

**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON**

Cf. Ps 85: 3, 5

Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I cry to you all the day long.  
O Lord, you are good and forgiving,  
full of mercy to all who call to you.

**THE COLLECT**

God of might, giver of every good gift,  
put into our hearts the love of your name,  
so that, by deepening our sense of reverence,  
you may nurture in us what is good  
and, by your watchful care,  
keep safe what you have nurtured.  
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 3:17-20. 28-29

My son, be gentle in carrying out your business,  
and you will be better loved than a lavish giver.  
The greater you are, the more you should behave humbly,  
and then you will find favour with the Lord;  
for great though the power of the Lord is,  
he accepts the homage of the humble.  
There is no cure for the proud man's malady,  
since an evil growth has taken root in him.  
The heart of a sensible man will reflect on parables,  
an attentive ear is the sage's dream.

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

**PSALM**

Ps 67:4-7.10-11. R.cf.v11

**R) In your goodness, O God,  
you prepared a home for the poor.**

The just shall rejoice at the presence of God,  
they shall exult and dance for joy.  
O sing to the Lord, make music to his name;  
rejoice in the Lord, exult at his presence. **(R)**

Father of the orphan, defender of the widow,  
such is God in his holy place.  
God gives the lonely a home to live in;  
he leads the prisoners forth into freedom. **(R)**

You poured down, O God, a generous rain:  
when your people were starved you gave them new life.  
It was there that your people found a home,  
prepared in your goodness, O God, for the poor. **(R)**

**SECOND READING**

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews 12:18-19. 22-24

What you have come to is nothing known to the senses; not a blazing fire, or a gloom turning to total darkness, or a storm; or trumpeting thunder or the great voice speaking which made everyone that heard it beg that no more should be said to them. But what you have come to is Mount Zion and the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem where the millions of angels have gathered for the festival, with the whole Church in which everyone is a 'first-born son' and a citizen of heaven. You have come to God himself, the supreme Judge, and been placed with spirits of the saints who have been made perfect; and to Jesus, the mediator who brings a new covenant.

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

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

Alleluia, alleluia!  
If anyone loves me he will keep my word,  
and my Father will love him,  
and we shall come to him.  
Alleluia!

Jn 14:23

**GOSPEL**

Luke 14:1. 7-14

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

On a sabbath day Jesus had gone for a meal to the house of one of the leading Pharisees; and they watched him closely. He then told the guests a parable, because he noticed how they picked the places of honour. He said this, 'When someone invites you to a wedding feast, do not take your seat in the place of honour. A more distinguished person than you may have been invited, and the person who invited you both may come and say, "Give up your place to this man." And then, to your embarrassment, you would have to go and take the lowest place. No; when you are a guest, make your way to the lowest place and sit there, so that, when your host comes, he may say, "My friend, move up higher." In that way, everyone with you at the table will see you honoured. For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and the man who humbles himself will be exalted.'

Then he said to his host, 'When you give a lunch or a dinner, do not ask your friends, brothers, relations or rich neighbours, for fear they repay your courtesy by inviting you in return. No; when you have a party, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind; that they cannot pay you back means that you are fortunate, because repayment will be made to you when the virtuous rise again.'

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

**PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS**

May this sacred offering, O Lord,  
confer on us always the blessing of salvation,  
that what it celebrates in mystery  
it may accomplish in power.  
Through Christ our Lord.

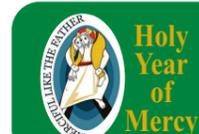
**COMMUNION ANTIPHON**

**How great is the goodness, Lord,  
that you keep for those who fear you.**

Ps 30: 20

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Renewed by this bread from the heavenly table,  
we beseech you, Lord,  
that, being the food of charity,  
it may confirm our hearts  
and stir us to serve you in our neighbour.  
Through Christ our Lord.



# OUR FAITH ON SUNDAY

## GOSPEL REFLECTION



One of Jesus most surprising statements – he makes it in St Matthew's Gospel – is, "*You must therefore be perfect, even as your Heavenly Father is perfect*". Perfect as God is perfect? It sounds impossible,

but is not as impossible as it sounds! Today's Gospel passage directs us to the answer. We hear that we should "*choose the lowest place*", not look for honour; we are told to serve the poor, not our own interests. We are told this by the Son of God-made-man, who tells us also, "*I am the vine, you are the branches. Whoever remains in me and me in him, bears fruit in plenty; for cut off*

*from me you can do nothing.*" Union with Jesus through Faith (believing him) and Hope (trusting him) and Love (loving and obeying him in his Church) makes the impossible possible! God the Father looks at the faithful baptized and sees – his Son! - images of himself, purified and made perfect by the blood shed in obedience, trust and love, by his Only-Begotten Son.



### What Counts Is How We Do Things

What counts for us Christians is not how much we do, but how we do it.

The historical Jesus did not change the world either. On the contrary, sometimes he seemed to fail.

What matters is to fulfil the plan God has for us – no more, but also no less.

Wherever we are, let us work adoring his will, which binds us to the present moment. This helps us to take care, one detail at a time, of what we need to achieve in the world.

If we move about like separate pieces, disunited, we will feel like we are achieving next to nothing. But if we are united, we will see that what one of us does is connected with what the others are doing. Then all our doing acquires fullness and a new dimension. A dimension which is not just universal but heavenly, since compared to heaven the universe is small.

Let us place love then into everything: the smiles we give, the jobs we do, the car we drive, the meal we prepare, the activity we organize, the tear we shed for Christ in our suffering neighbour, the instrument we play, the article or letter we write, the happy event we joyfully share, the clothes we clean...

Everything, really everything can become a means to show God and neighbour our love. All has been entrusted into our hands and hearts so that like missionaries we may bring the gospel to the world.

*Here and Now: Meditations on Living in the Present* by Chiara Lubich and published by New City

### EVANGELII GAUDIUM (JOY OF THE GOSPEL)



#### No to an economy of exclusion

53. Just as the commandment "Thou shalt not kill" sets a clear limit in order to safeguard the value of human life, today we also have to say "thou shalt not" to an economy of exclusion and inequality. Such an economy kills. How can it be that it is not a news item when an elderly homeless person dies of exposure, but it is news when the stock market loses two points? This is a case of exclusion. Can we continue to stand by when food is thrown away while people are starving? This is a case of inequality. Today everything comes under the laws of competition and the survival of the fittest, where the powerful feed upon the powerless. As a consequence, masses of people find themselves excluded and marginalized: without work, without possibilities, without any means of escape.



# PARISH COMMUNITIES OF

## ST GEORGE

Eastbourne Road  
Polegate



Parish Priest: Fr. Rory Kelly

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## ST WILFRID

South Road  
Hailsham



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

### WEEKLY SERVICES

Sat	27th	6.00pm	St Wilfrid's - Celia Webb's Intention <b>TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</b>
Sun	28th	9.00am 10.30am	St George's - Mrs Margaret Boots Intention St Wilfrid's - Parish Communities' Intention Christening of Maisie Roberts
Mon	29th	2.30pm	St George's - 2.30pm Rosary Group, every Monday except Bank Holidays
Tue	30th	10.00am	St Wilfrid's - Donor's Intention
Wed	31st	10.00am	St George's - Michael Daly RIP
Thur	1st	10.00am	St Wilfrid's - Mr Martin Brophy RIP
Fri	2nd	10.00am	St George's - Holy Souls' Intention
Sat	3rd	6.00pm	St Wilfrid's - Michael Bradley RIP <b>TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</b> <b>(Special Collection next Sunday for The Catholic Education Service)</b>
Sun	4th	9.00am 10.30am	St George's - Paul Bree RIP 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, Agnes Galt, Margaret Gearing, Joshua Hardy, Peter & Teresa Zurenkas, Anne & Harry Holt, David Thomas, Elizabeth Osbourne, Irene Boulstridge, 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](mailto:ssgeorge.wilfrid@btinternet.com), tel.841504 or by hand marked **NEWSLETTER**, to Fr. Rory's House by **9am Wednesday.**

Article Written by Ellen Bonner:

### Earliest presence of the Church in Polegate and surrounding area

We recently celebrated the feast of St Lawrence, a Roman Deacon martyred in 258, some say he was roasted on a gridiron though the sword was the usual method of execution then. The Oxford Dictionary of the Saints mentions several Lawrence's including St Lawrence of Canterbury who succeeded St Augustine as Archbishop, so it may be that the dedication of a very early church (Saxon) at Otham was to him. The remains of this Priory is close by Otham Ct, near the beginning of the Cuckoo Trail at Polegate.

The priory at Otham was founded by Ralph de Dene whose family arrived with William the Conqueror who had an intense programme of church building. The foundation was in 1175, possibly on the site of an older church dedicated to St Lawrence and was for Premonstratensian Canons, situated on a low rise on the edge of the still tidal waters of Pevensey levels, about two miles from Hailsham and close to what is now Polegate.

However in 1205 after prolonged winter flooding, cold, damp and poor crops, although offered an alternative site by the de Brade family of The Broad at Hellingly, the Canons left for Bayham Abbey. Two monks remained to care for the chapel and local people. Perhaps they realised that Hellingly's two rivers can also flood!

The Dissolution of the Monasteries in 1536 ended Otham's status as a religious site and it gradually became a farm and in the 20th century a pop group lived there. However, the chapel still stands firm after 800 or more years and is licensed for civic weddings. It is now privately owned with the old house nearby and is probably the oldest place of Christian worship in Polegate.

Ellen Bonner

**St George's Children Fund:** Bingo Night on Friday 2nd September in St George's Hall at 7pm for 7.30pm start. All money raised will go to Children with Cancer.

**St George's Leaven Group Meeting** is on 7th September at 6.15 pm in the church. **Please note change of date!**

**Broadcast from the Sacred Heart Church - Hove:** Saturday 3rd September the Mass at 12 noon will be broadcast from the Sacred Heart Church in Hove as part of an all day broadcast from around the country, in honour of Blessed Mother Teresa who is to be canonised by Pope Francis in Rome on 4th September.

The Mass will be preceded by a Holy Hour from 11am with rosary and a reflection from Mother Teresa. Fr Kevin Dring, parish priest of the Sacred Heart, invites groups to go along to highlight the work of parish groups in caring for the poor and marginalised.

After the Mass, tea and coffee will be provided in the parish rooms served by Co-workers of Mother Teresa. Please bring a packed lunch. There will also be an exhibition of Mother Teresa and her work. If you intend to go please let Tessa Truman know of your intention so she can advise parishioners of expected numbers. Please contact her on 486280 by the 30th August.

**Catholic Bible School : Eastbourne : Scripture Saturday**  
Luke- A Gospel of Mercy and Joy led by David Beresford  
Saturday, September 10, 2016. 10:45am to 1:30pm. Suggested donation £10 to cover costs. Held at Our Lady of Ransom Hall, Grange Road, Eastbourne, BN21 4EU. For more details see [www.catholic-bible-school.org/events](http://www.catholic-bible-school.org/events)

#### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:

**Wed 31st Aug** St Wilfrid's Choir Practice, St Wilfrid's Church, 7pm  
**Fri 2nd Sept** Bingo for Children with Cancer, St George's Hall, 7pm  
**Wed 7th Sept** St George's Leaven Group Mtg, St G's Church, 6.15pm  
**Wed 7th Sept** St Wilfrid's Choir Practice, St Wilfrid's Church, 7pm  
**Wed 14th Sept** Mother Teresa Group Mtg, St George's Hall, 2.30pm  
**Wed 14th Sept** St Wilfrid's Choir Practice, St Wilfrid's Church, 7pm  
**Sat 17th Sept** St George's Choir Practice, St George's Church, 10am  
**Sun 18th Sept** Songs of Praise, St George's Church, 4pm

#### Bring the Bible to life In collective worship – Church and School in Partnership

Open the Book is joining with Chichester Diocese to offer free training for clergy, children and family workers, and members of the congregation. Whether you have some training or none this will give you a good foundation for starting a team and getting active in your local school...

**Time:** Doors open for registration at 9.30am for a 10.00am start and the day ends at 3 pm

**Refreshments:** Tea and coffee provided, please bring a packed lunch

**How to book your place:** Please email [enquiries@openthebook.net](mailto:enquiries@openthebook.net) and include the event date, and your name or call 01793 418355

We have several venues to choose from:

13th Sept - The Church of St Peter & St Paul, Hellingly  
14th Sept - All Saints CEP School, Horsham  
19th Oct - Balcombe CEP School, Haywards Heath

**Apple Picking Weekend:** Saturday 17th and Sunday 18th September, 10am to 4pm. St Cuthman's, Cowfold Road, Coolham. Bring the family and enjoy a day helping us to pick and press our apples in our Edwardian Orchard. There will be Worship, workshops and music. The day is FREE, donations are welcome. Tea and cake will be served to our volunteers. Please feel free to bring lunch to share. Telephone to book a place on 01403 741220 (Mon - Fri, 9am - 6pm).

#### COLLECTIONS: (20th/21st August)

<b>St George's</b>	£TBC
Weekly aver./Monthly D/D	£176.50
<b>St Wilfrid's</b>	£TBC
Weekly aver. of DD	£204.60
Attendances: St W's TBC	St G's TBC

**Thank you for your continued generosity**  
If you pay tax please use gift aid envelopes.

#### Bonus Ball:

**Sat 20th August**

No:  
TBC

**Wed 17th August**

No:  
TBC