

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Cf. Ps 73: 20, 19, 22, 23

**Look to your covenant, O Lord,
and forget not the life of your poor ones for ever.
Arise, O God, and defend your cause,
and forget not the cries of those who seek you.**

THE COLLECT

Almighty ever-living God,
whom, taught by the Holy Spirit,
we dare to call our Father,
bring, we pray, to perfection in our hearts
the spirit of adoption as your sons and daughters,
that we may merit to enter into the inheritance
which you have promised.
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 Wisdom 18:6-9

That night had been foretold to our ancestors, so that,
once they saw what kind of oaths they had put their trust in
they would joyfully take courage.
This was the expectation of your people,
the saving of the virtuous and the ruin of their enemies;
for by the same act with which you took vengeance on our foes
you made us glorious by calling us to you.
The devout children of worthy men offered sacrifice in secret
and this divine pact they struck with one accord:
that the saints would share the same blessings and dangers alike;
and forthwith they had begun to chant the hymns of the fathers.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

PSALM

Ps. 32:1.12.18-20.22.R.v12

R) Happy are the people the Lord has chosen as his own.

Ring out your joy to the Lord, O you just;
for praise is fitting for loyal hearts.
They are happy, whose God is the Lord,
the people he has chosen as his own. **(R)**

The Lord looks on those who revere him,
on those who hope in his love,
to rescue their souls from death,
to keep them alive in famine. **(R)**

Our soul is waiting for the Lord.
The Lord is our help and our shield.
May your love be upon us, O Lord,
as we place all our hope in you. **(R)**

SECOND READING

A reading from the letter of the Hebrews 11:1-2. 8-19

(For shorter form, read between [])

[Only faith can guarantee the blessings that we hope for, or
prove the existence of the realities that at present remain
unseen. It was for faith that our ancestors were commended.

It was by faith that Abraham obeyed the call to set out for a
country that was the inheritance given to him and his
descendants, and that he set out without knowing where he was
going. By faith he arrived, as a foreigner, in the Promised Land,
and lived there as if in a strange country, with Isaac and Jacob,
who were heirs with him of the same promise. They lived there
in tents while he looked forward to a city founded, designed and
built by God.

It was equally by faith that Sarah, in spite of being past the age,
was made able to conceive, because she believed that he who

had made the promise would be faithful to it. Because of this,
there came from one man, and one who was already good as
dead himself, more descendants than could be counted, as
many as the stars of heaven or the grains of sand on the
seashore.]

All these died in faith, before receiving any of the things that
had been promised, but they saw them in the far distance and
welcomed them, recognising that they were only strangers and
nomads on earth. People who use such terms about
themselves make it quite plain that they are in search of their
real homeland. They can hardly have meant the country they
came from, since they had the opportunity to go back to it; but
in fact they were longing for a better homeland, their heavenly
homeland. That is why God is not ashamed to be called their
God, since he has founded the city for them.

It was by faith that Abraham, when put to the test, offered up
Isaac. He offered to sacrifice his only son even though the
promises had been made to him and he had been told: It is
through Isaac that your name will be carried on. He was
confident that God had the power even to raise the dead; and
so, figuratively speaking, he was given back Isaac from the
dead.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia! Cf. Mt 11:25
**Blessed are you, Father,
Lord of heaven and earth,
for revealing the mysteries of the kingdom
Alleluia!**

GOSPEL (Shorter Form) Luke 12:35-40

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

Jesus said to his disciples: 'See that you are dressed for action
and have your lamps lit. Be like men waiting for their master to
return from the wedding feast, ready to open the door as soon
as he comes and knocks. Happy those servants whom the
master finds awake when he comes. I tell you solemnly, he will
put on an apron, sit them down at table and wait on them. It
may be in the second watch he comes, or in the third, but happy
those servants if he finds them ready. You may be quite sure of
this, that if the householder had known at what hour the burglar
would come, he would not have let anyone break through the
wall of his house. You too must stand ready, because the Son
of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.'

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

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

Be pleased, O Lord, to accept the offerings of your Church,
for in your mercy you have given them to be offered
and by your power you transform them
into the mystery of our salvation.
Through Christ our Lord.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON Ps 147: 12, 14

**O Jerusalem, glorify the Lord,
who gives you your fill of finest wheat.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

May the communion in your Sacrament
that we have consumed, save us, O Lord,
and confirm us in the light of your truth.
Through Christ our Lord.



OUR FAITH ON SUNDAY

GOSPEL REFLECTION



Abraham's faith was reckoned unto
him for righteousness. Throughout
the Sacred Scriptures it is faith
that distinguishes the children of
God. Faith is often rewarded by
blessings, even in this life:

Abraham reaches the promised
land, Sarah bears offspring in old
age. But the Book of Wisdom says
boldly that the saints will share
the same blessings and dangers
alike. So, faith is no guarantee of
worldly triumph. On the contrary,
faith involves believers in the
drama of the paschal mystery, with
triumph made possible only
through the tragedy of the Cross.
Why should faith play so central a
role in our existence? Why should
it be faith that 'proves hidden
realities'? Would it not be better
to reveal all to everyone? We can
only understand the mystery of

faith in the light of human
freedom. In bestowing freedom on
men, God not only plants in them
the likeness of Himself, but also
provides for the sovereignty of
that freedom within its own order.
It is for man to direct his freedom
either Godwards or not. If, instead
of faith, certain knowledge of
hidden realities were granted,
there would be no freedom in
choosing to accept them. It would
simply be necessary. Not to have
the opportunity to exercise
freedom in choosing his ultimate
destiny would compromise the
very nature of man.

**EVANGELII GAUDIUM
(JOY OF THE GOSPEL)**

51. It is not the task of the Pope to offer a
detailed and complete analysis of
contemporary reality, but I do exhort all
the communities to an "ever watchful
scrutiny of the signs of the times".⁵⁴
This is in fact a grave responsibility, since
certain present realities, unless effectively
dealt with, are capable of setting off
processes of dehumanization which would
then be hard to reverse. We need to
distinguish clearly what might be a fruit of
the kingdom from what runs counter to
God's plan. This involves not only
recognizing and discerning spirits, but also
– and this is decisive – choosing
movements of the spirit of good and
rejecting those of the spirit of evil.

54 PAUL VI, Encyclical Letter *Ecclesiam Suam* (6
August 1964), 19: AAS 56 (1964), 609.

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.

An answer to prayer

It was a hard and difficult time in Rwanda. All the different
offices and international agencies were beginning to take stock
of the situation by gathering together statistics, and opening
registries etc.

My job was to register some orphans' names.

At a certain point my heart missed a beat: among the many
names, I saw one, which I recognised: it was my niece, my
sister's daughter, who we thought had died with the others. She
was only fourteen years old.

She was in the Congo, in a refugee camp with other tribes. If
by chance they discovered this girl was from our tribe, they
would kill her.

I talked to trustworthy people who could perhaps do
something. Together we looked at various solutions but in this
case there didn't seem to be one.

All of a sudden, after several nights of insomnia, Jesus' words
came into my mind, such as, "Ask and you will receive"; "What is
impossible to man is possible to God"; "With faith you can move
mountains.

I rushed into the little church and in front of Jesus, I said to
him, "Jesus, Christmas is almost here and I have come to ask you
for a gift. I ask that during the Christmas period my niece might
come home."

A short time later my sister rang and said: "Your niece is home
safe and sound."

She had managed to escape from the refugee camp and reached
the border between Rwanda and the Congo on foot. The soldiers
aided her, brought her home and handed her back to her mother.



PARISH COMMUNITIES OF

ST GEORGE

Eastbourne Road
Polegate



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ST WILFRID

South Road
Hailsham



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

WEEKLY SERVICES

Sat	6th	6.00pm	St Wilfrid's - Our Lady's Intention NINETEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (Next Sunday is the Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary)
Sun	7th	9.00am 10.30am	St George's - Tim Piegrome In Remembrance St Wilfrid's - Parish Communities' Intention
Mon	8th	2.30pm	St George's - 2.30pm Rosary Group, every Monday except Bank Holidays
Tue	9th	10.00am	St Wilfrid's - Hugh Reilly RIP
Wed	10th	10.00am	St George's - Kate & Patrick Walsh RIP
Thur	11th	10.00am	St Wilfrid's - Mr Norman Wright RIP
Fri	12th	10.00am	St George's - Mrs Vera Almeida RIP
Sat	13th	6.00pm	St Wilfrid's - Mrs Angela Wright RIP THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY
Sun	14th	9.00am 10.30am	St George's - Parish Communities' Intention St Wilfrid's - Michael & Bridget Kitts Intention 51st Wedding Anniversary

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, 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, tel.841504 or by hand marked NEWSLETTER, to Fr. Rory's House by 9am Wednesday.

Fr Rory Writes:

The Garden Party at St George's: I was delighted to hear that it was such an enjoyable and successful occasion. I know the weather played its large part, but more than that was what it represented for our joint communities. Please God, it will continue to be an important occasion for the future. A moment to commend all the voluntary work through the year, and a time to express particular gratitude for outstanding endeavour through the years. I would like to say a special thank you from me, to those who have and who continue to serve us by giving their service and their time to enhance the life of our community, and to render their service to God.

A big thank you from Bishop Richard:



"Please accept my apologies for taking far too long to write and thank you for your welcome to the Parish in the occasion of the Consecration. It was a wonderful occasion, with everyone doing so much to ensure a lovely celebration. Thank you too, for your most generous offering! (i.e. the parish offering) With the assurance of my prays for you and all the parish. Every blessing, Bishop Richard."

Can you help? CAFOD in A&B are looking for enthusiastic volunteers to help in your parish and local schools. We also need support with our campaigns against injustice, and help with media/social media. If you would like to put your faith into action in this way and make a difference in today's world then please contact Martin or Jo on 01483 898866 or email arundelandbrighton@cafod.org.uk.



St George's Choir practice - there will be no choir practice during August. We will resume again on Saturday 17th September at 10.00 am.

Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist: Day of Reflection. The very popular October event is now over subscribed, but a waiting list is in operation. Please inform David Hoad (St Wilfrid) Margaret Piegrome (St George) if you wish to go on the waiting list. Another event is planned for February 2017.

Mariapolis 2016: As this special event is on our doorstep I commend it very much. I attended one many years ago in Italy and found it to be a real tonic. It takes place on Sunday 7th to Thursday 11th August at Ashburnham Place, Battle, TN33 9NF. For further information and booking forms: <http://www.focolare.org/gb/news/2016/03/17/mariapolis-2016-looking-ahead-3>

Young People's Pilgrimage to the Holy Land, October 2017 – The Sacred Heart Parish, Hove, are running a Holy Land Pilgrimage for 18-35s during October half term 2017. It is open to young people from across 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](https://www.facebook.com/HolyLand2017). For more information, contact YPPHL2017@gmail.com.

Mahatma Gandhi 1869-1948:

Prayer is not asking. It is a longing of the soul. It is daily admission of one's weakness...It is better in prayer to have a heart without words than words without a heart.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:

Wed 10th Aug Mother Teresa Group Mtg, St George's Hall, 2.30pm
Wed 10th Aug St Wilfrid's Choir Practice, St Wilfrid's Church, 7pm
Mon 15th Aug St Wilfrid's Fundraising Meeting, Parish Centre, 7.30pm
Wed 17th Aug St Wilfrid's Choir Practice, St Wilfrid's Church, 7pm
Sat 17th Sept St George's Choir Practice, St George's Church, 10am

The **Knights of St Columba** meet on Monday 8th August at 7pm at the Parish Rooms, Christ the King, Langney. All Catholic gentlemen are invited to come. Further details from Bob 847014 or David 423323.

The **Knights of St Columba** invite all parishioners to join with them throughout the country in praying the Rosary - for Peace, Reconciliation and Harmony in our world - for the next 9 days, which includes the Feast of the Assumption of our Blessed Lady on 15th August.

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 and include the event date, and your name or call 01793 418355

We have several venues to choose from:

17th Aug - St Leonard's Church of England Primary Academy
St Leonard's-on-Sea
18th Aug - St Michaels Church Hall, Chichester
13th Sept - The Church of St Peter & St Paul, Hellingly
14th Sept - All Saints CEP School, Horsham
19th Oct - Balcombe CEP School, Haywards Heath

COLLECTIONS: (30th/31st July)

St George's	£230.58
Weekly aver./Monthly D/D	£176.50
St Wilfrid's	£281.31
Weekly aver. of DD	£204.60
Attendances: St W's 146 St G's 93	
Thank you for your continued generosity	
If you pay tax please use gift aid envelopes.	

Bonus Ball:

Sat 30th July
No: 48
Jan Megan
Wed 27th July
No: 30
Peter Robinson