

# Our Faith on Sunday

## LITURGY

### 26th Sunday in OT (A)

#### ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:

Dn 3: 31, 29, 30, 43, 42

**All that you have done to us, O Lord, you have done with true judgement, for we have sinned against you and not obeyed your commandments. But give glory to your name and deal with us according to the bounty of your mercy.**

#### FIRST READING: Ezekiel 18:25-28

*When the sinner renounces sin, he shall certainly live.*

#### PSALM: Ps 24:4-9. R. V6

**R) Remember your mercy, Lord.**

Lord, make me know your ways.  
Lord, teach me your paths.  
Make me walk in your truth, and teach me:  
for you are God my saviour. **(R)**

Remember your mercy, Lord,  
and the love you have shown from of old.  
Do not remember the sins of my youth.  
In your love remember me,  
because of your goodness, O Lord. **(R)**

The Lord is good and upright.  
He shows the path to those who stray,  
he guides the humble in the right path;  
he teaches his way to the poor. **(R)**

#### SECOND READING: Philippians 2:1-11

*In your minds you must be the same as Christ Jesus.*

#### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

**Alleluia, alleluia!** Jn 14:23  
**If anyone loves me he will keep my word and my Father will love him, and we shall come to him. Alleluia!**

#### GOSPEL: Matthew 21:28-32

*He thought better of it and went. Tax collectors and prostitutes are making their way into the kingdom of God before you.*

#### COMMUNION ANTIPHON: 1 Jn 3: 16

**By this we came to know the love of God: that Christ laid down his life for us; so we ought to lay down our lives for one another.**



## GOSPEL REFLECTION



The Gospels are filled with examples of people who are public sinners and 'undesirables' being in the company of Jesus. Time and again his anger is directed at the so-called good people, the respectable members of society, the Scribes and the Pharisees. Jesus sees through their pride and hypocrisy and warns them that, unless they change, the doors of the Kingdom will be closed to them. It is all too easy to make judgments of others, especially those whose 'sins' and failures are paraded in public by the media. But Jesus is not interested in outward appearances of respectability. He goes beyond the external aspects and sees into the heart and soul of each person he meets. Pride is at the root of every sin, especially pride that we are better than others. Those whose

weaknesses have been publicly revealed cannot pretend that they are better than others. Their humiliation makes them suffer, but it is much easier for them to recognise exactly who they are in front of God. If we fail to recognise that nothingness, we will never build a true relationship with God.

### EVANGELII GAUDIUM (JOY OF THE GOSPEL)



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

250. An attitude of openness in truth and in love must characterize the dialogue with the followers of non-Christian religions, ... This dialogue is in first place a conversation about human existence or simply, as the bishops of India have put it, a matter of "being open to them, sharing their joys and sorrows".<sup>194</sup> In this way we learn to accept others and their different ways of living, thinking and speaking. We can then join one another in taking up the duty of serving justice and peace, which should become a basic principle of all our exchanges ... These efforts, therefore, can also express love for truth.

<sup>194</sup> India n Bishops' Conference, Final Declaration of the XXX Assembly: The Role of the Church for a Better India (8 March 2013), 8.9.



## St Teresa's Way of Perfection\*

### IF YOU ARE SUFFERING



If you are suffering look on Jesus as he goes to Gethsemane, or bound to the column of scourging, spat upon, denied by his friends, cold and alone. Offer him comfort.

Or look upon Jesus bent double under the weight of the cross. Allow him to gaze at you then with his eyes full of compassionate tears as you bear him company. You will then realise the value of suffering and the reality of the pain that the Lord bore for you, which is so much greater than anything you will be asked to bear for him.

Or try putting yourself in the place of Mary Magdalen or the Blessed Virgin. Let them guide your thoughts as you strive to be

present on Calvary. Another help is to find a picture of Jesus that appeals to you and look at it regularly when you are at prayer. This will make the Lord more real to you. And don't say that all this is too complicated and difficult. You aren't short of words to talk to people around you, so there's no reason to run out of things to say when you talk to God and know he is present with you. Just keep at the side of the Master, Jesus, and resolve to learn all he wants to teach you. He will never leave you unless you leave him first. Consider his words, his deeds, and be convinced of his love. Use your imagination – your heart as well as your head.

\*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



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Website: [www.saintsgeorgeandwilfrid.co.uk](http://www.saintsgeorgeandwilfrid.co.uk)

## ST WILFRID

South Road  
Hailsham



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

### WEEKLY SERVICES

Sat	26th	St Wilfrid's - <b>Twenty Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time</b> (Friday is CAFOD Harvest Fast Day)		
Sun	27th	9.00am	St George's -	Rosamma Mathew RIP
		10.30am	St Wilfrid's -	Mary McElligott RIP
Mon	28th		St George's -	
Tue	29th	10.00am	St George's -	Parish Communities' Intention
Wed	30th	10.00am	St Wilfrid's -	Tommy Mitchell RIP
Thur	1st	10.00am	St George's -	Rowena & Michael Wilson's Intention
Fri	2nd	10.00am	St Wilfrid's -	Requiem Mass Bernadette Douch RIP
Sat	3rd	St Wilfrid's - <b>Twenty Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time</b> (Second Collection for CAFOD)		
Sun	4th	9.00am	St George's -	In-Thanksgiving
		10.30am	St Wilfrid's -	Parish Communities' Intention

**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:**

It is good to pause: ..... The new announcement from our Prime Minister leaves us with a lot to think about ..... and to hope and pray for.

The nature of the virus does call for a lot of isolation, but life, is very much designed for the opposite, to be lived together and shared. This is passing us by. Yes, there is a need for a grieving process, particularly for the many elderly and vulnerable who have been so badly affected, because their care cut them off from family members which is particularly appreciated. It is essential to keep in close contact with our friends, old and new.

Fruits of pausing: After our pause, we look forward to bearing more fruit., fruit that will last.

**Stewardship:** We are coming to realise the value that this brings to the church, and so we are most grateful to those who have stepped forward. Because of their work, we appreciate the value of welcomers, which we have experienced in the past and hope for the future. This is very much a valuable service.

**Cleaning:** Not the most appealing task, but certainly one of the most beneficial, caring for people is at the heart of the service that we bring, so we are very much in the need of help - yes - Help. We look forward to developing all our ministries, strengthening our sense of community, working better together so we may enrich our shared experiences.

Fr Kieran is looking after our Masses this weekend and we are glad and grateful to have him.

I am looking forward to an outing co-ordinated by the Children's Liturgy at St George's, I have very much benefited by and enjoyed outings with them in the past.

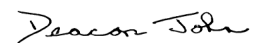


**Deacon John Writes:**

The readings last weekend were all about forgiveness. I think we all know how difficult it can be to forgive. I hope these two stories will help and encourage you to forgive others for what they have done and also to forgive ourselves for doing something we know to be wrong, for forgiveness brings with it peace of mind.

Sheila Cassidy, who was tortured by Pinochet's men in South America, wrote: I can only say: however much we have been wronged, however justified our hatred, if we cherish it, it will poison us. Hatred is a devil to be cast out, and we must pray for power to forgive, for it is in forgiving our enemies that we are healed.

In 1965 Richard Dimbleby visited Belsen where notices in different languages asked you to respect the dead who were buried there, about 70,000 of them. He came across a large wooden cross with wreaths beneath it. Below it was a prayer written on a scrap of paper by a woman prisoner. She had written it for those who were tormenting her. This is the prayer: Lord, remember not only the men and women of good will, but also those of ill will. But do not only remember all the suffering they have inflicted on us. Remember the fruits we bought, thanks to this suffering. Our comradeship, our loyalty, our humility, our courage, our generosity, the greatness of heart which has grown out of all this. And when they come to judgement let all the fruits that we have borne be their forgiveness.



**St George's Church, Polegate/St Wilfrid's Church, Hailsham**

We are delighted to record good attendance at Masses during the week and on Sundays. Great attention is paid to the spacing and general safety of our congregation. All precautions are in place and our stewards are always in church to offer assistance and guidance. Now schools have restarted, our younger families are returning to Mass, obviously needing to come on Sundays to fit in with the school week. Therefore it has become even more essential for us all to BOOK IN when we wish to attend and, importantly, to remember to CANCEL when we cannot be in church.

The Coronavirus is still with us, and sadly we may see an increase during the winter months. To reduce the risk of spreading the infection, windows must remain open, however inclement the weather. AS THE TEMPERATURE DROPS, PLEASE REMEMBER TO WEAR WARM CLOTHING!

Our booking details remain the same:

**St George's Church**

Tuesday Mass, please ring – 01323 870990  
Thursday Mass - 01323 704753  
Sunday Mass – 07808175455

**St Wilfrid's Church**

Online: [www.saintsgeorgeandwilfrid.co.uk](http://www.saintsgeorgeandwilfrid.co.uk) or  
Telephone Jackie: 01323 841504 or  
Email Jackie: [ssgeorge.wilfrid@btinternet.com](mailto:ssgeorge.wilfrid@btinternet.com)

**We look forward to welcoming you all.**

**St Wilfrid's Church:**

Due to Covid 19, I have decided not to collect the Mission Boxes as usual in September. Instead, hopefully myself and the promoters are planning a collection sometime in March 2021. So please keep topping your Boxes up as usual until then if possible. Thank you all for your continuous support for the Missions. Above all, keep safe and well.

D. Jung. St. Wilfrid's APF M-Secretary.