

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Cf. Ps 24:1-3

**To you, I lift up my soul, O my God.
In you, I have trusted; let me not be put to shame.
Nor let my enemies exult over me;
and let none who hope in you be put to shame.**

THE COLLECT

Grant your faithful, we pray, almighty God, the resolve to run forth to meet your Christ with righteous deeds at his coming, so that, gathered at his right hand, they may be worthy to possess the heavenly Kingdom. 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.

FIRST READING

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

2:1-5

The vision of Isaiah son of Amoz, concerning Judah and Jerusalem.

In the days to come the mountain of the Temple of the Lord shall tower above the mountains and be lifted higher than the hills. All the nations will stream to it, peoples without number will come to it; and they will say:

‘Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the Temple of the God of Jacob that he may teach us his ways so that we may walk in his paths; since the Law will go out from Zion, and the oracle of the Lord from Jerusalem.’

He will wield authority over the nations and adjudicate between many peoples; these will hammer their swords into ploughshares, their spears into sickles. Nation will not lift sword against nation, there will be no more training for war. O House of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the Lord.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

PSALM

Ps 121:1-2.4-5.6-9. R.cf.v1

**R) I rejoiced when I heard them say:
‘Let us go to God’s house.’**

I rejoiced when I heard them say:
‘Let us go to God’s house.’
And now our feet are standing
within your gates, O Jerusalem. **(R)**

It is there that the tribes go up,
the tribes of the Lord.
For Israel’s law it is,
there to praise the Lord’s name.
There were set the thrones of judgement
of the house of David. **(R)**

For the peace of Jerusalem pray:
‘Peace be to your homes!
May peace reign in your walls,
in your palaces, peace!’ **(R)**

For love of my brethren and friends
I say: ‘Peace upon you!’
For love of the house of the Lord
I will ask for your good. **(R)**

SECOND READING

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans 13:11-14

You know ‘the time’ has come: you must wake up now: our salvation is even nearer than it was when we were converted. The night is almost over, it will be daylight soon – let us give up all the things we prefer to do under cover of the dark; let us arm ourselves and appear in the light. Let us live decently as people do in the daytime: no drunken orgies, no promiscuity or licentiousness, and no wrangling or jealousy. Let your armour be the Lord Jesus Christ.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

Ps 84:8

**Let us see, O Lord, your mercy
and give us your saving help.
Alleluia!**

GOSPEL

Matthew 24:37-44

The Lord be with you.

And with your spirit.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.
Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus said to his disciples: ‘As it was in Noah’s day, so will it be when the Son of Man comes. For in those days before the Flood people were eating, drinking, taking wives, taking husbands, right up to the day Noah went into the ark, and they suspected nothing till the Flood came and swept all away. It will be like this when the Son of Man comes. Then of two men in the fields one is taken, one left; of two women at the millstone grinding, one is taken, one left.

‘So stay awake, because you do not know the day when your master is coming. You may be quite sure of this that if the householder had known at what time of the night the burglar would come, he would have stayed awake and would not have allowed anyone to break through the wall of his house. Therefore, you too must stand ready because the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.’

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

Accept, we pray, O Lord, these offerings we make, gathered from among your gifts to us, and may what you grant us to celebrate devoutly here below, gain for us the prize of eternal redemption. Through Christ our Lord.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Ps 84:13

**The Lord will bestow his bounty, and our
earth shall yield its increase.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

May these mysteries, O Lord, in which we have participated, profit us, we pray, for even now, as we walk amid passing things, you teach us by them to love the things of heaven and hold fast to what endures. Through Christ our Lord.

OUR FAITH ON SUNDAY

GOSPEL REFLECTION



In today’s passage of the Gospels Jesus is warning us that when we experience wars, earthquakes and other disasters we may think that the end of the world is near, but, as

he says elsewhere, “*the end will not be yet*”. Jesus warns us to “*stay awake, because we do not know the day*”. But is it the day of our death he means or the end of time? There seems to be a double meaning here, because there is indeed for each one of us, both these ‘comings’. Some of us – most of us? – will experience death before we experience the final coming of Our Lord and we don’t in fact, most of us, know when the “*burglar*” is coming! Our Lord’s warning is to the point when he

says “*stand ready*”; for, far more than the householder, we possess a “*house*”: our soul which as baptized and graced is the home of the Most Holy Trinity and so a treasure house! It is a treasure won for us by Our Lord himself and not obtainable any other way; treasure to be guarded and protected by all the means provided by the Giver: the Mass, the sacraments, prayer. Since the “*burglar*” is God, he asks, not to break in, but to have the door willingly opened to him!

**HERE AND NOW****God in the Ordinary**

God is present even in our littleness and inadequacy. Intelligence and great deeds are not the heart of surrender. Wide horizons, sure ground and solid rock are only found in doing God’s will in the midst of ordinary life. We do what has to be done and leave it at that. There is a sense of not knowing where we are going, or what we are doing, because we can often feel so helpless. All we can do is to walk along one step at a time. Eternity is already with us because eternity consists in love, and love is embraced by us in the duties and sufferings of the present. Behind every cloud the sun is shining; so God is there behind the clouds of suffering even when we are not aware of the Divine presence. We have to be light as a feather, fluid as water, innocent as a child, responding to each movement of grace as if we were a balloon floating along in the air currents, or like molten metal filling whatever vessel God pours us into. Everything turns out for the best when we give ourselves unreservedly to God. All things work together for good for those who love God. Since we know that God is responsible for everything except sin we must have great courage and great confidence in this truth.

***Life in God’s Now** by Elizabeth Ruth Obbard. Publisher: New City. ISBN-13: 9781905039111

**EVANGELII GAUDIUM
(JOY OF THE GOSPEL)****Some cultural challenges**

62. In the prevailing culture, priority is given to the outward, the immediate, the visible, the quick, the superficial and the provisional. What is real gives way to appearances. In many countries globalization has meant a hastened deterioration of their own cultural roots and the invasion of ways of thinking and acting proper to other cultures which are economically advanced but ethically debilitated. This fact has been brought up by bishops from various continents in different Synods. The African bishops, for example, taking up the Encyclical *Sollicitudo Rei Socialis*, pointed out years ago that there have been frequent attempts to make the African countries “parts of a machine, cogs on a gigantic wheel...”



PARISH COMMUNITIES OF

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ST WILFRID

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The Arundel & Brighton Diocesan Trust is a Registered Charity No. 252878

WEEKLY SERVICES

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT			
Sat	26th	6.00pm	St Wilfrid's - Millicent Mary Spencer RIP
Sun	27th	9.00am	St George's - Paddy & Rose Falkner RIP
		10.30am	St Wilfrid's - Parish Communities' Intention
Mon	28th	2.30pm	St George's - 2.30pm Rosary Group, every Monday except Bank Holidays
Tue	29th	10.00am	St Wilfrid's - Felix & Josephine Soarrels RIP
Wed	30th	10.00am	St George's - Deceased members of Lodrick Family
Wed	30th	6.30pm	St Wilfrid's - Devotions
Thur	1st	10.00am	St Wilfrid's - Jack Coleman RIP (26th Anniversary)
Fri	2nd	10.00am	St George's - Kate & Patrick Walsh RIP
Sat	3rd	6.00pm	St Wilfrid's - Agnes Chetwynd RIP
SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT			
Sun	4th	9.00am	St George's - Parish Communities' Intention
		10.30am	St Wilfrid's - Miss Dorothy Povey

1st Friday of the month: 9.30am St George's - Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Reconciliation

IMPORTANT: Going into hospital? Would like a visit from the Catholic Chaplaincy? Ring 417400, ext 4145 and leave a message for the Catholic Chaplain. Please also let Fr Rory know. Catholic Mass in the hospital Chapel every Friday at 3pm.

St. Thomas a Becket Infant School: Tel 01323 726004 **St. Thomas a Becket Junior School:** Tel 01323 737221
St Richard's Catholic College, Bexhill: Tel 01424 731070

New to the Parish or would like to get back in touch but not sure how? Please complete the welcome form available in the porch and/or make yourself known to Fr. Rory. *It would be great to get to know you and offer any help.*

USEFUL PARISH INFORMATION

St Wilfrid's Planned Giving Contact (01323) 847014
St George's Planned Giving Contact (01323) 870990
St George's & St. Wilfrid's Finance Committee Treasurers Charles Piegrome & Brian Winter
Chairperson of the Finance Committee Peter Dromgoole
ALL CORRESPONDENCE FOR THE ABOVE VIA THE PRIEST'S HOUSE PLEASE
Polegate Hall Hire.....Tel: (01323) 504753
Prayer LineJean Barham Tel: (01323) 842824

CROSSLINK CHURCHES TOGETHER, HAILSHAM
Contact: Ann Fielder 01323 843361

POLEGATE CHURCHES TOGETHER
Contact: Margaret Piegrome 01323 870990

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS those who are unwell: Lily May, Maureen Barnard, Jennifer Duder-Rumsey, Edna Andrews, Juliette Lusted, Jennifer Piskac, Margaret Gearing, Joshua Hardy, Peter & Teresa Zurenkas, Anne & Harry Holt, Elizabeth Osbourne, Irene Boulstridge, Margaret, Tom and Elizabeth Woodrow-Spencer, Enza Riddiford, Dorothy Hanlon and Brian Winter.

PLEASE ALSO REMEMBER THOSE NAMED IN THE BOOKS IN OUR CHURCHES

Newsletter items: Please send to Jackie at ssgeorge.wilfrid@btinternet.com, tel.841504 or by hand marked **NEWSLETTER**, to Fr. Rory's House by **9am Wednesday.**

Fr Rory Writes:

For our window during Advent: On a bright note, (much needed), Deacon John says, Advent is a special time of prayer. (Material available from the Diocesan Advent Study material at www.dabnet.org/News/View/114).

We had a rattling enjoyable evening at the beetle drive with a special word of thanks to our compare for the evening - Paul Sullivan. Again, I am very grateful for the expressions of concern that I receive and it helps very much to live with what is the truth of life "no cross - no crown".

Fr Rory

Leader: The fruit of Silence is Prayer. **All:** Lord, teach us to Pray

Leader: The fruit of Prayer is Faith. **All:** Lord, give us the gift of Faith

Leader: The fruit of Faith is Love. **All:** Lord, help us to choose Love

Leader: The fruit of Love is Service. **All:** Lord, grant us a heart for Service

Leader: The fruit of Service is Peace. **All:** Lord, may our souls be at Peace.

St Teresa on Faith

An important public official of my country once asked me "Mother Teresa, you say you pray for me. Tell me the truth: don't you want me to become a Christian?" I answered him, "If anyone has something they value a great deal, that person is very likely to want his or her friends to share it. I am convinced that faith in Christ is the best thing to have in the world. I would like for all to know and love Christ at least as much as I love him. Obviously, I would also like for you to know and love him. But faith is a gift from God, and he gives it to whomever he chooses" (From "Mother Teresa in her own Words", by Gramercy Books, 1997)

Epiphany Party: There will be an Epiphany Party on Sunday 8th January from 2 - 4pm in St George's Church Hall to which all children from St George's and St Wilfrid's Children Liturgy are invited.

Christmas Flowers at St Wilfrid's: There will be a second collection on the 3rd and 4th December for the flowers to decorate the Church for the Christmas period.

Lights of Love, St. George's Church, 5th December at 7.00pm (In support of St. Wilfrid's Hospice). You are warmly invited to attend this celebration during which we come together to remember and reflect on time spent with those who have touched our lives but are no longer with us. After a programme of readings and carols, refreshments will be served in the hall. You can be assured of the warmest welcome and we really look forward to seeing you there.

Indian Mass: There will be an Indian Mass at St Wilfrid's Church on Saturday 31st December at 10am.

Preparation for Sacrament of Reconciliation and First Holy Communion at St Wilfrid's: **URGENT** parents or guardians who think that their children are ready to be prepared for the Sacrament of Reconciliation and First Holy Communion next year, please inform Fr Rory and email your details to the Parish Office at ssgeorge.wilfrid@btinternet.com First preparation will begin in Advent which begins this week.

St George's Choir Practice: will be on Saturday 17th December at 10.00am.

"Reverse Advent Calendar". Some commercial Advent Calendars provide a little gift each day for the person who opens the window in the Calendar. The **Knights of St Columba** invite everyone to reverse this process - Give to the needy this Advent! Just provide a small gift every day of Advent for the **Food Bank**. Tins, packet food, toiletries, laundry goods etc. will be welcome.

Sponsorship request for St George's parishioners: 10 year old Erin Todd is having her long hair cut off for Charity, the hair will be donated to the Little Princes Trust who make Children's wigs and any sponsored donations will go to St Wilfrid's Hospice. If you would like to sponsor please place your name and donation amount on the form at the back of church, you can give immediately or provide money at mass on December 4th once the hair is cut. Thank you for your support.

St Wilfrid's Family Mass: Our next family Mass at St Wilfrid's will be hosted by St Richard's school on Sunday 27th November. Afterwards we will have pizza and advent arts and crafts. Everyone is welcome.

WANTED: Looking for an automatic car, needs to be pre-millennium, 1.4, in reasonable condition, much needed. Any help will be appreciated by Fr Rory, as the car is needed by a parishioner. Contact Fr Rory if you can help. Thank you.

COLLECTIONS: (19th/20th Nov)	
St George's	£181.40
Cathedral Maintenance Fund	£52.65
Weekly aver./Monthly D/D	£176.50
St Wilfrid's	£251.95
Cathedral Maintenance Fund	£98.75
Weekly aver. of DD	£204.60
Attendances: St W's 121 St G's 73	
Thank you for your continued generosity	
If you pay tax please use gift aid envelopes.	

Bonus Ball:

Sat 19th November
No: 40
Dorothy Hanlon

Wed 16th November
No: 40
Niamh Layberry

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:

Wed 30th Nov St Wilfrid's Choir Practice, St Wilfrid's Church, 7pm
Mon 5th Dec Lights of Love, St George's Church, 7pm
Wed 7th Dec Mother Teresa Group Mtg, St George's Hall, 2.30pm
Wed 7th Dec St George's Leaven Group Mtg, St George's Hall, 6.15pm
Wed 7th Dec St Wilfrid's Choir Practice, St Wilfrid's Church, 7pm
Sat 17th Dec St George's Choir Practice, St George's Church, 10am
Sat 31st Dec Indian Mass, St Wilfrid's Church, 10am
Sun 8th Jan Epiphany Party, St George's Hall, 2-4pm