

Our Faith on Sunday

LITURGY

The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary (A)

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON: Apoc 12
A great sign appeared in heaven: a woman clothed with the sun, the moon beneath her feet, and a crown of twelve stars on her head.

FIRST READING:
 Apocalypse 11:19; 12:1-6.10
A woman adorned with the sun, standing on the moon.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: Ps. 44
R) On your right stands the queen, in garments of gold.

The daughters of kings are among your loved ones.
 On your right stands the queen in gold of Ophir.
 Listen, O daughter, give ear to my words: forget your own people and your father's house. **(R)**

So will the king desire your beauty:
 He is your lord, pay homage to him.
 They are escorted amid gladness and joy; they pass within the palace of the king. **(R)**

SECOND READING:
 I Corinthians 15:20-26
Christ as the first-fruits and then, those who belong to him.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:
Alleluia, alleluia!
Mary has been taken up into heaven; all the choirs of angels are rejoicing. Alleluia!

GOSPEL: Luke 1: 39-56
The Almighty has done great things for me, he has exalted the lowly.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON: Lk 1
All generations will call me blessed, for the Almighty has done great things for me.



GOSPEL REFLECTION



Our Lord's ascension into Heaven, the climax and fulfilment of the restoration of the human race to grace and glory, would not have been complete without Our Lady's assumption. For two reasons: firstly, because the woman Eve played such a key part in the fall from grace; it was of her that God said to the devil, "*I will put enmity between you and the woman, between her offspring and yours*". Therefore a woman, in this case Our Lady, plays a key role when her offspring, Jesus Christ, the fruit of her willing co-operation with God, defeats the power of the devil. Secondly, the human race, though created as two, is

in fact one; when Eve is created Adam says, "*at last . . . bone of my bone and flesh of my flesh!*" This oneness in variety was confirmed, strengthened, raised to a new level, by Christ. He prays to the Father, "*that they may be one as we are one.*" Where the devil had ruptured and destroyed, Jesus, supported by Our Lady, restores and re-makes. Our Lady's assumption is the outward, visible sign of the restoration of oneness; indeed of the new creation.

EVANGELII GAUDIUM (JOY OF THE GOSPEL)



IV. SOCIAL DIALOGUE AS A CONTRIBUTION TO PEACE
ECUMENICAL DIALOGUE

245. In this perspective, ecumenism can be seen as a contribution to the unity of the human family. At the Synod, the presence of the Patriarch of Constantinople, His Holiness Bartholomaios I, and the Archbishop of Canterbury, His Grace Rowan Williams, was a true gift from God and a precious Christian witness.¹⁹³

193 Cf. Propositio 52.



St Teresa's Way of Perfection*



BUTTERFLY MINDS

Others alas have such butterfly minds that when they try to fix their thoughts on God they are assailed by a thousand foolish ideas; their thoughts run hither and thither and it is impossible to control them (or so it seems). People can either be born this way or become so in the course of their life. Prayer for them is a continual struggle. If you are like these people then the advice I give is that on no account should you give up. Every journey begins with a single step - take it. One step will take you nearer to God, and even if you do not progress further at least you have made a good start and cannot possibly come to harm.

St Martha was holy but from the Gospels it doesn't seem that she would count as a 'contemplative' in the usual sense of that word. But she was certainly a dear friend of

Jesus and was chosen to serve him faithfully and lovingly. So if your way to God is through service why complain? Someone has to cook the meals! We can't all sit around like Mary. Society needs all sorts to keep going. Contemplation, mental prayer, tending the sick, preparing the food . . . Everything combines to greet the Guest who comes to us in one way or another. Don't be choosy about your tasks. Do what is necessary and what seems to be your personal calling without comparing yourself with others or fussing about the degree of 'contemplation' you have or have not reached. That is a waste of time!

Those God calls to the highest reaches of prayer are always courageous in undergoing suffering and are humble enough to accept whatever God chooses to give them.

*St Teresa's Way of Perfection for Everyone by Elizabeth Ruth Obbard. ISBN: 978-0-904287-78-3 www.newcity.co.uk



PARISH COMMUNITIES OF

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ST WILFRID

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

WEEKLY SERVICES

Sat	15th		St Wilfrid's -	
			The Assumption of the B. Virgin Mary	
Sun	16th	9.00am	St George's -	John Halpin RIP
		10.30am	St Wilfrid's -	Parish Communities' Intention
Mon	17th		St George's -	
Tue	18th	10.00am	St George's -	Kitty Baker RIP
Wed	19th	10.00am	St Wilfrid's -	Donal Cummins RIP
Thur	20th	10.00am	St George's -	In Thanksgiving
Fri	21st	10.00am	St Wilfrid's -	Harry Holt RIP
Sat	22nd		St Wilfrid's -	
			Twenty First Sunday in Ordinary Time	
Sun	23rd	9.00am	St George's -	Parish Communities' Intention
		10.30am	St Wilfrid's -	Norman & Angela Wright RIP

Booking for St George's Church: Please ring 07808 175455 for Sunday, 870990 for Tuesday & 504753 for Thursday.

Booking for St Wilfrid's Church: Go to our website www.saintsgeorgeandwilfrid.co.uk, click the link "Book a Mass" on the righthand side of the front page, select your Mass and follow the instructions, or contact the office on 841504.

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 LineJean 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, Juliette Lusted, Jennifer Piskac, Margaret Gearing, Joshua Hardy, Peter & Teresa Zurenkas, Anne Holt, Margaret, Lilian Summers, Tom Woodrow-Spencer, Dorothy Hanlon, 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, 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

Fr Rory Writes:

Let us now live and learn.

Learning to please God is very important as we begin to get accustomed to our Mass times with their new norms. Social distancing and wearing our face masks, which have become necessary parts of our participation in the Mass, whilst also being aware that for some persons the wearing of a mask may not be possible for medical reasons. There is always some underlying level of fear, so let us now recognise this and make it part of our prayer; so that our time at Mass may bear real fruit. This is at the heart of our faith, and the witness of our Mass is the foundation upon which we will build for the future of our parish.

The meeting of our parish finance committee successfully attended to the need to oversee our financial circumstances, health and safety, child protection and our other responsibilities. An overview of provision for the future was also discussed and fully documented in the minutes. Any decisions made will be communicated widely when we can clarify requirements for such activities. Please God, the dreadfully difficult circumstances created by the virus will be at an end and important questions about our future can be addressed. The question of skyping and providing the necessary technology were uppermost in our minds.

This weekend we celebrate the Feast of the Assumption. This was a great event when I was growing up and for many years one of the more major celebrations in the churches year. It highlighted the end of the summer holidays and marked the preparation about to begin to return to school. It was the highlight of many social events, so it celebrated much of the joys of life. This has always been a helpful aspect to our Catholic faith and is especially true this year as we survive the casualty brought about by coronavirus. It is important for us to be clear that this will not go on for ever, but that even now we can begin to prepare for life when we can happily recall it as something from our past experience.

Through the weeks to come we will be more at ease with the tensions, which for the moment have a negative effect on our lives. With God's help we will learn to live with these anxiety's and though sometimes life is cruel, these are the things through which we triumph, by the power of Him who loves us. Christ Jesus our Lord..

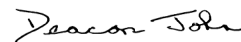
**Deacon John Writes:**

This weekend we have the Feast of the Assumption of Our Lady. This feast gives us the message of total liberation. Jesus tells us in the Gospel that everyone who sins is a slave of sin, and St. Paul reminds us in his letter to the Galatians, that, since Christ has set us free, we should be slaves of sin no more. This means that the Assumption encourages us to work with God to be liberated from the bondage of evil: from impure, unjust and uncharitable thoughts and habits, and from the bonds of jealousy, envy and hatred.

It is always an inspiring thought in our moments of temptation and despair to remember that we have a powerful heavenly Mother, constantly interceding for us before her son, Jesus, in Heaven. The feast of Mary's Assumption challenges us to imitate her self-sacrificing love, her indestructible Faith and her perfect obedience.

Therefore, on this feast day of our heavenly Mother, let us offer ourselves and pray for her special care and loving protection in helping us lead a purer and holier life. Try to perform acts of love for her this week without expectations of praise or a reward.

Finally there is this story which reminds us to always look for the good in people: God is walking around Heaven one day and notices a number of people on the heavenly streets who shouldn't be there. He finds St. Peter at the gate and says to him, "Peter, you've been remiss in your duties. You're letting in the wrong sort of people." "Don't blame me, Lord," replies Peter. "I turn them away just like You said to. Then they go around to the back door and Jesus' mother lets them in."

**Poem:**

The sun is scorching lots of plants that lovingly were sown, my runner beans have shrivelled up but they are not alone!

Hydrangea cuttings that I took were really doing fine, until the sun got very hot, now there is no sign.

But other plants are doing well my Malopes are amazing, growing tall along the wall as in the sun they're lazing.

Geraniums are strong as well although they are in pots, their colours are so beautiful and there are lots and lots.

The asters that I grew from seed are coming into flower, jewel colours- mauves and pinks(well done that amateur grower)!

I'm cutting spinach now for meals I really will be stronger, I keep it watered everyday and hope it will last longer .

So as the crisis carries on still spreading all around us, we thank the Lord for all we've got and carry on regardless.

Keeping to the rules in place, we're glad to be alive, being sensible as well should help us all to thrive!

Ros Burke, Poet Laureate of Polegate

Help Required: We are looking for volunteers willing to put our knitted squares together to make the blankets we send to poor families in Eastern Europe (via the Mustard Seed). There are usually 36 squares making up one blanket. You can work in your own time and at your own pace. Please phone Margaret ([01323 483504](tel:01323483504)) if you can help. Margaret can bring the squares to you and pick up the completed blankets). Thank you.