

Our Faith on Sunday

LITURGY

19th Sunday in OT (A)

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.**

FIRST READING: I Kings 19:9.11-13

Stand on the mountain before the Lord.

PSALM: Ps 84:9-14. R.v.8

**R) Let us see, O Lord, your mercy
and give us your saving help.**

I will hear what the Lord God has to say,
a voice that speaks of peace.

His help is near for those who fear him
and his glory will dwell in our land. **(R)**

Mercy and faithfulness have met;
justice and peace have embraced.
Faithfulness shall spring from the earth
and justice look down from heaven. **(R)**

The Lord will make us prosper
and our earth shall yield its fruit.
Justice shall march before him
and peace shall follow his steps. **(R)**

SECOND READING: Romans: 9:1-5

*I would willingly be condemned if it could
help my brothers.*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, alleluia! Lk 19:38

**Blessings on the King who comes, in
the name of the Lord!**

**Peace in heaven and glory in the
highest heavens!**

Alleluia!

GOSPEL: Matthew 14:22-33

Tell me to come to you across the water.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON:

Ps 147: 12, 14

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



GOSPEL REFLECTION



It is possible that the crowd, of last week's Gospel passage, were not aware that Jesus had multiplied the loaves; though S John reports that the crowd wanted to make him king and that was why Jesus "*fled into the hills to pray*". The miracle was certainly meant for the eyes and minds of disciples – as the continuation of the story today makes clear. Jesus was training the disciples – and now us – in faith. To make bread and fish out of nothing, to calm the storm with a word, to walk on the waves of the sea and cause someone else to do the same, these are actions far beyond human power; they are God's creative acts. "*Truly you are the Son of God!*" the disciples exclaim at the last. These

acts were preparing the disciples – and now us – for the greatest creative act of his entire ministry: the giving of his whole self, body, blood, soul and divinity under the appearance of bread and wine. In S John's Gospel, the promise of the Eucharist follows immediately after the miracles. The crowd wanted to make Jesus king; in fact, Jesus was asking much more: faith in him as God's creative Word!

EVANGELII GAUDIUM (JOY OF THE GOSPEL)



IV. SOCIAL DIALOGUE AS A CONTRIBUTION TO PEACE

ECUMENICAL DIALOGUE

244 (Cont'd). We must never forget that we are pilgrims journeying alongside one another. This means that we must have sincere trust in our fellow pilgrims, putting aside all suspicion or mistrust, and turn our gaze to what we are all seeking: the radiant peace of God's face. Trusting others is an art and peace is an art. Jesus told us: "Blessed are the peacemakers" (Mt 5:9). In taking up this task, also among ourselves, we fulfil the ancient prophecy: "They shall beat their swords into ploughshares" (Is 2:4).



St Teresa's Way of Perfection*



MAKING A START

Now I will proceed to talk more about prayer itself, which depends so much on the foregoing virtues if we are to make any progress at all.

For one thing, humility means being content with the kind of prayer God gives us and not insisting on the higher reaches of contemplation as if it was our 'right'. Discouragement about where you are or think you are on the road to union with God is useless. Don't give in to it but keep on doing your best and waiting for the Lord to act as he thinks fit.

For people who are fond of prayer and like their own company plenty of books

have been written. Such books describe the life of our Lord in short passages or treat other good subjects in manageable portions. This helps to give prayer time a structure and holds the thoughts on God. People who can use books like these are on a straight road that will eventually lead them to their goal. They walk restfully and securely, because one cannot help but be at peace when the understanding is harnessed to good subjects and is engrossed in matters relating to God.

Others just say vocal prayers with attention. This too is admirable.

*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

ST GEORGE

Eastbourne Road
Polegate



Parish Priest: Fr. Rory Kelly

South Road, Hailsham, East Sussex BN27 3JG
Tel: (01323) 841504 or Deacon John (01323) 486280
(Answerphone service available on both numbers)
Email: ssgeorge.wilfrid@btinternet.com
Website: www.saintsgeorgeandwilfrid.co.uk

ST WILFRID

South Road
Hailsham



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

WEEKLY SERVICES

Sat	8th		St Wilfrid's -	
		Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time		
Sun	9th	9.00am	St George's -	Parish Communities' Intention
		10.30am	St Wilfrid's -	Patrick McKeon RIP
Mon	10th		St George's -	
Tue	11th	10.00am	St George's -	Joan Lodrick RIP
Wed	12th	10.00am	St Wilfrid's -	Rosina & Michael Wilson's Intention
Thur	13th	10.00am	St George's -	Deacon John & Tessa Truman's Intention
Fri	14th	10.00am	St Wilfrid's -	Harry Holt RIP
Sat	15th		St Wilfrid's -	
		The Assumption of the B. Virgin Mary		
Sun	16th	9.00am	St George's -	Parish Communities' Intention
		10.30am	St Wilfrid's -	Ella O'Donoghue 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, 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, 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:

Gone before us marked with the sign of faith.

From time to time we can be very much reminded of those who have died and gone before us. Recently we had the first anniversary of Billy O'Rourke and Patrick Burke, also remembered Chris Browne and now Margaret Westcar who has died recently. They bring home to us what a rich legacy of faith that can be left behind, and at this time I have received a lot of strength and consolation from this knowledge.

It may be a good reminder that the fear of God is the beginning of Wisdom, and then as we give more time and thought to the fruits of wisdom we can come to a better place in ourselves. The words "at ease with" come home to me with the celebration of Mass. In the beginning of lockdown I am sure I shared with you all the same sense of feeling of dislocation, of something very different happening in my life, indeed for all of us.

Concentrating upon having to live and deal with this became very important. My first focus was to locate, and then the need to respond to the words "isolate". Taking this process into action, suddenly I found I was very much helped by the life of the church. Two things I often say. 1) This time we were fortunate with the weather, and 2) The season is the life of the church. The end of Lent, giving way to Holy Week, and using the wisdom that comes from God to respond to my human situation. Skyping became something new that I could do and was well rewarded. Not having this facility for our parish and the responsibility for it, gave me an opportunity to focus greatly upon the liturgy of the Mass and the Divine Office. Rich experience, emphasising the importance of nourishment for both body and spirit.

This experience of spiritual nourishment, the celebration of the Great Feast, Lent giving way to Holy Week, the Lighting of the Paschal Candle. Christ is Risen from the dead - Our faith will never be in vain. Then turning my attention to the Ascension of our Divine Lord into heaven, and above all Pentecost when the Holy Spirit is poured out upon the faithful. All of this so essential to our lives of faith at this time, a time of great challenge.

So far now, the first words are "at ease with". For the foreseeable future each Mass with our very restricted numbers will be like our Sunday Mass. Returning to it is everything. This includes unfortunately our human experience, for the moment it appears to be embraced by fear, and so with it a need for spirit of discernment that is necessary to confront the work of the enemy, that always wants to destroy our peace. So please God, the gift of the Holy Spirit with wisdom, will bring good things to those who believe and guided and blessed by those who have gone before us, we too will leave a rich legacy of faith.

Fr Rory

Deacon John Writes:

Have you ever said about something you have been asked to do: 'What's the point what difference will it make?' Well, read the following story think about it, and perhaps take it to your heart! May we try to bring joy and hope to everyone in need. Help us to share not only our food and drink but also our joy and compassion. May we always do what we can, even when we think our efforts add up to so little. One day in the middle of winter a robin and a dove were sheltering from the snow in a fir tree. There had been so much snow that the tree was almost completely covered. After a while, the robin said to the dove: "Do you know how much a snowflake weighs?" The dove replied: "Almost nothing." Then the robin said to the dove: "Earlier today, I was sitting on the branch of another fir tree when the snow started to fall. It wasn't a violent blizzard, just gently falling snow. I had nowhere to go, and nothing better to do, so I decided to count the snowflakes that fell on the twigs and needles of my branch. I had counted up to 3,741,952, and then, when the next snowflake gently landed on the branch, a snowflake that as you say weighs almost nothing the total weight was so much that the branch broke." Having said that, the robin flew away. The dove thought about this for a while, and then said to herself: "Perhaps there is only one person's voice lacking for peace to come about in the world."

Deacon John

Joke of the Week:

Lost on a rainy Friday night, a priest stumbles into a monastery and requests shelter there. Fortunately, he's just in time for dinner and was treated to the best fish and chips he's ever had.

After dinner, he goes into the kitchen to thank the chefs. He is met by two brothers, "Hello, I'm Brother Michael, and this is Brother Francis".

I'm very pleased to meet you. I just wanted to thank you for a wonderful dinner. The fish and chips were the best I've ever tasted. Out of curiosity, who cooked what?"

Brother Michael replied, "Well, I'm the fish friar." Father turns to the other brother and says, "Then you must be" "Yes, I'm the chip monk....."

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.