

**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON**

Rv 5:12; 1:6

**How worthy is the Lamb who was slain, to receive power and divinity, and wisdom and strength and honour. To him belong glory and power for ever and ever.**

**THE COLLECT**

Almighty ever-living God, whose will is to restore all things in your beloved Son, the King of the universe, grant, we pray, that the whole creation, set free from slavery, may render your majesty service and ceaselessly proclaim your praise. 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 second book of Samuel

5:1-3

All the tribes of Israel came to David at Hebron. 'Look' they said 'we are your own flesh and blood. In days past when Saul was our king, it was you who led Israel in all their exploits; and the Lord said to you, "You are the man who shall be shepherd of my people Israel, you shall be the leader of Israel." So all the elders of Israel came to the king at Hebron, and King David made a pact with them at Hebron in the presence of the Lord, and they anointed David king of Israel.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.****PSALM**

Ps 121:1-5. R.cf.v2

**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)**

Jerusalem is built as a city strongly compact. It is there that the tribes go up, the tribes of the Lord. **(R)**

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)**

**SECOND READING**

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Colossians 1:12-20

We give thanks to the Father who has made it possible for you to join the saints and with them to inherit the light. Because that is what he has done: he has taken us out of the power of darkness and created a place for us in the kingdom of the Son that he loves, and in him, we gain our freedom, the forgiveness of our sins.

He is the image of the unseen God and the first-born of all creation, for in him were created all things in heaven and on earth: everything visible and everything invisible, Thrones, Dominations, Sovereignities, Powers – all things were created through him and for him.

Before anything was created, he existed, and he holds all things in unity. Now the Church is his body, he is its head. As he is the Beginning, he was first to be born from the dead, so that he should be first in every way; because God wanted all perfection to be found in him and all things to be reconciled through him and for him, everything in heaven and everything on earth, when he made peace by his death on the cross.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.****GOSPEL ACCLAMATION****Alleluia, alleluia!**

Mk 11:9-10

**Blessings on him who comes in the name of the Lord! Blessings on the coming kingdom of our father David! Alleluia!**

**GOSPEL**

Luke 23:35-43

The Lord be with you.

**And with your spirit.**

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.

**Glorify to you, O Lord.**

The people stayed there before the cross watching Jesus. As for the leaders, they jeered at him. 'He saved others,' they said 'let him save himself if he is the Christ of God, the Chosen One.' The soldiers mocked him too, and when they approached to offer him vinegar they said, 'If you are the king of the Jews, save yourself.' Above him there was an inscription: 'This is the King of the Jews.'

One of the criminals hanging there abused him. 'Are you not the Christ?' he said. 'Save yourself and us as well.' But the other spoke up and rebuked him. 'Have you no fear of God at all?' he said, 'You got the same sentence as he did, but in our case we deserved it: we are paying for what we did. But this man has done nothing wrong. Jesus,' he said 'remember me when you come into your kingdom.' 'Indeed, I promise you,' he replied 'today you will be with me in paradise.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.****PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS**

As we offer you, O Lord, the sacrifice by which the human race is reconciled to you, we humbly pray that your Son himself may bestow on all nations the gifts of unity and peace. Through Christ our Lord.

**COMMUNION ANTIPHON**

Ps 28:10-11

**The Lord sits as King for ever. The Lord will bless his people with peace.**

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Having received the food of immortality, we ask, O Lord, that, glorying in obedience to the commands of Christ, the King of the universe, we may live with him eternally in his heavenly Kingdom. Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.



# OUR FAITH ON SUNDAY

## GOSPEL REFLECTION



The end of the Year of Mercy. Can there ever be an end of the year of mercy? God's mercy

extends from age to age, from one end of the universe to the other. God's mercy arises from the depths of his Love, because he IS Love and he tells us that each one of us is loved individually: "Why, every hair on your head has been counted." As with the 'good thief' he only waits for our love in return. If those who stood round the cross mocking and jeering, had each one of them made the same plea as the thief, each one of them would have received the same merciful response. It is the

immeasurableness of God's mercy that he actually made the mocking and jeering, the torture, Christ's agonising death, a *means* of redeeming mercy for us all. Father and Son, united in the Holy Spirit, let nothing hinder their saving, merciful, burning love for their stubborn, sinful lost creatures: creatures created in Their own image and likeness. They long to see us united in the Only Begotten Son, living in paradise. No, there is no end to the Year of Mercy!



### HERE AND NOW

#### Accepting Suffering

Feelings are no gauge of progress, ultimately the duty of the present moment is what matters. Attention to the present may make us act in one way or another, not because our reason tells us to do something but because we are attentive to the grace of God coming to us through many channels.

When we really want to walk with God we discover that we can do nothing except travel along the path in trust, having God alone as our guide. And God is often present to us only in the darkness of faith.

Nobody likes bitter medicine, but when the doctor prescribes it we must take it, and trust that we will recover our health.

In the same way, bitter medicine from God has to be taken without fear of being poisoned. We may not swallow it gladly or easily, but take it we must. Bitterness and suffering have to be accepted in faith as sent by God. We feel so remote from the saints and their wonderful example of generosity. And yet, if we do what has to be done, in that is our true glory and destiny, even though we feel so totally inadequate.

God hides in order to increase our faith, as Jesus was unrecognized by Mary Magdalen in the garden of the Resurrection, even though she had earlier sat at his feet.

**\*Life in God's Now** by Elizabeth Ruth Obbard.

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### EVANGELII GAUDIUM (JOY OF THE GOSPEL)



#### Some cultural challenges

61. We also evangelize when we attempt to confront the various challenges which can arise.<sup>56</sup> On occasion these may take the form of veritable attacks on religious freedom or new persecutions directed against Christians; in some countries these have reached alarming levels of hatred and violence. In many places, the problem is more that of widespread indifference and relativism, linked to disillusionment and the crisis of ideologies which has come about as a reaction to any-thing which might appear totalitarian. This not only harms the Church but the fabric of society as a whole. We should recognize how in a culture where each person wants to be bearer of his or her own subjective truth, it becomes difficult for citizens to devise a common plan which transcends individual gain and personal ambitions.

56 Cf. *Propositio* 13.



# PARISH COMMUNITIES OF

## ST GEORGE

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Polegate



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## ST WILFRID

South Road  
Hailsham



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

### WEEKLY SERVICES

#### OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE (Special Collection Today for The Cathedral Maintenance Fund)

Sat	19th	6.00pm	St Wilfrid's - John Dodson RIP
Sun	20th	<b>9.00am</b>	St George's - Parish Communities' Intention
		10.30am	St Wilfrid's - Peter & Shelagh Burns RIP
Mon	21st	2.30pm	St George's - 2.30pm Rosary Group, every Monday except Bank Holidays
Tue	22nd	10.00am	St Wilfrid's - George Barham RIP
Wed	23rd	10.00am	St George's - Mrs Flora DeSousa RIP
Wed	23rd	6.30pm	St Wilfrid's - Devotions
Thur	24th	10.00am	St Wilfrid's - Deceased relatives & friends of Barham Family
Fri	25th	10.00am	St George's - Requiem Mass for Roger Alfred Cain RIP
Sat	26th	6.00pm	St Wilfrid's - Millicent Mary Spencer RIP
			<b>FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT</b>
Sun	27th	9.00am	St George's - Paddy & Rose Falkner RIP
		10.30am	St Wilfrid's - Parish Communities' Intention

*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 Line .....Jean 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](mailto:ssgeorge.wilfrid@btinternet.com), tel.841504 or by hand marked **NEWSLETTER**, to Fr. Rory's House by **9am Wednesday**.

**Fr Rory Writes:** Pray constantly and never lose heart after over forty years of being a priest, to pray constantly has a certain familiarity, warmth; but to never lose heart becomes more and more impossible. A constant sense of strain and drain of the present times leads to a sense of despair. Aware of my faults and knowing that some people think I am too weak, and do not give the leadership that is expected from a parish priest. Like most, I always focus upon the reasons which determine the decisions and the stance that I take. We all end up thinking how reasonable we are and how unreasonable the other is.

One of the clearest things to me is the present situation for priests. So after Poland, they may materialise from Africa or Asia. Now, when I return to the word "responsibility", which I dislike, knowing my own faults, I need to rely utterly on God's help that something worthwhile may emerge from our times. When I focus on this time with its danger of conflict for all peoples and nations, I feel that our greatest hope lies in bodies made of many parts working together. For us, I think a new opportunity is possible through help of a new group, who for the moment have named themselves "The Missing Link". They will help our parish create structures and guidelines to enable us to work together so that our parish communities will bring a sense of life and hope so that we can be faithful to our calling at baptism. *Jr Rory*

### St Anne's Day Centre for the Homeless

**Last date for contributions is next weekend** for St Anne's Centre in Brighton for the homeless and there is a box at the rear of the church for these contributions. This year they particularly require men's underpants (medium size) and tee shirts, unfortunately they are unable to accept other outdoor clothing as they no longer have storage space for it. Also requested are toiletries (those samples from holidays are welcome) toothpaste and brushes, shampoo, shower gel, soap, flannels, deodorant. They also need coffee, tea, sugar, washing up liquid and are happy to have stores' own brands of these or refill packs. The ONLY clothing they require are hats, scarves, gloves and socks for both men and women. Thank you.

**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 4<sup>th</sup> once the hair is cut. Thank you for your support.

**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 Communication next year, please inform Fr Rory and email your details to the Parish Office at [ssgeorge.wilfrid@btinternet.com](mailto:ssgeorge.wilfrid@btinternet.com) First preparation will begin in Advent which begins next week.

**IMPORTANT NOTICE:** The Book of Remembrance under the altar is for anyone to use. Please add the name(s) of anyone who has died, at any time, whom you wish to be remembered during the month of November.

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

Prayer written by Peter Salvidge (Aged 13)  
Peter is to be confirmed on 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2016  
and asks for your prayers please.  
Universal Father, maker of life, you have bound all together and you keep all bound;  
I vow to honour you in all that I do and I praise you now;  
I hope every soul knows your truth.  
Jesus Christ, prophet of life, you taught and led;  
I vow to continue to learn and follow;  
I hope every soul does also.  
Holy Spirit, fire of life, you offer the faith of the Father, preached by his son;  
I vow to seize that faith;  
I hope every soul will with me.  
I vow to you, holy God, that in the day to come, I will be a better man.  
I petition to you, mighty God, that in this night ready me for the day tomorrow.  
I offer to you, immortal God, my entirety.  
My saviour, my lord, help me in all that I have vowed.  
I hope for every soul.  
Amen.

**Inclusion Course - Learning to become an interpreter for people who are deaf:** To help communicate with deaf people in our churches and parishes. The course will start at a basic level and then progress through the levels as appropriate. If you are interested in finding out more about the course please contact: Margaret Fraher, Inclusion Adviser, 01293 651196 or email [margaret.fraher@dabnet.org](mailto:margaret.fraher@dabnet.org)

**Young People's Pilgrimage to the Holy Land, October 2017 –**  
The Sacred Heart Parish, Hove, are running a Holy Land Pilgrimage for 18-35s during October half term 2017. It is open to young people from across the Diocese and will be a comprehensive Pilgrimage, taking in areas including Galilee, Cana, Nazareth, the River Jordan, Mount Tabor, Capernaum, Jericho, the Dead Sea, Bethlehem, Jaffa and many others. A fantastic chance to make some new friends and to learn more about your faith in the land where it all started! You can download an application pack at [Facebook.com/HolyLand2017](https://www.facebook.com/HolyLand2017). For more information, contact [YPPHL2017@gmail.com](mailto:YPPHL2017@gmail.com).

**COLLECTIONS: (12th/13th Nov)**  
**St George's** £184.57  
 Weekly aver./Monthly D/D £176.50  
**St Wilfrid's** £352.63  
 Weekly aver. of DD £204.60  
 Attendances: St W's 164 St G's 80  
**Thank you for your continued generosity**  
 If you pay tax please use gift aid envelopes.

**Bonus Ball:**  
**Sat 12th November**  
 No: 8  
 Bob Waters  
**Wed 9th November**  
 No: 38  
 Hannah Hoad

### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:

**Wed 23rd Nov** St Wilfrid's Choir Practice, St Wilfrid's Church, 7pm  
**Wed 30th Nov** St Wilfrid's Choir Practice, St Wilfrid's Church, 7pm  
**Wed 7th Dec** Mother Teresa Group Mtg, St George's Hall, 2.30pm