

*Diamond Jubilee
of
Ordination to the Priesthood
Father Liam O'Connor
1966 - 2026*



ENGLISH MARTYRS CHURCH
Goring-by-Sea
Sunday 14th June at 3.00 pm

GATHERING HYMN

All: All people that on Earth do dwell,
sing to the Lord with cheerful voice:
serve him with joy, his praises tell,
come now before him and rejoice!

The Lord, ye know, is God indeed,
Without our aid, he did us make;
we are his folk he does us feed,
and for his sheep he does us take.

O enter then his gates with praise,
approach with joy his courts unto,
praise, laud and bless his name always,
for it is seemly so to do.

For why? The Lord our God is good:
His mercy is for ever sure;
His truth at all times firmly stood,
And shall from age to age endure.

To Father, Son and Holy Ghost,
The God whom heaven and earth adore,
From us and from the angel host
Be praise and glory evermore.

W.Kethe (d.1594) from 'Day's Psalter' (1560-61)

ENTRANCE HYMN

All: O changeless Christ, forever new,
who once walked our earthly ways,
draw our hearts as once you
drew the hearts of other days.

**When you spoke by plain and hill
or you taught by shore and sea,
so today teach us still,
Jesus Christ of Galilee.**

**Wind and storm their master heard
and his Word they both fulfilled,
so troubled hearts may now hear,
your Word that once the tempest stilled.**

**As of old to all who prayed
so your healing hand was shown,
let your touch on us now,
though unseen be not unknown.**

**In broken bread, in wine outpoured,
Thus your new and living way.
You proclaim to us, Lord,
Risen Christ of this our day.**

**Changeless Christ, till life is past
May your blessing still be given:
bring us home, to taste at last
the timeless joys that are in heaven.**

Timothy Dudley-Smith

GREETING THE PEOPLE

Fr Liam: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of
the Holy Spirit

All: **Amen**

Fr Liam: The Lord be with you

All: And with your spirit

THE PENITENTIAL RITE

Priest: My brothers and sisters, to prepare ourselves to celebrate the sacred mysteries, let us call to mind our sins.

Pause

Fr Liam: Lord Jesus, you came to gather all people into the peace of God's Kingdom - Lord have mercy.

All: Lord have mercy.

Fr Liam: You come in word and in sacrament, to strengthen us and make us holy - Christ have mercy.

All: Christ have mercy.

Fr Liam: You will come again, in glory, with salvation for your people - Lord have mercy.

All: Lord have mercy.

GLORIA

**All Glory to God in the highest, and on earth
peace to people of good will**

**We praise you, we bless you,
we adore you, we glorify you,
we give you thanks for your great glory,
Lord God, heavenly King,
O God, almighty Father**

**Lord, Jesus Christ, Only begotten Son,
Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
you take away the sins of the world, have
mercy on us
you take away the sins of the world, receive
our prayer:
you are seated at the right hand of the
Father,
have mercy on us.**

**For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father.
Amen, Amen**

Anne Ward

OPENING PRAYER

Priest: O God, who made your Only Begotten Son eternal High Priest, grant that those he has chosen as ministers and stewards of your mysteries may be found faithful in carrying out the ministry they have received.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God for ever and ever.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING: Isaiah (61:1-3a)

A reading from the Prophet Isaiah

The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me,
Because the Lord has anointed me to bring good
news to the poor;
He has sent me to bind up the broken-hearted,
To proclaim liberty to the captives,
And the opening of the prison to those who are
bound;
To proclaim the year of the Lord's favour, and the
day of vengeance of our God;
To comfort all who mourn;
To grant to those who mourn in Sion –
To give them a beautiful headdress instead of
ashes,
the oil of gladness instead of mourning,
the garment of praise instead of a faint spirit.

Reader: The Word of the Lord

All: **Thanks be to God**

PSALM

All: **Because the Lord is my shepherd,
I have ev'ry thing I need.
He lets me rest in the meadow
and leads me to the quiet streams.
He restores my soul and he leads me
in the paths that are right:**

*Lord, you are my shepherd,
you are my friend.
I want to follow you always,
just to follow my friend.*

And when the road leads to darkness,
I shall walk there unafraid.
Even when death is close
I have courage, for your help is there.
You are close beside me with comfort,
you are guiding my way:
Chorus

In love you make me a banquet
for my enemies to see.
You make me welcome, pouring down
honour from your mighty hand,
and this joy fills me with gladness;
it is too much to bear:
Chorus

Your goodness always is with me
and your mercy I know.
Your loving kindness strengthens me
always as I go through life.
I shall dwell in your presence forever,
giving praise to your name:
Chorus

Psalm 23, Christopher Walker

SECOND READING: 1 Peter 4:7b-11

A reading from the First letter of St Peter

Beloved: Be self-controlled and sober-minded
For the sake of your prayers.
Above all, keep loving one another earnestly,
Since love covers a multitude of sins.
Show hospitality to one another without grumbling.
As each gift is received, use it to serve one
another,
As good stewards of God's varied grace:
Whoever speaks, as one who speaks oracles of
God;
Whoever serves,
As one who serves by the strength that God
supplies – in order that in everything God may be
glorified
Through Jesus Christ.
To him belong glory and dominion for ever and
ever. Amen

Reader: The Word of the Lord

All: **Thanks be to God**

PLEASE STAND

All: **Alleluia, Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**
 I have called you friends, says the Lord.
 For all that I have learned from my Father, I
 have made known to you.
 Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Deacon: The Lord be with you

All: **And with your spirit**

Deacon: A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew (5:13-16)

All: **Glory to you, Lord**

Deacon: Jesus said to his disciples, 'You are the salt of the earth, but if salt has lost its taste, how shall its saltiness be restored?

It is no longer good for anything except to be thrown out and trampled under people's feet.

You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house.

By the same way, let your lights shine before others, so that they may see your good works And give glory to your Father who is in heaven.'

The Gospel of the Lord

All: **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ**

HOMILY:

PLEASE SIT

PROFESSION OF FAITH

PLEASE STAND

The Apostles' Creed

All: **I believe in God,
the Father almighty,
Creator of heaven and earth,
and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord
(all bow)**

who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried;
he descended to the dead:
on the third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of God the
Father almighty;
from there he will come to judge the living and
the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and life everlasting.
Amen

PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

Deacon: On this joyful occasion we bring our prayers
confidently to our loving Father

Reader: We pray for Pope Leo and all bishops. Guide and
strengthen them so that they may be shepherds
after your own heart.
Lord, in your mercy

All: **Hear our prayer**

Reader: We pray for all political rulers. We ask you Father to lead their peoples into ways of peace and away from violence and aggression. We ask your blessing on the peoples of Ukraine and the Middle East and Sudan, that they may enjoy lives of justice and reconciliation.
Lord, in your mercy

All: Hear our prayer

Reader: Loving Father, bless the parents, brothers and sisters of Father Liam and all the departed with the eternal glory won for them by your Son, Jesus our Saviour.
Lord, in your mercy

All: Hear our prayer

All: We ask your blessing on Father Liam and on our Priests, Deacons and Religious that their ministry may be fruitful
Lord, in your mercy

All: Hear our prayer

Reader: We thank you for gathering us around your Son Jesus Christ, to hear his word and to be nourished by the Eucharist. Help us all to bring Christ to all around us
Lord, in your mercy

All: Hear our prayer

Reader: We join our prayers to those of Mary, mother of Jesus and our mother as we pray ...

All: Hail Mary...

Deacon: Together we thank God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit for all his blessings.

All: **Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit. As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen**

PREPARATION OF THE GIFTS

PLEASE SIT

All: Blest are you Lord, God of all creation
 thanks to your goodness
 this bread we offer:
 fruit of the earth, work of our hands,
 it will become the bread of life.

*Blessed be God! Blessed be God!
Blessed be God, forever, amen!
Blessed be God! Blessed be God!
Blessed be God, forever, amen!*

Blest are you Lord, God of all creation
thanks to your goodness
this wine we offer:
fruit of the earth, work of our hands,
it will become the cup of life.

Aniceto Nazareth

After the Priest washes his hands he then addresses the congregation:

PLEASE STAND

Priest: Pray, sisters and brothers, that my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father.

All: May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands for the praise and glory of his name, for our good, and the good of all his holy Church

PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

Priest: O God, you have willed that we should minister at the holy altar and serve your people. Grant by the power of this sacrifice, we pray, that our labours may constantly please you and in your Church bear that fruit which lasts for ever. Through Christ our Lord

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

Priest: The Lord be with you

All: And with your spirit

Priest: Lift up your hearts

All: We lift them up to the Lord

Priest: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God

All: It is right and just

Priest: It is truly right and just, our duty and our salvation, always and everywhere to give you thanks, Lord, holy Father, almighty and eternal God.
For by the anointing of the Holy Spirit you made your Only Begotten Son High Priest of the new and eternal covenant, and by your wondrous design were pleased to decree that his one Priesthood should continue in the Church. For Christ not only

adorns with a royal priesthood the people he has made his own, but with a brother's kindness he also chooses those who become sharers in his sacred ministry through the laying on of hands. They are to renew in his name the sacrifice of human redemption, to set before your children the paschal banquet, to lead your holy people in charity, to nourish them with the word and strengthen them with the Sacraments. As they give up their lives for you and for the salvation of their brothers and sisters, they strive to be conformed to the image of Christ himself and offer you a constant witness of faith and love. And so, Lord, with all the Angels and Saints, we too, give you thanks, as in exultation we acclaim:

Revised Gathering Mass

Paul Inwood

**All: Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord,
 Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts,
 Heaven and earth, heaven and earth
 Are full of your glory, Lord God of hosts,
 Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest!
 Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest!
 Blessed, blessed is he who comes,
 Blessed is he, blessed is he
 who comes in the name of the Lord!
 Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest!
 Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest!**

PLEASE KNEEL OR BE SEATED

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER III

Memorial Acclamation 'Mass of Hope'

Bernadette Farrell

When the priest invites the Congregation:

Priest: The mystery of faith

All: When we eat this Bread and drink this Cup,
when we eat this Bread and drink this Cup
we proclaim your Death, O Lord,
we proclaim your Death, O Lord,
we proclaim your Death until you come again

When the Priest says;

Priest: Through him, and with him, and in him,
O God, almighty Father,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all glory and honour is yours,
for ever and ever

All: Amen, Amen, Amen, Amen

COMMUNION RITE

PLEASE STAND

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Priest: At the Saviour's command and formed by divine teaching, we dare to say:

All: Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name.
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done on earth,
as it is in heaven.

**Give us this day our daily bread,
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us,
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.**

Priest: Deliver us, Lord, we pray, from every evil,
graciously grant peace in our days, that, by the
help of your mercy, we may be always free from sin
and safe from all distress, as we await the blessed
hope and the coming of our Saviour, Jesus Christ

All: **For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are
yours now and forever**

THE RITE OF PEACE

Priest: Lord Jesus Christ, who said to your apostles:
Peace I leave you peace, my peace I give you;
look not on our sins, but on the faith of your Church
and graciously grant her peace and unity in
accordance with your will. Who live and reign for
ever and ever

All: **Amen**

Priest: The peace of the Lord be with you always

All: **And with your spirit**

Deacon: Let us offer each other the sign of peace

AGNUS DEI

All: Lamb of God, you take away,
the sins of the world
Have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away,
the sins of the world
Have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away,
the sins of the world
Grant us peace.

PLEASE KNEEL

HOLY COMMUNION

The priest raises the host slightly

Priest: Behold the Lamb of God,
behold him who takes away the sins of the world.
Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb

All: Lord, I am not worthy
that you should enter under my roof,
but only say the word
and my soul shall be healed

COMMUNION HYMNS

All: *Chorus:*
Bread of Life, Truth eternal,
broken now to set us free,
the risen Christ, his saving power,
is here in bread and wine for me.

Choir: Lord, I know I am not worthy to receive you.
You speak the words and I am healed.
Here at your table, love's mystery,
One bread, one cup, one family.

All: Chorus:

Choir: Lord, by your cross you reconciled us to the Father.
We have only to believe.
Your sacrifice, our victory
Now by your blood we are redeemed.

All: Chorus:

Choir: Lord, you gave your people manna in the desert.
Still you fulfil our every need.
Lord, when we hunger, Lord, when we thirst,
We come to you and we receive.

All: Chorus:

Joanne Boyce & Mike Stanley

All: Chorus:
*Seed, scattered and sown,
wheat gathered and grown,
bread, broken and shared as one
the Living Bread of God.
Vine, fruit of the land,
Wine, work of our hands,
One cup that is shared by all,
the Living Cup, the Living Bread of God.*

Is not the bread we break
a sharing in our Lord?
Is not the cup we bless
the blood of Christ out-poured?
Chorus

**The seed which falls on rock
will wither and will die.
The seed within good ground
will flower and have life.**

Chorus

**As wheat upon the hills
Was gathered and was grown,
So may the Church of God
Be gathered into one.**

Chorus

Dan Feiten

Didache: 1Cor 10:16-17; Mk 4:3-6

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

PLEASE STAND

Priest: Father, you strengthen us with bread from heaven and give us the joy of sharing the cup of the new covenant. Make us ever more faithful in your service and enable us to work with courage and love for the salvation of mankind. Grant this through Christ our Lord.

All: Amen

THE BLESSING

Priest: The Lord be with you

All: And with your spirit

Priest: May almighty God bless you, the Father, and the Son and the Holy Spirit

All: **Amen**

Deacon: Go in peace, glorifying the Lord by your life

All: **Thanks be to God**

FINAL HYMN

All: **My soul is filled with joy
as I sing to God my Saviour:
He has looked upon his servant,
he has visited his people.**

***Chorus:
And holy is his name
through all generations!
Everlasting is his mercy
to the people he chosen,
And holy is his name.***

**I am lowly as a child,
but I know from this day forward
That my name will be remembered,
for all will call me blessed.**

Chorus

**I proclaim the pow'r of God!
He does marvels for his servants;
Though he scatters the proud-hearted
and destroys the might of princes.**

Chorus

**To the hungry he gives food,
sends the rich away empty.
In his mercy he is mindful
Of the people he has chosen.
*Chorus***

**In his love he now fulfills
what he promised to our fathers.
I will praise the Lord, my Saviour.
Everlasting is his mercy.
*Chorus***

*Anonymous, based on the Magnificat.
Iris melody: Wild Mountain Thyme*

A Message from Father Liam

A big 'thank you' for coming this afternoon to join in this celebration of my Diamond Jubilee of Ordination. First of all, I must thank God for calling me to share in the ministerial priesthood of Christ, his Son and for having preserved me in good health all these years.

I am very grateful to those who have come from other parishes where I have ministered and to my family members who have made the journey. It is also a great joy to be joined by fellow priests and deacons for this celebration.

I am extremely grateful to all who have made this celebration possible. I don't really know the details of what has been taking place, nor am I meant to know, but to all involved – the musicians, singers, servers, flower arrangers, those who prepared food and decorated the Barn and oversaw the parking situation, catered for the children in the garden and produced so tastefully the Order of Service – I am truly grateful to you all – and to those I may have overlooked.

I am grateful to all the parishioners in the various places I have ministered over the course of sixty years, for their patience and understanding in putting up with me and my idiosyncrasies. The good people of Goring and Ferring have had to cope with me for twenty of those years. I hope they have the resilience to continue so to do and that, with God's help I will be spared to put their resilience to the test for some time to come.



Father Liam O'Connor

Ordained Priest at St John's College, Waterford
On 12th June 1966

PARISHES

St Barnabas

East Molesey

1966 – 1970

Sacred Heart

Hove

1970 – 1976

Our Lady Help of Christians

West Byfleet

1976 – 1982

Holy Angels

Ash

1982 - 1986

Holy Family

Reigate

1986 – 1994

St Erconwald's

Walton-on-Thames

1994 – 2006

English Martyrs

Goring-by-Sea

2006 -