

**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON**

Cf. Ps 26:7-9

**O Lord, hear my voice, for I have called to you;  
of you my heart has spoken: Seek his face;  
hide not your face from me, alleluia.**

**THE COLLECT**

Graciously hear our supplications, O Lord,  
so that we, who believe that the Saviour of the human race  
is with you in your glory,  
may experience, as he promised,  
until the end of the world,  
his abiding presence among us.  
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

1:12-14

After Jesus was taken up into heaven, the apostles went back  
from the Mount of Olives, as it is called, to Jerusalem, a short  
distance away, no more than a sabbath walk; and when they  
reached the city they went to the upper room where they were  
staying; there were Peter and John, James and Andrew, Philip  
and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of  
Alphaeus and Simon the Zealot, and Jude son of James. All  
these joined in continuous prayer, together with several women,  
including Mary the mother of Jesus, and with his brothers.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.****PSALM**

Ps 26:1.4.7-8. R.v13

**R) I am sure I shall see the Lord's goodness  
in the land of the living.**

The Lord is my light and my help;  
whom shall I fear?  
The Lord is the stronghold of my life;  
before whom shall I shrink? **(R)**

There is one thing I ask of the Lord,  
for this I long,  
to live in the house of the Lord,  
all the days of my life,  
to savour the sweetness of the Lord,  
to behold his temple. **(R)**

O Lord, hear my voice when I call;  
have mercy and answer.  
Of you my heart has spoken;  
'Seek his face.' **(R)**

**SECOND READING**

A reading from the first letter of St Peter.

4:13-16

If you can have some share in the sufferings of Christ, be glad,  
because you will enjoy a much greater gladness when his glory  
is revealed. It is a blessing for you when they insult you for  
bearing the name of Christ, because it means that you have the  
Spirit of glory, the Spirit of God resting on you. None of you  
should ever deserve to suffer for being a murderer, a thief, a  
criminal or an informer; but if anyone of you should suffer for  
being a Christian, then he is not to be ashamed of it; he should  
thank God that he has been called one.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.****GOSPEL ACCLAMATION****Alleluia, alleluia!**

Cf. Jn 14:18

**I will not leave you orphans, says the Lord;  
I will come back to you, and your hearts will be full of joy.  
Alleluia!**

**GOSPEL**

John 17:1-11

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

Jesus raised his eyes to heaven and said:

'Father, the hour has come:  
glorify your Son  
so that your Son may glorify you;  
and, through the power over all mankind that  
you have given him,  
let him give eternal life to all those you have entrusted to him.  
And eternal life is this:  
to know you,  
the only true God,  
and Jesus Christ whom you have sent.  
I have glorified you on earth  
and finished the work  
that you gave me to do.  
Now, Father, it is time for you to glorify me  
with that glory I had with you  
before ever the world was.  
I have made your name known  
to the men you took from the world to give me.  
They were yours and you gave them to me,  
and they have kept your word.  
Now at last they know  
that all you have given me comes indeed from you;  
for I have given them  
the teaching you gave to me,  
and they have truly accepted this, that I came from you,  
and have believed that it was you who sent me.  
I pray for them:  
I am not praying for the world  
but for those you have given me,  
because they belong to you:  
all I have is yours  
and all you have is mine,  
and in them I am glorified.  
I am not in the world any longer,  
but they are in the world,  
and I am coming to you.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.****PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS**

Accept, O Lord, the prayers of your faithful  
with the sacrificial offerings,  
that through these acts of devotedness  
we may pass over to the glory of heaven.  
Through Christ our Lord.

**COMMUNION ANTIPHON**

Jn 17:22

**Father, I pray that they may be one  
as we also are one, alleluia.**

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Hear us, O God our Saviour,  
and grant us confidence,  
that through these sacred mysteries  
there will be accomplished in the body of the whole Church  
what has already come to pass in Christ her Head.  
Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

# Our Faith on Sunday

## GOSPEL REFLECTION



Last week, Our Lord revealed to us the amazing reward promised to those who love Him and keep His commandments. Today He reveals to us very deep concerns of His Sacred Heart: His love for His Father and for His Father's children; for those who

have accepted the teaching He has brought from His Father. As Son of God, he speaks from the heart of the Holy Trinity, in the Spirit of Love. His human heart overflows with the desire that all should be one, "One like Us". His desire is that those who listened to Him then, and those who would listen in the future – as we do today – should understand His relationship to God His Father, that "All I have is yours (Father) and all you have is mine". It is in understanding this truth, an understanding that

is the result of keeping God's word, his commandments, that the disciple is drawn into the Divine 'family', a 'family' that is meant to extend to and include the whole human race. So Our Lord prays from his heart, "Holy Father, keep those you have given me true to your name, so that they may be one like us."

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

### THE SOCIAL DIMENSION OF EVANGELIZATION

## THE WHOLE IS GREATER THAN THE PART

237. To Christians, this principle also evokes the totality or integrity of the Gospel which the Church passes down to us and sends us forth to proclaim. Its fullness and richness embrace scholars and workers, businessmen and artists, in a word, everyone. The genius of each people receives in its own way the entire Gospel and embodies it in expressions of prayer, fraternity, justice, struggle and celebration.

## The Sacrament of the Present Moment\*

### FINDING TRUE PEACE

Self-discipline is the first essential for true peace. We can't attain peace if we are driven here and there by forces that we make no effort to control.

The second essential is self-surrender and abandonment.

The third necessity is a humble heart, ready to respond willingly to whatever God asks.

And so that we may not lose our way God sends us those who can best help us along the path. Wise guides enable us to discern how much freedom and how much constraint is applicable in our own case.

Dreaming about a holiness that manifests itself in heroic deeds is useless if God does not ask these of us. We must resolve firmly to respond to the inspirations of the Holy Spirit and do what we can in our daily life situation.

This means being fully present to what we are doing NOW. Suffering what we are called upon to suffer NOW.

The outward situation doesn't have to change. The heart alone needs to be rightly ordered, then the rest will fall into place.

\*Jean Pierre de Caussade's Self-Abandonment to Divine Providence for everyone by Elizabeth Ruth Obbard and published by New City ISBN: 978-1-905039-11-1



# 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	23rd	St Wilfrid's -	Sheila Campbell RIP
		<b>Seventh Sunday of Easter</b>	
Sun	24th	St George's -	Parish Communities' Intention
		St Wilfrid's -	
Mon	25th	St George's -	Andrew McLoughlin RIP
Tue	26th	St George's -	Evelyn South RIP
Wed	27th	St Wilfrid's -	Rosie Kennedy RIP
Thur	28th	St George's -	Donna & Steve Law RIP
Fri	29th	St Wilfrid's -	Our Lady Intention
Sat	30th	St Wilfrid's -	Patrick McKeown RIP
		<b>Pentecost</b>	
Sun	31st	St George's -	Parish Communities' Intention
		St Wilfrid's -	

**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 Nursery School:** Tel 01323 725977 **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) 487212  
St George's & St Wilfrid's Finance Committee Treasurers Charles Piegrome & Monika Beaver  
Chairperson of the Finance Committee Stephen Murray  
**ALL CORRESPONDENCE FOR THE ABOVE VIA THE PRIEST'S HOUSE PLEASE**  
Polegate Hall Hire.....Tel: (01323) 504753  
Hailsham Hall Hire ..... Tel: (01323) 841504 - Mon, Wed, Fri Morning or email at above address  
Prayer Line .....Jean Barham-Wyatt Tel: (01323) 842824

#### CROSSLINK CHURCHES TOGETHER, HAILSHAM

#### POLEGATE CHURCHES TOGETHER

Contact: Margaret Piegrome 01323 870990  
Contact Care: 07900 823138

**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 Holt, Margaret, Lilian Summers, Tom Woodrow-Spencer, Dorothy Hanlon, Margaret Westcar, Angela & Michael Archer, Chris Neyenhuizen, Fr Rory, Letty Booth and Michael Copper.

**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.  
Office Hours Monday 9am-1pm, Wednesday 8.45am-12.45pm & Friday 9am-12.30pm

**Deacon John Writes:**

This Sunday is World Communications Day and the scriptures remind us of the power of prayer. Prayer is world communications day in action. It is the conversation we have with God.

The first reading, from the Acts of the Apostles, shows us the importance of prayer in our lives – to sustain and to comfort us through the current difficult period.

The gospel contains the opening section of Christ's great prayer before he begins his passion and death. It has been called the "high priestly prayer" of Jesus. .

When the disciples were uncertain about the future after Jesus' Ascension into heaven they turned to the one thing they knew that could help them - prayer. Their prayer would not be answered at once - it was nine days before Pentecost arrived and the Holy Spirit would fulfil what Christ had promised. They persevered and did not stop praying — praying for guidance, for wisdom, for "hope unseen."

The disciples didn't give up. Neither should we!

The psalm today offers us all the gift of hope. "The Lord is my light and my help; whom shall I fear? The Lord is the stronghold of my life; before whom shall I shrink?"

The scriptures cry out to us: trust and pray. Trust in God's generosity and mercy. Trust in His plan for our lives. In the midst of our darkness, pray for light.

The important word is pray. The disciples did just this in the community when they turned to others for help and support. So should we.

We are the Body of Christ, and that means we are, together, not only his hands and his feet - we are also his voice — to one another, and to the world. Trust in Him and no matter how deep the darkness, the light we are all looking for will come.

Wait for it.....Watch for it.....Pray for it.

The disciples in the upper room did and look what they achieved!

**Fr Rory Writes:****The Feast of the Ascension**

There is simply great reward in giving this Feast all the care and attention that is possible for us. During these troubled times due to the coronavirus implications, it well rewards our great attention and that bit of extra effort. Visualise what it was like for those disciples, as this takes place. In prayer we say,

"Let us lift up our hearts. Let us raise them up to the Lord our God"

As the disciples looked on, their hearts were drawn up towards Heaven. The seasons of Lent and Easter, especially for me this year, concentrated my attention through the mass, the divine office, the rosary, and the other prayers. Today the office of readings, a long discourse on the Psalms by St Augustine Bishop is really worthwhile so please give it your care and attention. I highlighted this because it can be a great foundation for our lives of faith in the church as we move forward, and please God, overcome the virus. To continue with the words of St Augustine: -

Our thoughts in this present life should turn on the promise of God, because it is in praising Him that we shall rejoice forever in the life of God, and no one can be ready for the next life unless he trains himself for it now. So, we praise God during our earthly life, and in the same time we make our petitions to him. Our praise is expressed with joy, our petitions with yearning. We have been promised something we do not yet possess, and because the promise was made by one who keeps his word, we trust in Him and are glad, but in so far as possession is delayed, we can only long and yearn for it. It is good for us to persevere in longing until we receive what is promised, and yearning is over; then praise alone will remain.

Continued on the website.

**Foodbanks:**

If you are still able to donate non-perishable food and money to the foodbanks over the coming months. There are opportunities to donate online, or our website to make this easier for people. Immediate food needs will probably change week to week. For more updates visit [www.hailsham.foodbank.org.uk](http://www.hailsham.foodbank.org.uk) or [www.eastbourne.foodbank.org.uk](http://www.eastbourne.foodbank.org.uk). Thank you.

**Joke of the Week**

You may decide for yourselves whether the Holy Spirit was assisting the solicitor in the following story: A solicitor was on holiday in a small farming town. While walking through the streets, he noticed that a car was involved in an accident. As expected, a large crowd gathered. The solicitor was eager to get to the injured, but he couldn't get near the car. Being a clever person, he started shouting loudly, "Let me through! Let me through! I am the son of the victim." The crowd made way for him. Lying in front of the car was a donkey!