

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Cf. Ps 26:8-9

**Of you my heart has spoken: Seek his face.
It is your face, O Lord, that I seek;
hide not your face from me.**

THE COLLECT

O God, who have commanded us to listen to your beloved Son, be pleased, we pray, to nourish us inwardly by your word, that, with spiritual sight made pure, we may rejoice to behold your glory. 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 Genesis 15:5-12. 17-18
Taking Abram outside the Lord said, 'Look up to heaven and count the stars if you can. Such will be your descendants' he told him. Abram put his faith in the Lord, who counted this as making him justified.

'I am the Lord' he said to him 'who brought you out of Ur of the Chaldaeans to make you heir to this land.' 'My Lord, the Lord' Abram replied 'how am I to know that I shall inherit it?' He said to him, 'Get me a three-year-old heifer, a three-year-old goat, a three-year-old ram, a turtledove and a young pigeon.' He brought him all these, cut them in half and put half on one side and half facing it on the other; but the birds he did not cut in half. Birds of prey came down on the carcasses but Abram drove them off.

Now as the sun was setting Abram fell into a deep sleep, and terror seized him. When the sun had set and darkness had fallen, there appeared a smoking furnace and a firebrand that went between the halves. That day the Lord made a Covenant with Abram in these terms:

'To your descendants I give this land,
from the wadi of Egypt to the Great River.'

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.**PSALM**

Ps. 26:1.7-9.13-14.R.v1

R) The Lord is my light and my help.

The Lord is my light and my help;
whom shall I fear?
The Lord is the stronghold of my life;
before whom shall I shrink? **(R)**

O Lord, hear my voice when I call;
have mercy and answer.
Of you my heart has spoken:
'Seek his face.' **(R)**

It is your face, O Lord, that I seek;
hide not your face.
Dismiss not your servant in anger;
you have been my help. **(R)**

I am sure I shall see the Lord's goodness
in the land of the living.
Hope in him, hold firm and take heart.
Hope in the Lord! **(R)**

SECOND READING

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians

3:17-4:1

For shorter form, read between brackets []

My brothers, be united in following my rule of life. Take as your models everybody who is already doing this and study them as

you used to study us. I have told you often, and I repeat it today with tears, there are many who are behaving as the enemies of the cross of Christ. They are destined to be lost. They make foods into their god and they are proudest of something they ought to think shameful; the things they think important are earthly things. [For us, our homeland is in heaven, and from heaven comes the saviour we are waiting for, the Lord Jesus Christ, and he will transfigure these wretched bodies of ours into copies of his glorious body. He will do that by the same power with which he can subdue the whole universe.

So then, my brothers and dear friends, do not give way but remain faithful in the Lord. I miss you very much, dear friends; you are my joy and my crown.]

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

Mt 17:5

**Glory and praise to you, O Christ!
From the bright cloud, the Father's voice was heard:
'This is my Son, the Beloved. Listen to him!'
Glory and praise to you, O Christ!**

GOSPEL

Luke 9:28-36

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

Jesus took with him Peter and John and James and went up the mountain to pray. As he prayed, the aspect of his face was changed and his clothing became brilliant as lightning. Suddenly there were two men there talking to him; they were Moses and Elijah appearing in glory, and they were speaking of his passing which he was to accomplish in Jerusalem. Peter and his companions were heavy with sleep, but they kept awake and saw his glory and the two men standing with him. As these were leaving him, Peter said to Jesus, 'Master, it is wonderful for us to be here; so let us make three tents, one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah.' — He did not know what he was saying. As he spoke, a cloud came and covered them with shadow; and when they went into the cloud the disciples were afraid. And a voice came from the cloud saying, 'This is my Son, the Chosen One. Listen to him'. And after the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone. The disciples kept silence and, at that time, told no one what they had seen.

The Gospel of the Lord.

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

May this sacrifice, O Lord, we pray,
cleanse us of our faults
and sanctify your faithful in body and mind
for the celebration of the paschal festivities.
Through Christ our Lord.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Mt 17:5

**This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased;
listen to him.**

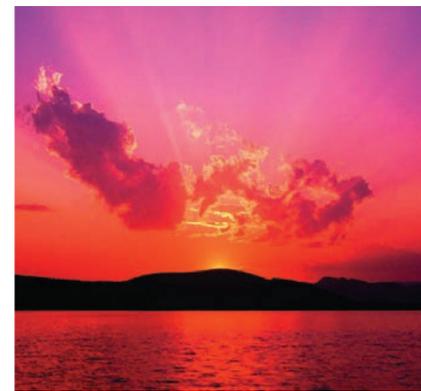
PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

As we receive these glorious mysteries,
we make thanksgiving to you, O Lord,
for allowing us while still on earth
to be partakers even now of the things of heaven.
Through Christ our Lord.



OUR FAITH ON SUNDAY

GOSPEL REFLECTION



The voice from the cloud says, 'This is my Son, the Chosen One. Listen to him.' In ancient languages the verb 'to listen to' and the verb 'to obey' are very

closely linked, involving the change of only a vowel or the addition of a small prefix to change from the one sense into the other. The essence of obedience is a willingness to listen. The sacrifice of Abraham our father in faith was neither that of his own son, nor of the ram caught in the thicket, but his obedience, his willingness to listen to and give everything to the Lord, not refusing even what was most dear to him. Christ

is the perfect exemplar of obedience, not refusing to offer Himself up on that 'infamous gibbet' as the sacrifice for the sin of the world. Now, Christ not only died for us. He rose from the dead, and is seated now at the right hand of the Father interceding for us. We can only understand this when we are ready to accept that not Jesus only, but all who are transfigured in Christ constitute 'the Beloved' of the Father.

**EVANGELII GAUDIUM
(JOY OF THE GOSPEL)****III. FROM THE HEART OF THE GOSPEL**

35. Pastoral ministry in a missionary style is not obsessed with the disjointed transmission of a multitude of doctrines to be insistently imposed. When we adopt a pastoral goal and a missionary style which would actually reach everyone without exception or exclusion, the message has to concentrate on the essentials, on what is most beautiful, most grand, most appealing and at the same time most necessary. The message is simplified, while losing none of its depth and truth, and thus becomes all the more forceful and convincing.

**Monsignor Bruce Harbert –
Thoughts on today's Mass**

During Lent, the liturgy takes on a rather sombre character. There are no flowers, the music is simple, and the hymn 'Glory to God in the highest' is omitted from the beginning of Mass. But today, in the Prayer after Communion, the word 'glorious' makes an appearance to remind us that, for all this sobriety of tone, what is taking place on the altar is still amazing. The 'glorious mysteries' retain their glory, and their power to move and transform us. This prayer sounds a note that we have heard before in this Mass, for we have prayed in the Collect that we may rejoice to see God's glory, and the Preface has reminded us how Our Lord manifested his glory in his Transfiguration. But in this prayer the glory is ours, for God allows us 'while still on earth to be partakers even now of the glory of heaven.'



PARISH COMMUNITIES OF

ST GEORGE

Eastbourne Road
Polegate



Parish Priest: Fr. Rory Kelly

South Road, Hailsham, East Sussex BN27 3JG

Tel: (01323) 841504

(Answerphone service available)

Email: ssgeorge.wilfrid@btinternet.com

Website: www.saintsgeorgeandwilfrid.co.uk

ST WILFRID

South Road
Hailsham



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

WEEKLY SERVICES

Sat	20th	6.00pm	St Wilfrid's - Parish Communities' Intention SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT (Special Collection Today for CAFOD Lenten Fast Day (Friday))
Sun	21st	9.00am	St George's - In Thanksgiving
		10.30am	St Wilfrid's - Mrs Teresa Courtney RIP
Mon	22nd	2.30pm	St George's - 2.30pm Rosary Group, every Monday except Bank Holidays
Tue	23rd	10.00am	St Wilfrid's - Grace Hedley de Currosa RIP
Wed	24th	10.00am	St George's - Vera Almeida RIP
Wed	24th	6.30pm	St Wilfrid's - Lenten Devotions
Thur	25th	10.00am	St Wilfrid's - William Corbett RIP
Fri	26th	11.30am	St George's - Holy Souls' Intention
Fri	26th	7.00pm	St George's - Lenten Devotions
Sat	27th	6.00pm	St Wilfrid's - John Dobson RIP THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT
Sun	28th	9.00am	St George's - In Thanksgiving
		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 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, Agnes Galt, Margaret Gearing, Joshua Hardy, Betty O'Hora, Peter & Teresa Zurenkas, Anne & Harry Holt, David Thomas, Michael Bradley, Elizabeth Osbourne, John Dodson, Irene Boulstridge, Mary Scales, Margaret, Tom and Elizabeth Woodrow-Spencer, Enza Riddiford 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:

Last Sunday after the morning Masses we had two special appeals. At the 9am Mass at St George's, Ellen Bonner highlighted Lenten Family Fast Days and the importance of being generous to this vital aspect of our Lenten almsgiving and preparation for Easter. The fact that the Government will match our generosity for this important cause, is indeed a bonus. After the 10.30am Mass at St Wilfrid's, Agatha made an appeal on behalf of Lourdes Handicapped Trust Pilgrimage to Lourdes. She emphasised the value of this experience for the young handicapped persons who are at the centre of their care. Through them she gave a powerful witness to the phenomenon that is Lourdes. They are spiritually supported but also need the support and strength to cope with very different and difficult circumstances, whilst being an inspiration to family and all who come into contact with them. £200. was donated to the Handicapped Trust, but it is also very important that Agatha receives financial support towards her personal costs for this pilgrimage. So I trust that she will receive this support and I will ensure there will be opportunities for this.

Fr Rory

Ash Wednesday Mass: There was a wonderful attendance at the Ash Wednesday Mass at St George's. Thanks are due to the Leaven Group for delaying the start of their meeting to facilitate the large number of people from both communities to enjoy refreshments and the company of each other in the hall after Mass. It was a joyous occasion at the start of the Lenten season.

Lenten Devotions To enable us to prepare hearts and minds for Easter, **St. George's Church** will be holding Liturgical Services during Lent on **Friday evenings at 7.00 p.m.** The Services will comprise readings, psalms and prayers with Holy Communion. They provide the ideal opportunity to reflect on the events leading up to Holy Week and our celebration of the Risen Christ. Both communities are warmly welcome.

Lenten Lunches, St George's are taking place each Friday during Lent. Remember to put your names on the list in the porch if you wish to come and share soup and bread with friends.

St George's Choir Practice: 27th February at 10.00am
Social Committee - date change - from 19th March - new day to be advised.

The Sacrament of Reconciliation and Children's First Confession will be held on Friday 18th March at St George's Church at 6pm.
The First Holy Communion Mass at St George's will be at the 9am Mass on Sunday 29th May.

Tai chi classes are being held in St George's Church Hall every Wednesday evening from 7-8.30 pm. Adults only. £6.00 per session. Just turn up in comfortable clothes and ask for Lynn the leader of the class. Thank you.

Easter Cards are now on sale at the back of St George's Church on the 21st February.

Stations of the Cross: Starting on Sun 14th February, Stations of the Cross will be held at 3pm at St George's each Sunday during Lent, with the exception of Sun 6th March, Mothering Sunday. Stations of the Cross can be a very meaningful preparation leading up to the services of Holy Week.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:

Wed 24th Feb St Wilfrid's Choir Practice, St Wilfrid's Church, 7pm
Sat 27th Feb St George's Choir Practice, St George's Church, 10am
Tue 1st March Sacrament of Reconciliation/1st Confession, St Wilfrid's Church, 7pm
Wed 2nd March St Wilfrid's Choir Practice, St Wilfrid's Church, 7pm
Fri 4th March WWD of Prayer, St Wilfrid's Church, Broad Rd, 2.30pm
Wed 9th March Mother Teresa Group Mtg, St George's Hall, 2.30pm
Wed 9th March St George's Leaven Gp Mtg, St G's Church, 6.15pm
Fri 18th March Sacrament of Reconciliation/1st Confession St George's Church, 6pm

Thank you: Jean Barham and her family thank you for all the prayers, cards and masses for George. The kindness shown has been a great comfort to her and the family. Bless you all.

A big thank you to all who contributed in any way to another successful quiz night, this year in our own hall. Pity Brian forgot to bring one set of questions! A total profit of £334 was banked towards the cost of work on our new church hall.

Hailsham Foodbank: During September to December 2015 we fed 395 people, 165 of which were children. December was our busiest month - we fed 184 people. A really big thank you to all who donate either food or money to us. Please take the time to look at our website or social media as, among current news, there is a short video showing a life in the day of our foodbank. www.hailsham.foodbank.org.uk

Women's World Day of Prayer: This year is being held on Friday 4th March at 10.30am at the Gospel Mission in Station Road. It has been written by the women of Cuba and the theme is Receive Children, Receive Me. All are welcome.

Year of Mercy: The Jubilee Year of Mercy established by Pope Francis runs until 20 November 2016. He desires everyone to experience the great mercy of God, by going on a pilgrimage. The Knights of St Columba invite parishioners to join them in Pilgrimage to one of the Doors of Mercy established in every Diocese. The following have been arranged - Saturday 23rd April. St George's Cathedral, Southwark. By train to arrive before the 3pm Mass. Sunday 1st May. Shrine of Our Lady of Consolation, West Grinstead. By car or coach to arrive before Rosary and Benediction at 3pm. Sunday 6 November. Westminster Cathedral. By train to arrive before 10.30am Mass. Sunday 20 November. Arundel Cathedral. By car or coach to arrive before Mass on the final day of the Holy Year at 11.15am. Further details are available from David 423323 or Bob 847014

Sacrament of Reconciliation and the Children's First Confession will be held at St Wilfrid's Church on 1st March at 7pm.
1st Communion Mass at St Wilfrid's will be at the 10:30am Mass on 22nd May.

COLLECTIONS: (13th/14th Feb)

St George's	£TBC
Lourdes Pilgrimage Collection	£TBC
Weekly ave./Monthly D/D	£176.50
St Wilfrid's	£319.13
Lourdes Pilgrimage Collection	£227.40
Weekly aver. of DD	£204.60
Attendances: St W's 205 St G's	TBC
Thank you for your continued generosity	
If you pay tax please use gift aid envelopes.	

Bonus Ball:**Sat 13th February**

No: 36
Michael Copper

Wed 10th February

No: 48
Margaret Forde