

# Our Faith on Sunday

## LITURGY

### 22nd Sunday in OT (A)

**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:** Cf. Ps 85: 3, 5  
**Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I cry to you all the day long.**  
**O Lord, you are good and forgiving, full of mercy to all who call to you.**

**FIRST READING:** Jeremiah 20:7-9  
*The word of the Lord has meant insult for me.*

**PSALM:** Ps 62:2-6,8-9. R. v2  
**R) For you my soul is thirsting, O Lord my God.**

O God, you are my God, for you I long;  
 for you my soul is thirsting.  
 My body pines for you  
 like a dry, weary land without water. **(R)**

So I gaze on you in the sanctuary  
 to see your strength and your glory.  
 For your love is better than life,  
 my lips will speak your praise. **(R)**

So I will bless you all my life,  
 in your name I will lift up my hands.  
 My soul shall be filled as with a banquet,  
 my mouth shall praise you with joy. **(R)**

For you have been my help;  
 in the shadow of your wings I rejoice.  
 My soul clings to you;  
 your right hand holds me fast. **(R)**

**SECOND READING:** Romans 12:1-2  
*Offer your bodies as a living sacrifice.*

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

**Alleluia, alleluia!** Cf. Eph 1:117.18  
**May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ enlighten the eyes of our mind, so that we can see what hope his call holds for us. Alleluia!**

**GOSPEL:** Matthew 16:21-27  
*If anyone wants to be a follower of mine, let him renounce himself.*

**COMMUNION ANTIPHON:** Ps 30: 20  
**How great is the goodness, Lord, that you keep for those who fear you.**



## GOSPEL REFLECTION



In last Sunday's Gospel Jesus entrusts Peter with the leadership of the Church. But in this Sunday's reading, which follows on immediately from it, Jesus castigates Peter very strongly when he objects to hearing that Jesus will 'suffer grievously' and 'be put to death'. Peter's reaction is one which we all have when we hear that a totally innocent person is made to suffer. Had we been there, our reaction would probably have been the same as Peter's. But Jesus calls him Satan! The Father's plan of love for humanity was that his Son should be born in our midst, and then suffer and die. It is a divine logic which goes completely against human logic. Jesus then goes on to tell the disciples that if they want to follow him, they too will have to take up their cross – there is no other way. What

Jesus was saying to his disciples then, is just as valid to us now. We shouldn't be shocked when, in our lives as Christians, we encounter suffering and rejection. It is an inevitable part of our journey to the Father.

## EVANGELII GAUDIUM (JOY OF THE GOSPEL)



### IV. SOCIAL DIALOGUE AS A CONTRIBUTION TO PEACE ECUMENICAL DIALOGUE

246 (Cont'd). Signs of division between Christians in countries ravaged by violence add further causes of conflict on the part of those who should instead be a haven of peace. How many important things unite us! If we really believe in the abundantly free working of the Holy Spirit, we can learn so much from one another! It is not just about being better informed about others, but rather about reaping what the Spirit has sown in them, which is also meant to be a gift for us. To give but one example, in the dialogue with our Orthodox brothers and sisters, we Catholics have the opportunity to learn more about the meaning of episcopal collegiality and their experience of synodality. Through an exchange of gifts, the Spirit can lead us ever more fully into truth and goodness.



## St Teresa's Way of Perfection\* THE IMPORTANCE OF DETERMINATION



Beginnings are important. That isn't to say that every part of the journey isn't important, but the beginning sets the tone of the whole enterprise. So set out with an earnest and 'determined determination' to reach the fountain of living water promised by Jesus.

Resolve not to stop until you reach your goal, no matter what comes, no matter what happens, no matter how hard you have to labour, no matter what other people may say to deter you. ... Pay no attention to their tales of woe. The treasure is worthy of any risk.

Some people like to take life peaceably, but when it comes to gaining some material benefit such as an increase of wealth how they work! And what's more, they think nothing of all the effort they put into obtaining a miserable increase in salary.

Take my advice – go for true riches. Prayer is the road that takes you to the fountain of life and happiness. If anyone tries to tell you another road will do just as well don't believe them. Only believe people who model their lives on Christ. One Christlike person who sees and speaks the truth can make a real difference and will be able to encourage you when things seem hopeless.

To conclude, keep these three maxims in mind:

1. Try to have a good conscience,
2. Despise worldly values,
3. Believe firmly in the teaching of the Church.

Then stop worrying! Go right ahead!

\*St Teresa's Way of Perfection for Everyone by Elizabeth Ruth Obbard. ISBN: 978-0-904287-78-3 [www.newcity.co.uk](http://www.newcity.co.uk)



# 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	29th	St Wilfrid's -		
Twenty Second Sunday in Ordinary Time				
Sun	30th	9.00am	St George's -	Rosanne Matthew RIP
		10.30am	St Wilfrid's -	Parish Communities' Intention
Mon	31st	St George's -		
Tue	1st	10.00am	St George's -	Creta O'Neill RIP
Wed	2nd	10.00am	St Wilfrid's -	Harry Holt RIP
Thur	3rd	10.00am	St George's -	In Thanksgiving
Fri	4th	10.00am	St Wilfrid's -	Felix Chetwynd RIP
Sat	5th	St Wilfrid's -		
Twenty Third Sunday in Ordinary Time				
Sun	6th	9.00am	St George's -	Parish Communities' Intention
		10.30am	St Wilfrid's -	Norman & Angela Wright

**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](http://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 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, 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, 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

**Fr Rory Writes:****Moving On**

With plans in place for our children to return to school, for the need to improve the economy and indeed the needs of daily life, there is an important need to develop a sense of returning to life. There is still a long way to go, so care and caution are the order of the day, but The power of the positive is truly important.

We need to get back to a normal way of life.

Our return to Mass is, please God, beginning to settle down and hopefully falling into a pattern. Like most parishes we have an important requirement for persons under seventy years of age to meet the criteria for stewarding and cleaning. We are therefore asking younger people to offer their services to help our parish.

As Students are returning to their studies and others returning to work, this is now a very urgent need. Our desire and our blessing to celebrate Mass has its own importance, and with so many elderly people (which includes me) who are careful, responsible persons, there is a call for greater support from the younger generation. Then we can be more at ease knowing that we can continue to gather to celebrate Mass.

We must turn to the future with hope, but reality is now making its presence felt. The fact is that the church is in a very weak state of being. The wonderful opportunity that was presented to the church was not availed of and the closure of so many seminaries - ignored by those in authority - has left us with a very critical situation to respond to. I hear it said, and by priests, that after the coronavirus there will not be a major return to church, and that we will have to develop a different approach to life in our churches. Mass will always be at the heart of it, but how and in what way it will be celebrated will make a truly important difference to the future of our lives.

So consistently two things. The first is a relationship with Jesus through the church and our faith. At the heart of this is in preparation for Baptism and First Holy Communion, "I belong", this is the most important book and is the foundation. The strength of this foundation is everything. And the second is Nourishment. How we nourish our physical bodies determines our health and our wellbeing. This is equally vital to our spiritual lives, so it deserves all the care and attention we can bring to it.

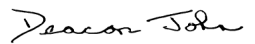
**Deacon John Writes:**

I recently read the following item which I thought you might like:

"On those occasions when we ask ourselves questions like: Why should I bother? Why am I doing this? What about me? it may help to remember that it is by what we do, rather than by what we say, that we show whether or not we have the right answer to the question of Jesus: "Who do you say I am?" In our struggles each day to decide what to do, here are two statements that are worth remembering. The first is by Jesus, who once said: "If you want to save your own life, you will lose it; but if you lose your life for my sake, you will find it."

That was put in different words by Albert Schweitzer. By the time he was 30 he could have spent the rest of his life as a theologian or an organist. Instead he decided to become a doctor, and go to Africa, where he spent most of the rest of his life, until his death at the age of 90. He planned to spread the Gospel not by the verbal process of preaching, but by the example of his Christian work of healing. In 1952, at the age of 77, he received the Nobel Peace Prize for his philosophy of Reverence for Life. He once said: "I have always held firmly to the thought that each one of us can do a little to bring some portion of misery to an end. One thing I know, the only ones among you who will be really happy, are those who will have sought and found, how to serve.

(Rivendellsfoodforthought)

**Ministry of Consolation:**

Bishop Richard initiated a new Ministry late last year, and requested volunteers from the various Parishes in the Diocese, with the help of his Marriage and Family Advisers, to come forward for this Training Course – the new Deacon Simon South for this area who was also working for the Bishop in the Marriage and Family Adviser capacity, has been running this course in conjunction with The Bishop who employed Kathy Quint, a Professional Counsellor and Therapist, who was brought in to run this course - she is a Christian, and she writes many papers and courses for various large organisations. She also sometimes runs a course herself – which she did for our Diocese.

Bishop Richard writes –

'If you have been affected by the loss of a family member or close friend and would like someone to talk with or to just listen, please speak to your Parish Priest who can put you in touch with one of our Bereavement Supporters.

We have people within our Parish who have been trained to support you through your bereavement journey either in person or via the telephone. This support is free of charge as a Ministry of Consolation in the name of Our Lord who comforts us all in our sadness.'

Our local Ministry of Consolation person is Sue Longridge, and she is happy to speak to anyone who needs just that person to listen, without any judgement, to anyone who is experiencing any difficulties. Please feel free to call her on 07921 152444.

**Funeral of Margaret Westcar:** Gary Westcar is asking if anyone filmed or took any photo's of the procession leading up to the church service. If so, please could you let him know by email garywestcar@aol.com