

PARISH OF THE ENGLISH MARTYRS Goring Way

18.10.2026

Father Liam O'Connor, 37 Compton Avenue,

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

Twenty-Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Saturday	17 th	6.00 pm	Intention of Sheeba Antemy
Sunday	18 th	8.15 am	John Peter Iago RIP
		10.30 am	The Parish
		12.00 noon	RCIA Course (Good Shepherd Chapel)
Monday	19 th	9.00 am	Mike Cockrell RIP
Tuesday	20 th	9.30 am	Intention of Casper Irani
		7.00 pm	Choir Practice
Wednesday	21 st	9.30am	Alex Earayil RIP
Thursday	22 nd	9.30 am	Andy Anderson RIP
		12.30 am	REQUIEM FOR JOAN WAND RIP
Friday	23 rd	9.30 am	Laura Pegg RIP
Saturday	24 th	6.00 pm	Doris Gould RIP
Sunday	25 th	8.15 am	Pat Duggan RIP
		10.30 am	The Parish



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

TODAY'S READINGS: Wisdom 3:1-9; St Paul to Corinthians 4:7-15; Matthew 10:17-20

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS: Exodus 22:20-26, St. Paul to the Thessalonians 1:5-10, Matthew 22:34-40

COLLECTIONS: Church: £504 Dona: £73 Turning Tides: £159 Thank you for your generosity

This weekend there will be a Second Collection for World Mission Sunday (Missio)

PLEASE USE MISSIO GIFT AID ENVELOPES AVAILABLE IN BOTH PORCHES

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, David Lancaster, Camilla Jane, Michelle Dielt, Harold Forrest, Maria Brooks, Kathleen Kearney, Lola Samengo-Meehan, Maureen House, 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 Zenkteler.

2. THOSE WHO HAVE DIED RECENTLY and those whose anniversaries occur about now: Eleanor Barnes, Doris Flood, Renee West, Eileen Cox, Patricia Colbran, Eileen Cronin, Jack Little, Mary Rose, Ricardo Angelo, Winifred Casey, Terry Grana, Eva Madden, Maureen Wynn-Davies, Helena Vulic, Laurence McCarthy, Keith Adams, Phil Jenkins.
May they rest in peace and rise in glory.

3. A MASS OF WELCOME AT WORTH ABBEY: The coach will be at St Catherine's, Littlehampton at 9.00 am, then at English Martyrs, Goring-by-Sea at 9.30 am and at Holy Family, Lancing at 10.00 am. For the return you will be leaving Worth at about 2.45 pm. As well as Mass with our new Bishop Stephen, refreshments will be served but you can bring your lunch if you would like too. As the coach is only half full, if anyone else would like to go please contact Anne, emgoring@english-martyrs.co.uk or 01902 242624 and let me have your name, contact phone number and pick-up point.

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

5. FATHER STEPHEN WANG will be ordained as our Bishop at Arundel Cathedral this Monday 19th October at 12.00 noon. The ceremony will be live-streamed from 11.00 am – www.abdiocese.org.uk/livestream, and for an Order of Service see www.abdiocese.org.uk/news/episcopal-ordination

6. CHRISTMAS CARDS are now available in the Repository.

7. FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2027: Is your son or daughter in Year 3 this term? If so, they are at the age where they can start the preparation course for First Holy Communion. Please collect a letter and application forms from the Sacristy and return it to the Parish Office by 18th December at the latest. The first meeting for parents will be on Monday 4th January at 7.30pm in The Good Shepherd Chapel and the first lesson for the children will be on Tuesday 5th January from 4.30 – 5.30 pm.

8. CONFIRMATION 2026/27 If you are in Year 9 or above and considering being Confirmed next year you are invited to join our preparation programme that will be starting on Friday 13th November. Please collect application forms from the Sacristy and return to the Parish Office as soon as possible. (Closing Date for applications: Sunday 8th November)

9. WORLD MISSION SUNDAY (MISSIO) This Sunday, the Holy Father invites all Catholics to support Missio – his charity for world mission – through a special collection. This day of prayer, solidarity and giving unites Catholics worldwide to share the Good News of God's love which has the power to transform lives and heal our world. To donate, use the Missio envelopes, call 02078 219755 or visit missio.org.uk to give a gift, set up a Direct Debit and Gift Aid your donation if possible.

10. THE PRIEST'S HOUSE: You may have noticed that the Presbytery has had scaffolding around it and wondered what work was underway. Well that work is now almost complete and fulfils essential work identified in the Quinquennial Survey Report, a mandatory requirement under the Charities Act accountancy regulations. The survey highlighted defective rendering to almost all elevations of the house, which had to be removed. The balcony on the front was leaking rainwater into the ground floor office and needed a new covering and leadwork, as did another flat roof over the north bathroom/wc. A troublesome damp chimney stack was demolished. Once rendering was removed, there was much making good to exposed brickwork and wall ties were replaced, following which re-plastering was undertaken, then redecoration of the entire exterior of the house. It has been an expensive few weeks but a successful project that will protect the property for years to come.

Father Liam says: The Sacraments are special ways in which Christ continues to minister to us. In his earthly life Jesus physically healed the sick and forgave sinners throughout the three years of his public life. But he came into contact with a relatively small number of people. He didn't travel widely and spent much of his public ministry away from towns and cities. Yet Christ came for all mankind. It is only after his resurrection that the Good News began to spread and Jesus was enabled to reach out to the wider world. The Risen Jesus was not subject to the limitations he experienced in his mortal life. He had commissioned the Apostles not only to preach the Gospel but they were to ensure that the saving actions of Jesus would be perpetuated. They were to celebrate the Eucharist and bring his healing and forgiveness to those who believed in him throughout the world and to the end of time. Jesus would continue his saving work through the sacraments. These are the actions of the Risen Christ. He commissioned his disciples at the Last Supper to continue to do what he had done. On Easter Sunday they were empowered to continue his ministry of reconciliation – 'those whose sins you forgive will be forgiven'. They had been told before his Ascension that they were to bring the good news and baptise believers in the name of the Father and of the Son and the Holy Spirit. Neither Jesus nor his disciples conferred the Sacrament of baptism on anybody while Jesus was alive. The Sacraments are the actions of the Risen Christ. The first believers did not need to be baptised. Jesus himself was the giver of life. We believe that there are seven Sacraments – Baptism, Confirmation, Eucharist, Reconciliation, Holy Orders, Marriage and the Sacrament of the Sick.

In the Letter of St James we read: 'Is any among you sick? Let him call for the elders of the church and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil'. (5:14) Oil is used also in the celebration of Baptism, Confirmation and Holy Orders. Normally, the Sacrament of the Sick was the last of the Sacraments that involved anointing to be conferred. That is why it was sometimes called 'the last anointing' or, in deference to Latin, 'Extreme Unction'. This unfortunately gave the impression that it was to be conferred only in extreme illness. It even was called 'The Last Rites'. This is very different from what St James wrote in his letter and very different from the practice of the Church – for the most part. The purpose of the Sacrament of the Sick is to give strength and courage to the sick person. They were not to be led to believe that they would necessarily be cured of their illness but it was nevertheless a Sacrament of healing of mind and spirit. Catholics are able to receive the Sacrament of the Sick as many times as are needed. Deacons, unfortunately, cannot confer this Sacrament.

The Oil of the Sick is olive oil blessed by the bishop during Holy week. It is a sign of divine assistance. The other oils blessed during Holy Week are the Oil of Catechumens and the Oil of Chrism. Catechumens was the name given to adults preparing for Baptism. It literally means 'those being instructed'. Catechism means the course of instruction and catechumens are those who are being instructed.

Unfortunately, many people do not heed the words of St James: 'let him call for the elders of the church' if there is anyone sick. Very often the person is very ill or even unconscious when a priest is called to give the Sacrament. There is still the idea that this is something for those who are dying. It is surely a good idea to ask the priest to give the Sacrament of the Sick before someone goes into hospital. In the prayers for the Sacrament there is no mention of serious illness or danger of death. When the person is anointed the words said are 'Through this holy anointing may the Lord in his love and mercy help you with grace of the Holy Spirit. May the Lord who frees you from sin save you and raise you up'. The person is anointed on the forehead and on the hands.