

**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON**

I am the salvation of the people, says the Lord.  
Should they cry to me in any distress,  
I will hear them, and I will be their Lord for ever.

**THE COLLECT**

O God, who founded all the commands of your sacred Law upon love of you and of our neighbour, grant that, by keeping your precepts, we may merit to attain eternal life. 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. **Amen.**

**FIRST READING**

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

55:6-9

Seek the Lord while he is still to be found,  
call to him while he is still near.  
Let the wicked man abandon his way,  
the evil man his thoughts.  
Let him turn back to the Lord who will take pity on him,  
to our God who is rich in forgiving;  
for my thoughts are not your thoughts,  
my ways not your ways – it is the Lord who speaks.  
Yes, the heavens are as high above earth  
as my ways are above your ways,  
my thoughts above your thoughts.

The word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM**

Ps 144:2-3.8-9.17-18. R. v18

**R) The Lord is close to all who call him.**

I will bless you day after day  
and praise your name for ever.  
The Lord is great, highly to be praised,  
his greatness cannot be measured. **(R)**

The Lord is kind and full of compassion,  
slow to anger, abounding in love.  
How good is the Lord to all,  
compassionate to all his creatures. **(R)**

The Lord is just in all his ways  
and loving in all his deeds.  
He is close to all who call him,  
who call on him from their hearts. **(R)**

**SECOND READING**

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians

1:20-24. 27

Christ will be glorified in my body, whether by my life or by my death. Life to me, of course, is Christ, but then death would bring me something more; but then again, if living in this body means doing work which is having good results – I do not know what I should choose. I am caught in this dilemma: I want to be gone and be with Christ, which would be very much the better, but for me to stay alive in this body is a more urgent need for your sake.

Avoid anything in your everyday lives that would be unworthy of the gospel of Christ.

The word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

Alleluia, alleluia!  
Blessings on the King who comes  
in the name of the Lord!  
Peace in heaven  
and glory in the highest heavens!  
Alleluia!

Lk 19:38

**GOSPEL**

Matthew 20:1-16

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: 'The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner going out at daybreak to hire workers for his vineyard. He made an agreement with the workers for one denarius a day, and sent them to his vineyard. Going out at about the third hour he saw others standing idle in the market place and said to them, "You go to my vineyard too and I will give you a fair wage." So they went. At about the sixth hour and again at about the ninth hour, he went out and did the same. Then at about the eleventh hour he went out and found more men standing round, and he said to them, "Why have you been standing here idle all day?" "Because no one has hired us" they answered. He said to them, "You go into my vineyard too". In the evening, the owner of the vineyard said to his bailiff, "Call the workers and pay them their wages, starting with the last arrivals and ending with the first." So those who were hired at about the eleventh hour came forward and received one denarius each. When the first came, they expected to get more, but they too received one denarius each. They took it, but grumbled at the landowner. "The men who came last" they said "have done only one hour, and you have treated them the same as us, though we have done a heavy day's work in all the heat." He answered one of them and said, "My friend, I am not being unjust to you; did we not agree on one denarius? Take your earnings and go. I choose to pay the last-comer as much as I pay you. Have I no right to do what I like with my own? Why be envious because I am generous?" Thus the last will be first, and the first, last.'

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

**PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS**

Receive with favour, O Lord, we pray,  
the offerings of your people,  
that what they profess with devotion and faith  
may be theirs through these heavenly mysteries.  
Through Christ our Lord.

**COMMUNION ANTIPHON**

Ps 118: 4-5

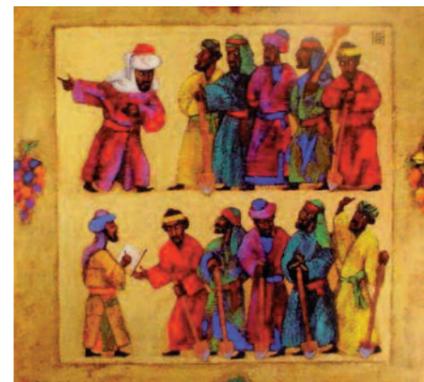
**You have laid down your precepts to be carefully kept;  
may my ways be firm in keeping you statutes.**

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Graciously raise up, O Lord,  
those you renew with this Sacrament,  
that we may come to possess your redemption  
both in mystery and in the manner of our life.  
Through Christ our Lord.

# OUR FAITH ON SUNDAY

## GOSPEL REFLECTION



Many of us, when reading today's Gospel will sympathize with the workers of the first hour. Our innate sense of justice tells us that those who

work longer should be paid more. But this way of looking at today's Gospel is too superficial and doesn't understand the real message behind it. What Jesus is talking about here is the kingdom of heaven, and not just a group of people looking for work. God wants all of to be saved and his love and his mercy will go to any extreme to bring us 'home'. There are those who lived have good and holy lives since childhood and will surely walk straight into paradise when they die. But there are many others, probably the majority, whose lives have not taken such a direct route. For all

sorts of reasons people may stay from the path and come back on to it, or may simply refuse to walk along it until the final days or hours of their lives. If those who have always been 'good' resent the fact that others who have lived 'unholy' lives will be welcomed into to paradise at the last minute, then they are very similar to the 'faithful' son in the parable of the Prodigal Son. Who are we to say how and on whom God should choose to bestow his mercy? We should rejoice with him that the prodigal son has at last come home.

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

92. There indeed we find true healing, since the way to relate to others which truly heals instead of debilitating us, is a mystical fraternity, a contemplative fraternity. It is a fraternal love capable of seeing the sacred grandeur of our neighbour, of finding God in every human being, of tolerating the nuisances of life in common by clinging to the love of God, of opening the heart to divine love and seeking the happiness of others just as their heavenly Father does. Here and now, especially where we are a "little flock" (Lk 12:32), the Lord's disciples are called to live as a community which is the salt of the earth and the light of the world (cf. Mt 5:13-16). We are called to bear witness to a constantly new way of living together in fidelity to the Gospel.<sup>70</sup> Let us not allow ourselves to be robbed of community!

70 Cf. Propositio 8.



## Holiness for Everyone\*

**Direct your heart Godwards**

Give God your heart whole and undivided.

Consider the example of the saints and resolve to grow in holiness.

Build up your self-respect, knowing yourself to be a valuable person loved and redeemed. Long with an ever greater longing to grow in holiness. Goodness is its own reward, making you a more loveable person, more content with who you are, more able to surmount troubles and difficulties. You can see examples of this in the lives of the saints.

An expectant mother prepares a cradle for her child and gets everything ready to receive the new life with love. So Jesus on the cross, wanting to bring you forth to salvation, has prepared all that you need to grow in holiness and happiness. ...

[Seeing yourself so loved your only response must be to love Jesus in return, the Jesus who 'loved me and gave himself for me.' (Gal 2:20)

Growing in holiness is being resolved to bear fruit like a beautiful tree, planted by God in your heart and watered by the precious blood of the Saviour.]

So take practical steps to live out your resolutions, such as saying short prayers throughout the day which continually redirect your heart Godwards. Perseverance is a gift and a joy to those who keep going. Be one of those and you will face death with equanimity.

May Jesus reign, to whom, with the Father and the Holy Spirit, be honour and glory now and forever. Amen.

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



# 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](mailto:ssgeorge.wilfrid@btinternet.com)

Website: [www.saintsgeorgeandwilfrid.co.uk](http://www.saintsgeorgeandwilfrid.co.uk)

## ST WILFRID

South Road  
Hailsham



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

### WEEKLY SERVICES

Sat	23rd	6.00pm	St Wilfrid's - Mrs Sylvia Galea RIP
<b>TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</b>			
Sun	24th	9.00am	St George's - Katie Waplin RIP
		10.30am	St Wilfrid's - Parish Communities' Intention
Mon	25th	2.30pm	St George's - 2.30pm Rosary Group, every Monday except Bank Holidays
Tue	26th	10.00am	St George's - Michael Ryan RIP
Tue	26th	12.30pm	St Wilfrid's - Requiem Mass for Mark Taylor RIP
Wed	27th	10.00am	St Wilfrid's - Mrs Norah Foley RIP
Thur	28th	10.00am	St George's - Joan Woods RIP
Fri	29th	10.00am	St Wilfrid's - Holy Souls' Intention
Sat	30th	6.00pm	St Wilfrid's - Mrs Flora De Sousa RIP
<b>TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</b>			
<b>(Special Collection next Sunday for CAFOD Harvest Fast Day - Friday)</b>			
Sun	1st	9.00am	St George's - In Thanks to St Anthony for prayers answered
		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 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, 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](mailto:ssgeorge.wilfrid@btinternet.com), tel.841504 or by hand marked **NEWSLETTER**, to Fr. Rory's House by **9am Wednesday.**

**Fr Rory Writes:**

Actions speak louder than words and we have plenty of opportunities coming up. With Harvest Festival when we give thanks for the bounty we are privileged to receive; it is time to give.

St Wilfrid's Harvest Festival takes place this Sunday (24th September). This year we are raising funds for CAFOD and supporting the work of Hailsham Food Bank. Please contribute generously. Here are some of the items urgently needed by the Foodbank; Tinned Soup, Longlife Fruit Juice (orange or apple), Pasta, Jam/Chocolate Spread/Peanut Butter, Tinned Fruit, Toilet Rolls, Shampoo/Shower Gel, Tinned Meat. Please place your contributions in the box at the back of the church. Thank you.

St George's Harvest Festival takes place Sunday 1st October, and are supporting Eastbourne Foodbank. Here are some of the items needed by the Foodbank; Dried Food, Canned fruit, fish, meat & vegetables, small packets of cereal and UHT Milk, any contributions will be gratefully received by 24th September. Thank you.

APF - Mill Hill Mission Thank You & Appeal: This will take place on the weekend of 7th/8th Oct at all the Masses when we welcome Fr Frank Downs to our Parish. Thank you to all parishioners who already support this wonderful Association through the Red Boxes. If you have not yet thought of doing so, perhaps this thank you and appeal might persuade you to think about doing so. Please see the poster at the back of the church for more details.

*Fr Rory*

**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.

**St George's Leaven Group Agenda** for the meeting on 6th October is at the back of the church. If you have any issues you would like to raise, please write them on the agenda and attend the next meeting.

**Churches Together, Polegate,** extend their thanks to all who attended Songs of Praise last Sunday. It was a delightful, uplifting occasion, with prayers and hymns chosen by our local churches. Thank you Kelly, for your choice of hymn which closed the meeting on a joyful and uplifting note.

**St George's Church** will not be able to accept the old £1 coins after the end of September. The Post Office, where we bank our collections, will not take them. **Only new £1 coins after this week please.**

**St George's Readers and Extraordinary Ministers** – the Rotas are at the back of the church.

**St George's - 1st Holy Communion:** Any parents who have a child of seven years and would like them to have instruction for 1st Holy Communion, please make themselves known to Father Rory or Cathy Hollingdale or a member of the Children's Liturgy Group. Instruction starts in the new year.

**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.

**DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:**

**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

**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:** Any candidates wishing to take their first communion, there will be a meeting on Tuesday 3rd October at 5:30pm in the hall.

**Deacon Simon Kirkdale** from Bexhill will be speaking about the role of Deacons in the Church at Christ The King parish room on Monday 25th September, commencing at 7.30 pm. All are warmly invited to this meeting which has been organised by Eastbourne and Bexhill Newman Circle. For further information contact John Carmody (tel 01323 726334).

**Friends of EDGH:** Please save your **red, blue & green milk bottle tops only** to help raise money for hospital equipment. Please place in the container provided in both church porches.

**COLLECTIONS: (16th/17th Sept)**

**St George's** £TBC  
Home Mission Sunday £TBC  
Weekly aver./Monthly D/D £176.50  
**St Wilfrid's** £346.35  
Home Mission Sunday £89.92  
Weekly aver. of DD £204.60  
Attendances: St W's 138 St G's 80  
**Thank you for your continued generosity**

**Bonus Ball:**

**Sat 16th September**  
No: 38  
John Forde  
**Wed 13th September**  
No: 27  
David Curtis