the power to reproduce itself, even so that saying 'This is my Body' once uttered, does at every table in the churches from that time to the present day and ever to Christ's coming, make the sacrifice complete.

When you see the Body of Christ lying on the altar, say to yourself 'Because of this Body I am no longer earth and ash, no longer a prisoner, but free. Because of this Body I hope for heaven and I hope to receive the good things that are in heaven, immortal life, the lot of the angels, familiar conversation with Christ'.