

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Like newborn infants, you must long for the pure, spiritual milk, that in him you may grow to salvation, alleluia.

THE COLLECT

God of everlasting mercy, who, in the very recurrence of the paschal feast kindle the faith of the people you have made your own, increase, we pray, the grace you have bestowed, that all may grasp and rightly understand in what font they have been washed, by whose Spirit they have been reborn, by whose Blood they have been redeemed. 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 Acts of the Apostles 5:12-16
The faithful all used to meet by common consent in the Portico of Solomon. No one else ever dared to join them, but the people were loud in their praise and the numbers of men and women who came to believe in the Lord increased steadily. So many signs and wonders were worked among the people at the hands of the apostles that the sick were even taken out into the streets and laid on beds and sleeping-mats in the hope that at least the shadow of Peter might fall across some of them as he went past. People even came crowding in from the towns round about Jerusalem, bringing with them their sick and those tormented by unclean spirits, and all of them were cured.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

PSALM

Ps. 117:2-4.22-27.R.v1

R) Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, for his love has no end.

Let the sons of Israel say:
'His love has no end.'
Let the sons of Aaron say:
'His love has no end.'
Let those who fear the Lord say:
'His love has no end.' **(R)**

The stone which the builders rejected has become the corner stone. This is the work of the Lord, a marvel in our eyes. This day was made by the Lord; we rejoice and are glad. **(R)**

O Lord, grant us salvation;
O Lord grant success.
Blessed in the name of the Lord is he who comes.
We bless you from the house of the Lord; the Lord God is our light. **(R)**

SECOND READING

A reading from the book of the Apocalypse 1:9-13. 17-19

My name is John, and through our union in Jesus I am your brother and share your sufferings, your kingdom, and all you endure. I was on the island of Patmos for having preached God's word and witnessed for Jesus; it was the Lord's day and the Spirit possessed me, and I heard a voice behind me, shouting like a trumpet, 'Write down all that you see in a book.' I turned round to see who had spoken to me, and when I turned I saw seven golden lamp-stands and, surrounded by them, a figure like a Son of man, dressed in a long robe tied at the waist with a golden girdle.

When I saw him, I fell in a dead faint at his feet, but he touched me with his right hand and said, 'Do not be afraid; it is I, the First and the Last; I am the Living One. I was dead and now I am to

live for ever and ever, and I hold the keys of death and of the underworld. Now write down all that you see of present happenings and things that are still to come.'

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia! Jn 20:29

Jesus said:
'You believe because you can see me.
Happy are those who have not seen and yet believe.'

GOSPEL

John 20:19-31

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

In the evening of that same day, the first day of the week, the doors were closed in the room where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews. Jesus came and stood among them. He said to them, 'Peace be with you,' and showed them his hands and his side. The disciples were filled with joy when they saw the Lord, and he said to them again, 'Peace be with you.'

'As the Father sent me, so am I sending you,'
After saying this he breathed on them and said:
Receive the Holy Spirit.
For those whose sins you forgive, they are forgiven;
for those whose sins you retain, they are retained.'

Thomas, called the Twin, who was one of the Twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. When the disciples said, 'We have seen the Lord', he answered, 'Unless I see the holes that the nails made in his hands and can put my finger into the holes they made, and unless I can put my hand into his side, I refuse to believe.' Eight days later the disciples were in the house again and Thomas was with them. The doors were closed, but Jesus came in and stood among them. 'Peace be with you' he said. Then he spoke to Thomas, 'Put your finger here; look, here are my hands. Give me your hand; put it into my side. Doubt no longer but believe.' Thomas replied, 'My Lord and my God!' Jesus said to him:

'You believe because you can see me.
Happy are those who have not seen and yet believe.'

There were many other signs that Jesus worked and the disciples saw, but they are not recorded in this book. These are recorded so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing this you may have life through his name.

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

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

Accept, O Lord, we pray, the oblations of your people (and of those you have brought to new birth), that, renewed by confession of your name and by Baptism, they may attain unending happiness. Through Christ our Lord.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON Cf. Jn 20:27

Bring your hand and feel the place of the nails, and do not be unbelieving but believing, alleluia.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Grant, we pray, almighty God, that our reception of this paschal Sacrament may have a continuing effect in our minds and hearts. Through Christ our Lord.



OUR FAITH ON SUNDAY

GOSPEL REFLECTION



The peace that comes with the forgiveness of sins is God's greatest mercy shown to us and so the Sacrament of Penance or Reconciliation

stands high among the gifts of God's love. Jesus highlights this when he chooses to give that gift to his apostles during the tense and emotionally stressful space immediately after the Passion. How unworthy and how grateful the disciples must have felt after their desertion of the Lord during his sufferings; how deeply repentant of their lack of Faith - still confused, amazed, struggling to grasp the reality and meaning of what

was happening; Thomas may be the key example of that lack of faith and understanding, but he certainly exemplified them all! But now Jesus says, "Peace be with you." Forget the past, he is saying, rejoice in me, in my return, my presence, my love; remember the miracles, the calming of the storm, know now Who I am and be confident in me, "As the Father sent me, so am I sending you," but now you know that I shall be with you. "Peace be with you."

EVANGELII GAUDIUM (JOY OF THE GOSPEL)



III. FROM THE HEART OF THE GOSPEL

39 (cont'd) Before all else, the Gospel invites us to respond to the God of love who saves us, to see God in others and to go forth from ourselves to seek the good of others. Under no circumstance can this invitation be obscured! All of the virtues are at the service of this response of love. If this invitation does not radiate forcefully and attractively, the edifice of the Church's moral teaching risks becoming a house of cards, and this is our greatest risk. It would mean that it is not the Gospel which is being preached, but certain doctrinal or moral points based on specific ideological options. The message will run the risk of losing its freshness and will cease to have "the fragrance of the Gospel".

GLIMPSES OF GOSPEL LIFE

These brief experiences from all over the world show how, when we try to put the words of the Gospel into practice, things happen. God is never outdone in generosity, and these personal stories show in many different ways how true that is.

More Than Was Needed

I come from Tanzania and I'm almost blind. The person, who helps me to study, also gave me 1,200 shillings to buy a malaria injection, so that I could finish the treatment I had started.

I was going towards the pharmacy when a poor woman stopped me and told me of her needs. What I had on me was what I needed but - because I saw Jesus in her - I felt I should help her. So I gave her two hundred shillings. When I reached the pharmacy, I saw an old woman who was in pain: she didn't have enough money to buy the medicine, which she more than needed. I helped her as well with two hundred shillings.

I gave and gave, and found myself in the same situation as the two women I had helped. I now needed four hundred shillings, but I was certain God was watching and following everything. I went into the pharmacy and met a friend. After greeting me he asked why I was there. I explained simply, "Recently, having been very ill, I have been having injections and I now need the last one which I have come to buy.

Without knowing anything about my situation, my friend handed me five hundred shillings. My heart was filled with joy: now I had more than enough for what I needed. What happened was further proof that I should never be frightened of sharing what I have with others. The Lord, in his infinite love, will take care of us.



PARISH COMMUNITIES OF

ST GEORGE

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ST WILFRID

South Road
Hailsham



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

WEEKLY SERVICES

Sat	2nd	6.00pm	St Wilfrid's - Parish Communities' Intention SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER
Sun	3rd	9.00am	St George's - Elizabeth Shepherd RIP
		10.30am	St Wilfrid's - Maureen Clarke
Mon	4th	2.30pm	St George's - 2.30pm Rosary Group, every Monday except Bank Holidays
Tue	5th	10.00am	St Wilfrid's - Sr M Thecla RIP
Wed	6th	10.00am	St George's - Christopher Kelly Anniversary
Thur	7th	10.00am	St Wilfrid's - Mrs Vera Almeida RIP
Fri	8th	12.00pm	St George's - Requiem Mass for Mrs Marion Maguire RIP
Sat	9th	6.00pm	St Wilfrid's - In Honour of Our Lady THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER (Special Collection next Sunday for the Education of Future Priests)
Sun	10th	9.00am	St George's - In Thanksgiving for 40 years of marriage G & C T Neyenhuizen
		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, 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:

Once again we have celebrated Holy Week and Easter. The centre point of this is "because Christ has risen from the dead our faith will never be in vain". At the heart of our faith is prayer, that simple acknowledgement, "our help is in the name of the Lord, the Lord who made heaven and earth".

Arising from all this is that God is love let us love one another. How we apply this to our daily experience is the litmus test of how true are we to our prayers. It is so incredible that the ordinary events of life can be so challenging, and that life can present some real ordeals. There can be so many real disappointments and hurts in life and so patience and perseverance are essential.

More importantly is to have a positive outlook and trust that Our Lord is faithful and will turn all things to good for those who love him.

Fr Rory

St George's Children's Liturgy will be holding a cake sale after Mass on Sunday 17th April to raise money towards the First Holy Communion breakfast and the Abbotts Wood picnic. Please give them your support.

St George's Children's Society - Change of Date: will be holding a coffee morning on Friday 15th April at 10.30am after Mass. Sales table and raffle. All welcome.

St George's Choir Practice will take place on Saturday 16th April at 10.00 am.

Sainsbury's Active Kids Vouchers: please collect these for our Catholic School, St Thomas a Becket. They enable the school to exchange them for sport equipment. They can be passed on via a parishioner who has a child at the school or via the Children's Liturgy team on Sunday morning.

The First Holy Communion Mass at St George's will be at the 9am Mass on Sunday 29th May.

YOUNG PEOPLE'S PILGRIMAGE TO THE HOLY LAND, OCTOBER 2017: Sacred Heart Parish in Hove are running a Holy Land Pilgrimage for 18-35s during October half term 2017. It is open to people from around 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 via the Facebook page at Facebook.com/HolyLand2017<<http://Facebook.com/HolyLand2017>>. For more information, contact YPPHL2017@gmail.com<<mailto:YPPHL2017@gmail.com>>.

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.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:

Tue 5th April St Wilfrid's Leaven Group Mtg, Parish Centre, 7.30pm
Wed 6th April St Wilfrid's Choir Practice, St Wilfrid's Church, 7pm
Wed 13th April Mother Teresa Group Mtg, St George's Hall, 2.30pm
Wed 13th April St Wilfrid's Choir Practice, St Wilfrid's Church, 7pm
Fri 15th April St G's Children's Society Coffee Morning, 10.30am
Sat 16th April St George's Choir Practice, St George's Church, 10am
Sun 17th April St G's Children's Liturgy Cake Sale, after Mass
Sun 22nd May 1st Communion Mass, St Wilfrid's Church, 10.30am
Sun 29th May 1st Communion Mass, St George's Church, 9am

Foodbank Easter Holiday Club: Hailsham foodbank is piloting a 'Holiday Meals' programme for the Trussell Trust which gives a free activity and meal to families in need during the Easter and Summer holidays. The club is being called 'The Holiday Shack' and will be at the Children's Centre, Hailsham East Community Centre, Vega Close, Hailsham. The club will run 10.45-1pm with volunteers from 10-1.30pm on Tuesday 5, Thursday 7 and Friday 8 April. If you would be interested in helping out maybe with setting up tables for meals/activities, serving meals, and clearing away afterwards as well as being around to chat to families do speak to **Julie Coates on 07474 671350** or email her on info@hailsham.foodbank.org.uk.

Divine Mercy Sunday in this The Year of Mercy: The annual Holy Hour of Adoration will be held at St Mary Magdalene's, Bexhill-on-Sea at 2.30pm on Sunday 3rd April. The Order of Service and details may be viewed on the displayed poster. The devotions will be followed by complimentary afternoon tea in the hall.

Alpha: Christianity, Boring? Irrelevant? Untrue? A Chance to Question, Discuss and think about Your Beliefs and The Questions of Life. Anecy Junior School Hall, Sutton Avenue, Seaford. Beginning Friday 15th April, 12 Sessions, Supper 7pm End 9pm. For further information, ring 07594 456441. You will be most welcome.

Dalai Lama: If you can, help others; if you cannot do that, at least do not harm them.

Pray for the Sick: If you or loved ones are admitted to hospital and would like to have Chaplaincy visits, please contact Fr Rory via the office or let the chaplaincy know. Thank you.

Bonus Ball: There are lots of numbers available for both the Saturday and Wednesday Bonus Ball. Anyone interested in one please see Bill or Mick. Thank you.

1st Communion Mass at St Wilfrid's will be at the 10:30am Mass on 22nd May.

COLLECTIONS: (26th/27th March)

St George's
Collection for Holy Places £145.69
Weekly ave./Monthly D/D £176.50
St Wilfrid's
Collection for Holy Places £149.70
Weekly aver. of DD £204.60
Attendances: St W's 245 St G's 116
Thank you for your continued generosity
If you pay tax please use gift aid envelopes.

Bonus Ball:

Sat 26th March
No: 28
John Forde

Wed 23rd March
No: 43
Mary Harrington