

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Cf. Sir 36: 18

Give peace, O Lord, to those who wait for you,
that your prophets be found true.
Hear the prayers of your servant,
and of your people Israel.

THE COLLECT

Look upon us, O God,
Creator and ruler of all things,
and, that we may feel the working of your mercy,
grant that we may serve you with all our heart.
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 book of Ecclesiasticus 27:33-28:7

Resentment and anger, these are foul things, and both are found with the sinner.
He who exacts vengeance will experience the vengeance of the Lord, who keeps strict account of sin.
Forgive your neighbour the hurt he does you, and when you pray, your sins will be forgiven.
If a man nurses anger against another, can he then demand compassion from the Lord?
Showing no pity for a man like himself, can he then plead for his own sins?
Mere creature of flesh, he cherishes resentment, who will forgive him his sins?
Remember the last things, and stop hating, emember dissolution and death, and live by the commandments.
Remember the commandments, and do not bear your neighbour ill-will;
remember the covenant of the Most High, and overlook the offence.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

PSALM

Psalm 102:1-4,9-12

**R) The Lord is compassion and love,
slow to anger and rich in mercy.**

My soul, give thanks to the Lord
all my being, bless his holy name.
My soul, give thanks to the Lord
and never forget all his blessings. **(R)**

It is he who forgives all your guilt,
who heals every one of your ills,
who redeems your life from the grave,
who crowns you with love and compassion. **(R)**

His wrath will come to an end;
he will not be angry for ever.
He does not treat us according to our sins
nor repay us according to our faults. **(R)**

For as the heavens are high above the earth
so strong is his love for those who fear him.
As far as the east is from the west
so far does he remove our sins. **(R)**

SECOND READING

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans 14:7-9

The life and death of each of us has its influence on others; if we live, we live for the Lord; and if we die, we die for the Lord, so that alive or dead we belong to the Lord. This explains why Christ both died and came to life, it was so that he might be Lord both of the dead and of the living.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia! 1Sam 3:9; Jn 6:68
Speak, Lord, your servant is listening:
you have the message of eternal life.
Alleluia!

Alleluia, alleluia! Jn13:34
I give you a new commandment:
love one another just as I have loved you,
says the Lord.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Matthew 18:21-35

The Lord be with you.
And with your spirit.
A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.
Glory to you, O Lord.

Peter went up to Jesus and said, 'Lord, how often must I forgive my brother if he wrongs me? As often as seven times?' Jesus answered, 'Not seven, I tell you, but seventy-seven times.'

'And so the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who decided to settle his accounts with his servants. When the reckoning began, they brought him a man who owed ten thousand talents; but he had no means of paying, so his master gave orders that he should be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, to meet the debt. At this, the servant threw himself down at his master's feet. "Give me time" he said "and I will pay the whole sum." And the servant's master felt so sorry for him that he let him go and cancelled the debt. Now as this servant went out, he happened to meet a fellow servant who owed him one hundred denarii; and he seized him by the throat and began to throttle him. "Pay what you owe me" he said. His fellow servant fell at his feet and implored him, saying, "Give me time and I will pay you." But the other would not agree; on the contrary, he had him thrown into prison till he should pay the debt. His fellow servants were deeply distressed when they saw what had happened, and they went to their master and reported the whole affair to him. Then the master sent for him. "You wicked servant," he said "I cancelled all that debt of yours when you appealed to me. Were you not bound, then, to have pity on your fellow servant just as I had pity on you?" And in his anger the master handed him over to the torturers till he should pay all his debt. And that is how my heavenly Father will deal with you unless you each forgive your brother from your heart.'

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

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

Look with favour on our supplications, O Lord,
and in your kindness accept these, your servants' offerings,
that what each has offered to the honour of your name may serve the salvation of all.
Through Christ our Lord.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Cf. Ps 35: 8

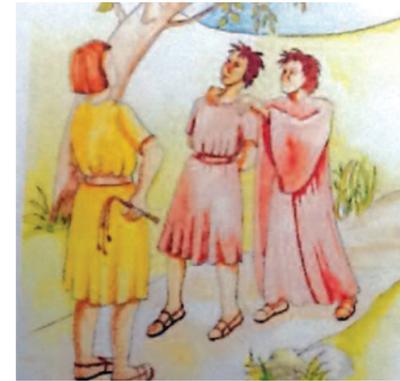
**How precious is your mercy, O God!
The children of men seek shelter in the shadow of your wings.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

May the working of this heavenly gift, O Lord, we pray,
take possession of our minds and bodies,
so that its effects, and not our own desires,
may always prevail in us.
Through Christ our Lord.

OUR FAITH ON SUNDAY

GOSPEL REFLECTION



The Year of Mercy celebrated last year in the Church helped make us more aware of the mercy of God for all his

sons and daughters. Pope Francis saw it as an essential part of our faith to understand God's love through his unlimited mercy to all of us. The fact is, as today's Gospel tells us very clearly, God's mercy towards us is strictly linked to the mercy we show to others. In fact, there are many people whose relationship with God is at a complete standstill because they cannot or will not forgive someone who has upset them or offended them in the past. And our relationship with God will remain at a standstill until we have the courage to reach out the hand of

forgiveness to our 'enemies'. The reason that it is difficult or even impossible for some of to forgive is because we are trying to do so with our own strength, when it can only be done with God's help. God's mercy is limitless, infinite, whereas ours is at best conditional. If we want to rebuild our relationship with God, then we have to ask him for the grace of his mercy. We need to pray for the opportunity to make things right with our brother or sister and for the grace to recognize and accept the opportunity when he offers it to us.

**EVANGELII GAUDIUM
(JOY OF THE GOSPEL)****II. TEMPATIONS FACED BY
PASTORAL WORKERS****Yes to the new relationships
brought by Christ**

91 (cont'd) Better yet, it means learning to find Jesus in the faces of others, in their voices, in their pleas. And learning to suffer in the embrace of the crucified Jesus whenever we are unjustly attacked or meet with ingratitude, never tiring of our decision to live in fraternity.⁶⁹

⁶⁹ We can benefit from the testimony of Saint Thérèse of Lisieux, who speaks of one particular Sister whom she found especially disagreeable, where an interior experience had a decisive impact: "One winter afternoon I was engaged as usual in my little task. It was cold and growing dark... Suddenly I heard in the distance the harmonious sounds of a musical instrument. I began to imagine a well-lit room, draped in gold, and in it, elegantly dressed young ladies exchanging worldly compliments and courtesies. Then I looked at the poor sick woman whom I was attending. In place of a melody, I heard her occasional groans and sighs... I cannot express what took place in my soul. All that I do know is that the Lord illumined it with the rays of truth which so surpassed the flickering glow of earthly revels, that I could scarcely believe my happiness" (Ms. C, 29v-30r, in Oeuvres Complètes, Paris, 1992, 274-275).



Holiness for Everyone*

Examination of Soul

Make a thorough annual examination of conscience, lasting over a period of time. This can take place while walking or resting in bed, but be sure to keep from drowsiness and be aware of the points you are to consider beforehand. Then place yourself in God's presence and consider how you stand in regard to serious sin.

Have you kept the Commandments?

Are you careful to avoid even small sins?

Are you regular with your spiritual exercises and how do you feel about them?

How are you in your dealings with God? Do you delight in remembering him? Do you want to love him more and more?

How is your relationship with Jesus Christ? Is he your happiness and the honey of your soul?

How are you in regard to our Lady and the saints? Do you love them fervently, confident in their patronage?

How do you use your tongue? Do you love to speak of God and sing God's praises?

In your works are you zealous for God's glory?

Have you given up anything for God's sake? To be able to give up something for love of another is a sign that love is true and strong.

**Holiness for Everyone* by Elizabeth Ruth Obbard. Published by New City.



PARISH COMMUNITIES OF

ST GEORGE

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ST WILFRID

South Road
Hailsham



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

WEEKLY SERVICES

Sat	16th	6.00pm	St Wilfrid's - In Honour of Our Lady TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (Special Collection Today for Home Mission Sunday)
Sun	17th	9.00am	St George's - Delia McCann's Intention
		10.30am	St Wilfrid's - Parish Communities' Intention Mrs Elsa Osbourne RIP
Mon	18th	11.00am	St Wilfrid's - Requiem Mass for Elsa Osbourne
Mon	18th	2.30pm	St George's - 2.30pm Rosary Group, every Monday except Bank Holidays
Tue	19th	10.00am	St George's - Ministry of Word & Eucharist
Wed	20th	10.00am	St Wilfrid's - Ministry of Word & Eucharist
Thur	21st	10.00am	St George's - Ministry of Word & Eucharist
Fri	22nd	10.00am	St Wilfrid's - Ministry of Word & Eucharist
Sat	23rd	6.00pm	St Wilfrid's - Mrs Sylvia Galea RIP TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
Sun	24th	9.00am	St George's - Katie Waplin RIP
		10.30am	St Wilfrid's - Parish Communities' Intention

1st Thursday 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 Primary School: Tel 01323 726004 **St. Thomas a Becket Primary 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) 832577
St George's Planned Giving Contact (01323) 870990
St George's & St Wilfrid's Finance Committee Treasurers Charles Piegrome & Monika Beaver
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, Edna Andrews, Julliette Lusted, Jennifer Piskac, Margaret Gearing, Joshua Hardy, Peter & Teresa Zurenkas, Anne & Harry Holt, Margaret, Tom and Elizabeth Woodrow-Spencer, Enza Riddiford, Dorothy Hanlon, Margaret Westcar, Jenny Price, Ann Winter and Empress.

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:

A.N.G, Yes A.N.G

Many years ago when I was in the seminary, it seemed that a great opportunity was in store for the life of our church. A focus from the scriptures in the words of Jesus, "let the dead bury the dead, go and proclaim the good news". This is the salvation of our God, every moment of grace bears witness to this. So I cannot understand why I am so sad after all this time in the priesthood. But then I should try to listen to myself when I say, it is most important to look for the silver linings in the clouds.

On Monday, please God, we will have a very special grace. This special service on Monday for the late Elizabeth Antonia Osbourne "Elsa", as she was known to us. When the family were preparing the service with me for Elsa's funeral, her husband Roy offered to sing the hymn "Nunc Dimittis", "Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace, according to Thy word. For mine eyes have seen Thy salvation". This is so appropriate for Elsa after so many years of affliction. The great irony is that so often the greatest moments of grace that I experience are with funerals.

Last weekend the biggest positive thank you, for all the hard work in preparation and tidying up after our parties. The Catenians were very grateful for the spread after Brian Winter's Mass, and those from our two communities who availed themselves of this opportunity to meet and greet had a very good time. Then a truly spectacular birthday party for Alfred, one of the children from the Kerala Community from India.

And about A.N.G, it calls for a new generation. This should be our greatest priority and focus for our best efforts in the future, I hope we will be able to bring much more time, energy and effort to this, if we are to develop and grow as our parish community.



St George's Church, Harvest Festival, 1st October. This year, our focus is on Eastbourne Foodbank. The Children's Liturgy will be celebrating the concept of harvest and focusing particularly on sharing this bounty with those who rely on the Foodbank. Please bring your gifts of dried or canned food, small packets of cereals, UHT milk, to the church by the **24th September** so they can be displayed on the altar ready for distribution. You give generously to the Eastbourne Foodbank, and the children's involvement with this activity is admirable. Please support them.

The **Knights of St Columba** meet on Monday 18th September at 3pm at Christ the King parish rooms. All Catholic men are welcome to come.

Churches Together, Polegate, Songs of Praise, this year will be held on **Sunday 17th September**, at St. Wilfrid's Church, Broad Road, Willingdon, at 4.00 pm. Kelly Richards has chosen the hymn for St. George's. Do go along to support this annual event, enjoy the singing and the refreshments afterwards.

Bingo: The next Bingo session is in St George's Hall on Friday 6th October. Doors open at 7pm for 7.30pm start. All welcome.

CAFOD Meeting: Please come and join us on Saturday 23rd September from 10 to 11:30am, at Christ the King Church Eastbourne, BN23 6HT. This year's Harvest Fast day is focussing on El Salvador and the challenges facing farmers there, which is quite fitting as it is 100 years since the birth of Blessed Oscar Romero. Everyone is welcome. For more information please contact Martin arundelandbrighton@cafod.org.uk or call 01483 898866.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:

Sat 23rd Sept Indian Mass, St Wilfrid's Church, 10am
Sun 17th Sept Children's Liturgy Returns, St Wilfrid's Church
Sun 24th Sept Harvest Festival Family Mass, St W's Church, 10.30am
Sun 1st Oct Harvest Festival, St George's Church, 9am
Tue 3rd Oct Meeting Re:1st Holy Communion, St Wilfrid's Hall, 5.30pm
Fri 6th Oct St George's Leaven Group Mtg, St G's Church, 6.15pm
Fri 6th Oct Bingo, St George's Hall, 7pm for 7.30pm start

St Wilfrid's needs to recruit three more counters.

If you can help to count the collections on a rota basis please contact Jean details below. If we can recruit an additional three it would mean counting once every five weeks, normally done on a Monday morning, but this is not set in stone. It takes approximately two hours or less depending on one collection or two. Contact Jean Barham 842824

The Eastbourne Catenians would like to thank Fr Rory and St Wilfrid's Community for their warm welcome at the Memorial Mass for Brian Winter RIP last Sunday. We would particularly like to thank St Wilfrid's ladies who provided a wonderful spread to accompany the tea and coffee in the hall after the Mass.

Indian Mass at St Wilfrid's: There will be an Indian Mass on Saturday 23rd September. Rosary at 9.30am followed by Mass at 10am.

Harvest Festival at St Wilfrid's:

There will be a family mass on the 24th September to celebrate harvest. We are aiming to help CAFOD and Hailsham Foodbank, so please contribute generously by donating items on the list in the porch, a big box will be under the table from this week.

When you walk into a grocery store or supermarket you see an abundance of colour, there are so many vegetables and fruit to choose from. There are yellow bananas, red tomatoes, green peppers....A whole rainbow of colours, and so our theme for this year's Harvest will be "Brighten Up", we will show a range of fruit and veg brightening up the church and putting a smile on the faces of the parishioners.

St Wilfrid's Children's Liturgy returning on the 17th September. Also any candidates wishing to take their first communion, there will be a meeting on Tuesday 3rd October at 5:30pm in the hall.

COLLECTIONS: (9th/10th Sept)

St George's	£170.77
Catholic Education Service	£86.04
Weekly aver./Monthly D/D	£176.50
St Wilfrid's	£431.73
Catholic Education Service	£80.85
Weekly aver. of DD	£204.60
Attendances: St W's 199 St G's 77	
Thank you for your continued generosity	

Bonus Ball:

Sat 9th September
 No: 6
 Michael Copper

Wed 6th September
 No: 46
 John Forde