

**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON**

Jer 29:11,12,14

The Lord said: I think thoughts of peace and not of affliction. You will call upon me, and I will answer you, and I will lead back your captives from every place.

**THE COLLECT**

Grant us, we pray, O Lord our God, the constant gladness of being devoted to you, for it is full and lasting happiness to serve with constancy the author of all that is good. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, 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 book of Proverbs 31:10-13. 19-20. 30-31

A perfect wife – who can find her? She is far beyond the price of pearls. Her husband's heart has confidence in her, from her he will derive no little profit. Advantage and not hurt she brings him all the days of her life. She is always busy with wool and with flax, she does her work with eager hands. She sets her hands to the distaff, her fingers grasp the spindle. She holds out her hands to the poor, she opens her arms to the needy. Charm is deceitful, and beauty empty; the woman who is wise is the one to praise. Give her a share in what her hands have worked for, and let her works tell her praises at the city gates.

The word of the Lord.  
Thanks be to God.

**PSALM**

Ps.127:1-5.R.v1

**R) O blessed are those who fear the Lord.**

O blessed are those who fear the Lord and walk in his ways!  
By the labour of your hands you shall eat.  
You will be happy and prosper. **(R)**

Your wife like a fruitful vine in the heart of your house;  
your children like shoots of the olive, around the your table. **(R)**

Indeed thus shall be blessed the man who fears the Lord.  
May the Lord bless you from Zion in a happy Jerusalem  
all the days of your life! **(R)**

**SECOND READING**

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Thessalonians

5:1-6

You will not be expecting us to write anything to you, brothers, about 'times and seasons', since you know very well that the Day of the Lord is going to come like a thief in the night. It is when people are saying, 'How quiet and peaceful it is' that the worst suddenly happens, as suddenly as labour pains come on a pregnant woman; and there will be no way for anybody to evade it.

But it is not as if you live in the dark, my brothers, for that the Day to overtake you like a thief. No, you are all sons of light and sons of the day: we do not belong to the night or to darkness, so we should not go on sleeping, as everyone else does, but stay wide awake and sober.

The word of the Lord.  
Thanks be to God.

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

Alleluia, alleluia!  
Even if you have to die, says the Lord, keep faithful, and I will give you the crown of life.  
Alleluia!

Apoc 2:10

**GOSPEL**

Matthew 25:14-30

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

*For shorter form, 25:14-15.19-20, read between [ ]*

[Jesus spoke this parable to his disciples: 'The kingdom of heaven is like a man on his way abroad who summoned his servants and entrusted his property to them. To one he gave five talents, to another two, to a third one; each in proportion to his ability. Then he set out.] The man who had received the five talents promptly went and traded with them and made five more. The man who had received two made two more in the same way. But the man who had received one went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. [Now a long time after, the master of those servants came back and went through his accounts with them. The man who had received the five talents came forward bringing five more. "Sir," he said, "you entrusted me with five talents; here are five more that I have made." His master said to him, "Well done, good and faithful servant; you have shown you can be faithful in small things, I will trust you with greater; come and join in your master's happiness."] Next the man with the two talents came forward. "Sir," he said, "you entrusted me with two talents; here are two more that I have made." His master said to him, "Well done, good and faithful servant; you have shown you can be faithful in small things, I will trust you with greater; come and join in your master's happiness." Last came forward the man who had one talent. "Sir," said he, "I had heard you were a hard man, reaping where you have not sown and gathering where you have not scattered; so I was afraid, and I went off and hid your talent in the ground. Here it is; it was yours, you have it back." But his master answered him, "You wicked and lazy servant! So you knew that I reap where I have not sown and gather where I have not scattered? Well then, you should have deposited my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have got my money back with interest. So now, take the talent from him and give it to the man who has the five talents. For to everyone who has will be given more, and he will have more than enough; but from the man who has not, even what he has will be taken away. As for this good-for-nothing servant, throw him out into the dark, where there will be weeping and grinding of teeth." ']

The Gospel of the Lord.  
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

**PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS**

Grant, O Lord, we pray, that what we offer in the sight of your majesty may obtain for us the grace of being devoted to you and gain us the prize of everlasting happiness.  
Through Christ our Lord.

**COMMUNION ANTIPHON**

Mk 11:23-24

Amen, I say to you: whatever you ask in prayer, believe that you will receive, and it shall be given to you, says the Lord.

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

We have partaken of the gifts of this sacred mystery, humbly imploring, O Lord, that what your Son commanded us to do in memory of him may bring us growth in charity.  
Through Christ our Lord.

# Our Faith on Sunday

## GOSPEL REFLECTION



This Gospel in which Jesus tells the parable of the talents may seem very harsh. But It is a clear warning to all of us that there is a purpose in life and that whatever talents or gifts we have are not given us for our own self-

satisfaction, but to be put to good use in serving God and neighbour. It fits in well with Jesus' teaching that we are all sons and daughters of the same heavenly Father. If we are all members of the same human family, then we cannot simply make ourselves rich and ignore our brothers and sisters who are starving. At the end of our lives, we will be asked to give an account of how we have loved others. Did we feed the hungry, cloth the naked etc. If we spent

our lives feathering our own nests we will be like the man who buried his talent in the ground. We may not be wealthy, but we all have talents of one sort or another. We may be good listeners, or good carers, or positive thinkers, none of which require money, but they are given to us to share with others. Our 'talents', if not shared, produce no fruit and we run the risk of suffering the fate of the good-for-nothing servant in today's Gospel.

### EVANGELII GAUDIUM (JOY OF THE GOSPEL)



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

258. Starting from certain social issues of great importance for the future of humanity, I have tried to make explicit once again the inescapable social dimension of the Gospel message and to encourage all Christians to demonstrate it by their words, attitudes and deeds.



## The Sacrament of the Present Moment\*

RECOGNIZING GOD'S PRESENCE

God appears to us in the most humble disguises. Look at Bethlehem – God lying on straw in a manger, trembling and crying like any other baby. Surely the people of Bethlehem would have taken notice of a prince born in a palace. But here they saw nothing to commend the Child to them. Yet if we ask Mary, Joseph and the Magi what they think, we would discover that they see in this poverty and humility something that strikes them as glorious and adorable. The eyes of faith are what make the difference, not the outward surroundings. To adore Jesus at the Transfiguration is not so difficult. To adore Jesus on the cross demands all the faith we can muster. To discover Jesus in great things that bring us notice and praise is not as hard, and does not call on our spirit of faith, as much as finding Jesus in small and trivial things where he is also present, but in humble disguise.

\*Jean Pierre de Caussade's Self-Abandonment to Divine Providence © 1963 The Grail (England) published and published by New City ISBN: 978-1-905039-11-1



# PARISH COMMUNITIES OF

## ST GEORGE

Eastbourne Road  
Polegate



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## ST WILFRID

South Road  
Hailsham



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

### WEEKLY SERVICES

Sat	14th	St Wilfrid's - <b>Thirty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time</b>	
Sun	15th	St George's - St Wilfrid's -	Philip K M, Mariamma Mathew RIP
Mon	16th	St George's -	Parish Communities' Intention
Tue	17th	St George's -	Mrs Anne Kelly RIP
Wed	18th	St Wilfrid's -	Deceased Relatives & Friends of Judy Davis
Thur	19th	St George's -	Patrick O'Brien RIP
Fri	20th	St Wilfrid's -	Holy Souls' Intention
Sat	21st	St Wilfrid's - <b>Christ the King</b>	O'Donoghue Family Intention
Sun	22nd	St George's - St Wilfrid's -	Adrienne Lockwood 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](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, Colleen, 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:

Please God, a real ray of light is appearing with the announcement that a vaccine for protection against the coronavirus, which is fit for purpose, is on the horizon. This vaccine has received the necessary assessment of its potential and the pitfalls that surround it. Having heard much of the commentary, my compass remains firmly..... Please God.

Live and learn; the capacity to never learn is real. When a final post-mortem on this episode with the coronavirus is carried out, it will reveal that some major afflictions might have been avoided. Some great sense of loss and emotional damage and injury will be a legacy. From the beginning I have recognised the reality of evil that accompanies this and indeed all of the viruses. The capacity to turn all things to good is part of the legacy that has been left to us by Jesus. Conscious of my failures makes me very sad. Our failures as a parish community gives us a real opportunity to live and learn together. Let us begin to reach out to prepare for, and to embrace the opportunity that will now come our way.

When I came to this parish, I introduced "Leaven Groups", which I hoped would serve our parishes and build up our communities. I still believe that this is possible. For different reasons, and the loss of some great parishioners, has left us with a lot to do. We reached a place where "A Missing Link" to help with communication was being prepared. Prior to this lockdown progress was being made, and we will return to this. During lockdown the Great Feast of Christ the King will pass and Fr Kieran will help me with the celebration this year. Then a new Advent, when I hope and pray we can begin again to live a new life of faith.

Speaking of prayers; and with my heart and soul focused upon them, a great, great sadness. Noelle, a real treasure in our parish has died. After a long, long battle with cancer, shared by Marianne Patel, who died two years ago. They were outstanding witnesses to our faith and above all life. They battled for the greater part silently with it, with strong mutual support. Noelle had just accepted to be chair person of our Leaven Group, and then she received this devastating news. She quietly battled; and what a battle this year has turned out to be. Consolation, she has united with her own and our family of saints, who have reached their true home which awaits us in heaven.

Her husband, Brian, and children, Aiden and Rosin (only again for the pandemic) would have celebrated her First Holy Communion this year. Please God, a legacy of inspiration is left to us from Marianne and Noelle that will inspire us to build better liturgies and to communicate the gifts that faith can bring. At this time I know you would just want me to let them know that we want to offer all the love and support that our parish could bring to them at this most difficult time.

*Fr Rory*

### Deacon John Writes:

We are nearing the end of this liturgical year. Next weekend with the Feast of Christ The King we will be at the end of the Church's year. The following weekend, November 29th, will be the first Sunday of Advent and we move into Year B cycle of readings. Having said all that the readings for this weekend, November 15th, of the work we must in order to reach Heaven. These readings tell us to use the talents God gave us in such a way that when we die the Lord will say to us "Well done, my good and faithful servant!... Come and share the joy of your master", words given us by St. Matthew in the Gospel.

The first reading from the Book of Proverbs feeds us with the wonderful idea that we should imitate the work of a loyal and faithful wife who brings out the goodness in everyone as she tends to the poor and needy.

The Psalmist sings about the worth of the Lord's faithful servants and how we can obtain happiness and joy in this life and the next. St. Paul in his letter to the Thessalonians tells us all to build everyone up whom we encounter in the coming weeks so that we will all be "children of the light" and so when Jesus comes we will be ready to greet him.

The parable of the talents challenges us to do something positive, constructive and life-affirming with our talents here and now. Yes, we can all do this in our homes and families and also in our parish. If you don't already do this then perhaps you would consider offering yourself to share in the various ministries such as Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion, Reader, Usher, singer in the choir, volunteer to help with activities such as Church cleaner or flower arranging or anywhere where help is needed. Please give your name to the secretary, Jackie, who is in the Parish Office on Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings. (Telephone 01323 486280 with answerphone). We have all been given at least one talent - the gift of faith - and it is our responsibility to work with that gift. So, please, put your faith to work and help it to bear fruit in the Polegate and Hailsham communities.

With my love and prayers. DJ

*Deacon John*

**Private Prayer:** St Wilfrid's Church will be open for private prayer on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, 9am-11am. Please could we ask that you sign in on arrival and wear your own masks.

**All WELCOMERS and STEWARDS** are warmly invited to join a Digital Forum on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> November at 7.00pm.

We will explore the successes and challenges you have experienced in your roles during the pandemic, as well as celebrating all that you do!

Please email the Inclusion Adviser at [margaret.fraher@abdiocese.org.uk](mailto:margaret.fraher@abdiocese.org.uk) if you wish to be involved, so a link to join the Forum can be sent to you.

The month of the Holy Souls' is November and traditionally people have Mass offerings for the repose of the souls for friends and family.