

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Cf. Ps 67: 6-7, 36

**God is in his holy place,
God who unites those who dwell in his house;
he himself gives might and strength to his people.**

THE COLLECT

O God, protector of those who hope in you, without whom nothing has firm foundation nothing is holy, bestow in abundance your mercy upon us and grant that, with you as our ruler and guide, we may use the good things that pass in such a way as to hold fast even now to those that ever endure.

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 first book of the Kings

3:5. 7-12

The Lord appeared to Solomon in a dream and said, 'Ask what you would like me to give you.' Solomon replied, 'Lord, my God, you have made your servant king in succession to David my father. But I am a very young man, unskilled in leadership. Your servant finds himself in the midst of this people of yours that you have chosen, a people so many its numbers cannot be counted or reckoned. Give your servant a heart to understand how to discern between good and evil, for who could govern this people of yours that is so great?' It pleased the Lord that Solomon should have asked for this. 'Since you have asked for this' the Lord said 'and not asked for long life for yourself or riches or the lives of your enemies, but have asked for a discerning judgement for yourself, here and now I do what you ask. I give you a heart wise and shrewd as none before you has had and none will have after you.'

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

PSALM

Ps 118:57.72.76-77.127-130. R.v97

R) Lord how I love your law!

My part, I have resolved, O Lord,
is to obey your word.
The law from your mouth means more to me
than silver and gold. **(R)**

Let your love be ready to console me
by your promise to your servant.
Let your love come to me and I shall live
for your law is my delight. **(R)**

That is why I love your commands
more than finest gold.
That is why I rule my life by your precepts:
I hate false ways. **(R)**

Your will is wonderful indeed;
therefore I obey it.
The unfolding of your word gives light
and teaches the simple. **(R)**

SECOND READING

A reading from the letter of St. Paul to the Romans 8:28-30

We know that by turning everything to their good God co-operates with all those who love him, with all those that he has called according to his purpose. They are the ones he chose specially long ago and intended to become true images of his Son, so that his Son might be the eldest of many brothers. He called those he intended for this; those he called he justified, and with those he justified he shared his glory.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!
**I call you friends, says the Lord,
because I have made known to you
everything I have learnt from my Father.**
Alleluia!

Jn 15:15

GOSPEL

Matthew 13:44-52

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 the crowds, 'The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field which someone has found; he hides it again, goes off happy, sells everything he owns and buys the field.

'Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant looking for fine pearls; when he finds one of great value he goes and sells everything he owns and buys it.

'Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a dragnet cast into the sea that brings in a haul of all kinds. When it is full, the fishermen haul it ashore; then, sitting down, they collect the good ones in a basket and throw away those that are no use. This is how it will be at the end of time: the angels will appear and separate the wicked from the just to throw them into the blazing furnace where there will be weeping and grinding of teeth.

'Have you understood all this?' They said 'Yes.' And he said to them, 'Well then, every scribe who becomes a disciple of the kingdom of heaven is like a householder who brings out from his storeroom things both new and old.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

Accept, O Lord, we pray, the offerings
which we bring from the abundance of your gifts,
that through the powerful working of your grace
these most sacred mysteries may sanctify our present way of life
and lead us to eternal gladness.
Through Christ our Lord.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Ps 102: 2

**Bless the Lord, O my soul,
and never forget all his benefits.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

We have consumed, O Lord, this divine Sacrament,
the perpetual memorial of the Passion of your Son;
grant, we pray, that this gift,
which he himself gave us with love beyond all telling, may profit us
for salvation.
Through Christ our Lord.

OUR FAITH ON SUNDAY

GOSPEL REFLECTION



Jesus comes from the Kingdom of Heaven, "I am from above" he says in St. John's Gospel. In fact, he is the Kingdom, "the way, the truth and the life".

We who are "from below" are completely ignorant of the Kingdom, where it is and what it is; but he has taken our human nature in order to teach us and he adapts our language to describe realities very different from those we are familiar with. Pearls, treasure, fishing nets, these we know, if not by experience at least through others. But the purpose of these things – and all creation - Jesus shows us, is to point us, by symbol and analogy, to the world to come. That is why we find that Jesus sometimes speaks very enigmatically – our language is stretched to describe those Heavenly realities. We of course read him in a translation of the Aramaic (or of Hebrew, Greek, or Latin); but we know that all the same these words are inspired by the Holy Spirit; truths being taught by the Truth, guaranteed and protected by Him. So we suffer no disadvantage; rather the contrary, since we have 2000 years of the Church's meditation and tradition to draw upon. We have the living Church, too, through which Jesus still teaches in a living way.

**EVANGELII GAUDIUM
(JOY OF THE GOSPEL)****II. TEMPATIONS FACED BY
PASTORAL WORKERS****No to a sterile pessimism**

86. In some places a spiritual "desertification" has evidently come about, as the result of attempts by some societies to build without God or to eliminate their Christian roots. In those places "the Christian world is becoming sterile, and it is depleting itself like an overexploited ground, which transforms into a desert".⁶⁶ In other countries, violent opposition to Christianity forces Christians to hide their faith in their own beloved homeland. This is another painful kind of desert. But family and the workplace can also be a parched place where faith nonetheless has to be preserved and communicated.

66 J.H. Newman, Letter of 26 January 1833, in The Letters and Diaries of John Henry Newman, vol. III, Oxford, 1979, 204.



Holiness for Everyone*

**Concerning Solitude and Community**

We need both time alone and time with others. If others visit you be attentive and entertaining. That is what God wants. If you are alone, then learn to live with yourself before you foist your company upon others.

Don't become addicted to company for company's sake, and avoid anyone who would lead you into evil.

Speak reverently of God at all times, but also reverently of others. Intending no harm is not enough. Eschew words of mockery, of contempt, of scorn. Instead be relaxed, friendly and at ease with all.

Do not judge others. We can never know their motives; and being judgemental shows us to have bitter and resentful hearts. Look for the good in everyone and you will find it. Be compassionate of the weakness and ignorance you may see about you. And if by chance you have to watch over the conduct of others because you are a parent of young children or in charge of other vulnerable people, do your duty lovingly and then mind your own business! Above all, never pass on gossip or reveal the faults of others. It is so easy to mingle compliments with barbed remarks or indulge in cruel mimicry. We just do not know the hearts of others. We are all capable of change and growth, even the worst of us. We know this through our own experience, so we should give everyone the benefit of the doubt and keep silent about any faults and sins we may notice.

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



PARISH COMMUNITIES OF

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ST WILFRID

South Road
Hailsham



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

WEEKLY SERVICES

Sat	29th	6.00pm	St Wilfrid's - Deceased Members of Wood's Family
SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME			
Sun	30th	9.00am	St George's - Anne Kelly RIP
		10.30am	St Wilfrid's - Parish Communities' Intention
Mon	31st	2.30pm	St George's - 2.30pm Rosary Group, every Monday except Bank Holidays
Tue	1st	10.00am	St George's - Mrs Vera Almeida RIP
Wed	2nd	10.00am	St Wilfrid's - Donor's Intention
Wed	2nd	4.00pm	St Wilfrid's - Reception of Brian Winter into church
Thur	3rd	10.00am	St George's - Joan Lodrick RIP
Thur	3rd	1.45pm	St Wilfrid's - Requiem Mass for Brian Winter RIP
Fri	4th	10.00am	St Wilfrid's - Holy Souls' Intention
Sat	5th	6.00pm	St Wilfrid's - In Honour of Our Lady Mary O'Donoghue's Intention
THE TRANSFIGURATION OF THE LORD			
Sun	6th	9.00am	St George's - Tim Piegrome's Anniversary
		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 & 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, Margaret Gearing, Joshua Hardy, Peter & Teresa Zurenkas, Anne & Harry Holt, Elizabeth Osbourne, 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:

As we begin the summer holiday period, I wish that, with the help of God, it will be a rewarding, refreshing time for you all. But to begin with we will also celebrate the life of Brian Winter, a life well lived. The Dean, Fr Barry Anderson, a long time friend of Brian and his family, will preside over the celebrations. We will first receive Brian into the church on Wednesday afternoon, with the Requiem Mass on Thursday 3rd August at 1.45pm following on at the Crematorium, Main Chapel at 3.15pm.

Looking back at this window to the last summer holidays, material was provided by persons from our parish. It remains a good opportunity for those willing to help by providing interesting, stimulating content. For me our wider responsibility through CAFOD, IRT (International Refugee Trust) and Red Boxes etc.

Picking up upon IRT, I received a letter commending their excellent work. Although the situation for many people around the globe remains dire, your generous donations have allowed them to make a significant impact for the good.

Jr Rory

Can Anyone Help? A pair of folding, floral patterned chairs were left behind after the garden party on 5th July. Mine of a similar pattern were taken in error. I would be grateful if you could check your chairs to make sure you have the correct ones. Many thanks Jean Hines Tel: 482020.

BINGO SESSION: starts on Friday September 1st, to be held at St Georges Hall, 7pm for 7.30pm. Please put a note in your diaries.

Back by popular demand at St George's Church Hall, **The Anne Shelton Story** - presentation by her niece, Kelly Richards. This will take place on Sunday 20th August at 3.00pm followed by a vintage tea party. Tickets at £5.00 per person available soon.

St George's flower arrangers/church cleaning/music liturgy - following the recent Leaven Group meeting, in order to ensure better communication, there is now a diary in the sacristy which shows any weddings etc that are booked in at the church. There was a recent wedding this month which meant no flowers had to be bought as the bride arranged flowers for the church. There is another wedding on 1st September (Friday) and it may be that flowers may not be needed again that weekend. Please ensure you check the diary prior to purchasing flowers and also to see when the church is in use. Thank you.

St. George's Leaven Group - to widen participation the Agenda will be published 2 weeks before each meeting. If you have an item to discuss, please put this on the agenda, which will be at the back of the church. It could be good news, information you wish to share, or a concern to talk about. You will need to attend the meeting to further debate the issue you have raised. Please take this opportunity to share your views with us.

At our last meeting the main items we discussed were:- Communication, Health and Safety, the Memorial Garden (in view of Health and Safety advice from the Diocese), Children's Liturgy, the Mass sheets we currently use, Hall Hire, Finance, Publicity and the new Sound System. The Minutes are now available.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:

Sun 20th Aug Presentation/Vintage Tea Party, St George's Hall, 3pm
Fri 1st Sept St George's Leaven Group Mtg, St G's Church, 6.15pm
Fri 1st Sept Bingo Session, St George's Hall, 7pm for 7.30pm

First Holy Communion 2017 at St Wilfrid's: Please could any child around the age of 7 years old, wishing to do their First Holy Communion in 2018 at St Wilfrid's; please write your contact details on the piece of paper in the Sacristy, we will need child's and parent's name and phone number. The lessons will commence in October 2017.

Mother Teresa Group:

It is with regret that the Mother Teresa group is no longer meeting. Age, infirmities and few members have caused us to take the decision to close formally. We shall still support the Love in a Box scheme in November and the collection of goods for the homeless in Brighton each December, but other people have agreed to organise these.

Several of our members will still be knitting squares for blankets for the Mustard Seed Missions or making cardigans or baby blankets for the Special Care Baby Unit, so any spare knitting yarn for these projects will be gladly received. They can be left at the back of the churches for us.

Thank you for the support we have received from both communities to date. Please continue to support the collections in November and December as you always do so generously. God bless you. Tessa Truman on behalf of our remaining members.

Diocesan Mass for Altar Servers: Bishop Richard will preside at Holy Mass for all Diocesan Altar Servers on Saturday 9th September 2017 at 12 noon in Arundel Cathedral. All who have served, all who are serving and anybody who would like to come are welcome to attend. Please bring your cassock and cotta or alb. Mass is followed by light refreshments in the Cathedral Centre (Please bring a packed lunch)

Friends of EDGH: are still collecting milk bottle tops to help raise money for hospital equipment. Please help them by bringing in your washed red, blue and green bottle tops and place in the container provided in both church porches. Thank you.

COLLECTIONS: (22nd/23rd July)

St George's	£179.00
CAFOD	£50.13
Weekly aver./Monthly D/D	£176.50
St Wilfrid's	£261.38
Weekly aver. of DD	£204.60
Attendances: St W's 148 St G's 75	
Thank you for your continued generosity	
If you pay tax please use gift aid envelopes.	

Bonus Ball:

Sat 22nd July
No: 23
Karl Jung
Wed 19th July
No: 42
Margaret Forde