

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Cf. Ps 42:1-2

**Give me justice, O God,
and plead my cause against a nation that is faithless.
From the deceitful and cunning rescue me,
for you, O God, are my strength.**

THE COLLECT

By your help, we beseech you, Lord our God,
may we walk eagerly in that same charity
with which, out of love for the world,
your Son handed himself over to death.
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 prophet Jeremiah

31: 31-34

See, the days are coming - it is the Lord who speaks - when I will make a new covenant with the House of Israel and the House of Judah, but not a covenant like the one I made with their ancestors on the day I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt. They broke that covenant of mine, so I had to show them who was master. It is the Lord who speaks. No, this is the covenant I will make with the House of Israel when those days arrive - it is the Lord who speaks. Deep within them I will plant my Law, writing it on their hearts. Then I will be their God and they shall be my people. There will be no further need for neighbour to try to teach neighbour, or brother to say to brother, 'Learn to know the Lord!' No, they will all know me, the least no less than the greatest - it is the Lord who speaks - since I will forgive their iniquity and never call their sin to mind.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

PSALM

Ps 50: 3-4. 12-15 R. v12

R) A pure heart create for me, O God.

Have mercy on me, God, in your kindness.
In your compassion blot out my offence.
O wash me more and more from my guilt
and cleanse me from my sin. **(R)**

A pure heart create for me, O God,
put a steadfast spirit within me.
Do not cast me away from your presence,
nor deprive me of your holy spirit. **(R)**

Give me again the joy of your help;
with a spirit of fervour sustain me,
that I may teach transgressors your ways
and sinners may return to you. **(R)**

SECOND READING

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews

5:7-9

During his life on earth, Christ offered up prayer and entreaty, aloud and in silent tears, to the one who had the power to save him out of death, and he submitted so humbly that his prayer was heard. Although he was Son, he learnt to obey through suffering; but having been made perfect, he became for all who obey him the source of eternal salvation.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Jn 12:26

**Glory to you, O Christ, you are the Word of God!
If a man serves me, says the Lord, he must follow me;
wherever I am, my servant will be there too.
Glory to you, O Christ, you are the Word of God!**

GOSPEL

John 12:20-33

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

Among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. These approached Philip, who came from Bethsaida in Galilee, and put this request to him, 'Sir, we should like to see Jesus.' Philip went to tell Andrew, and Andrew and Philip together went to tell Jesus. Jesus replied to them:

'Now the hour has come
for the Son of Man to be glorified.
I tell you, most solemnly,
unless a wheat grain falls on the ground and dies,
it remains only a single grain;
but if it dies,
it yields a rich harvest.

Anyone who loves his life loses it;
anyone who hates his life in this world
will keep it for the eternal life.
If a man serves me, he must follow me,
wherever I am, my servant will be there too.
If anyone serves me,
my Father will honour him.
Now my soul is troubled.
What shall I say:
Father, save me from this hour?
But it was for this very reason
that I have come to this hour.
Father, glorify your name!'

A voice came from heaven, 'I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again.'

People standing by, who heard this, said it was a clap of thunder; others said, 'It was an angel speaking to him.' Jesus answered, 'It was not for my sake that this voice came, but for yours.

'Now sentence is being passed on this world;
now the prince of this world is to be overthrown.
And when I am lifted up from the earth,
I shall draw all men to myself.'

By these words he indicated the kind of death he would die.

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

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

Hear us, almighty God,
and, having instilled in your servants
the teachings of the Christian faith,
graciously purify them
by the working of this sacrifice.
Through Christ our Lord.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Jn 12:24

**Amen, Amen I say to you: Unless a grain of wheat
falls to the ground and dies, it remains a single grain.
But if it dies, it bears much fruit.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

We pray, almighty God,
that we may always be counted among the members of
Christ,
in whose Body and Blood we have communion.
Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

THE ORDER OF MASS

Whenever the Priest says:
The Lord be with you.
The people reply:
And with your spirit.

Penitential Act

**I confess to almighty God
and to you, my brothers and sisters,
that I have greatly sinned,
in my thoughts and in my words,
in what I have done and in what I have
failed to do,**

And, striking their breast, they say:

**through my fault, through my fault,
through my most grievous fault;
therefore I ask blessed Mary ever-Virgin,
all the Angels and Saints,
and you, my brothers and sisters,
to pray for me to the Lord our God.**

Or:

Have mercy on us, O Lord.
For we have sinned against you.
Show us, O Lord, your mercy.
And grant us your salvation.

Or:

You were sent to heal the contrite of heart:
Lord, have mercy. *Or:* Kyrie, eleison.
Lord, have mercy. Or: Kyrie, eleison.

You came to call sinners:
Christ, have mercy. *Or:* Christe, eleison.
Christ, have mercy. Or: Christe, eleison.

You are seated at the right hand of the
Father to intercede for us:
Lord, have mercy. *Or:* Kyrie, eleison.
Lord, have mercy. Or: Kyrie, eleison.

The Nicene Creed

**I believe in one God,
the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all things visible and invisible.**

**I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the Only Begotten Son of God,
born of the Father before all ages.
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
consubstantial with the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us men and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,
and by the Holy Spirit
was incarnate of the Virgin Mary,
and became man.**

**For our sake he was crucified under
Pontius Pilate,
he suffered death and was buried,
and rose again on the third day
in accordance with the Scriptures.
He ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory
to judge the living and the dead
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is
adored and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.**

**I believe in one, holy, catholic and
apostolic Church.
I confess one Baptism for the
forgiveness of sins
and I look forward to the resurrection of
the dead
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

*Or:***The Apostles' Creed**

**I believe in God,
the Father almighty,
Creator of heaven and earth,
and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,**

All bow

*born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried;
he descended into hell;
on the third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty;
from there he will come to judge the living and the dead.*

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and life everlasting. Amen.**

The Liturgy of the Eucharist

Pray, brethren (brothers and sisters),...

**May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands
for the praise and glory of his name,
for our good
and the good of all his holy Church.**

The Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord be with you.
And with your spirit.
Lift up your hearts.
We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right and just.

**Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts.
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of
the Lord.**

Hosanna in the highest.
The mystery of faith.

Kneel

**We proclaim your Death, O Lord,
and profess your Resurrection
until you come again.**

*Or:**All bow*

**When we eat this Bread and drink this Cup,
we proclaim your Death, O Lord,
until you come again.**

Or:

**Save us, Saviour of the world,
for by your Cross and Resurrection
you have set us free.**

The Communion Rite

Behold the Lamb of God...

**Lord, I am not worthy
that you should enter under my roof,
but only say the word
and my soul shall be healed.**

The Concluding Rites*After the blessing the Deacon, or the Priest, says:*

Go forth, the Mass is ended. *Or:*
Go and announce the Gospel of the Lord. *Or:*
Go in peace, glorifying the Lord by your life. *Or:*
Go in peace.

The people reply:
Thanks be to God.

PARISH COMMUNITIES OF

ST GEORGE

Eastbourne Road
Polegate



Parish Priest: Fr. Rory Kelly

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ST WILFRID

South Road
Hailsham



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

WEEKLY SERVICES

Sat	20th		St Wilfrid's -	
			Fifth Sunday of Lent	
			(Collection for the White Flower Appeal)	
Sun	21st	9.00am	St George's -	Parish Communities' Intention
		10.30am	St Wilfrid's -	Betty Robinson RIP
Mon	22nd		St George's -	
Tue	23rd	10.00am	St George's -	Dorothea Phillips RIP
Wed	24th	10.00am	St Wilfrid's -	David & Lulu Curtis Intention
Thurs	25th		St George's -	
Fri	26th	10.00am	St Wilfrid's -	Harry Holt RIP
Sat	27th		St Wilfrid's -	
			Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord	
Sun	28th	9.00am	St George's -	Parish Communities' Intention
		10.30am	St Wilfrid's -	Kenneth & Jean Compton RIP

St George's Church, Masses are now held on Tuesdays, at 10am and Sundays, 9am **Booking is essential - ring 870990.**
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.

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, Angela 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, 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:

The Tenth Station: Jesus is stripped of His garments. "We adore thee O Christ and we praise thee, because by your Holy Cross you have redeemed the World".

When we began the Way of the Cross it was with great awareness that Jesus came down from heaven to bring God's salvation to our world. To this end He became like us in all things but sin. He is now stripped of all His garments. This in a very real way is what the coronavirus is doing. As with Jesus it is happening with the help of the powers that be, for Jesus it was the Sanhedrin and the Roman Army. As I listen to people in the very limited windows that are open to us; I cannot but echo how much our lives have been stripped by the virus. One echo that I could identify with, was one person's desire never to listen to the media in the morning. It is just shocking the length they go to gather the worst news they can find. Also, the deep, deep affliction of those isolated by the virus left abandoned and in pain as death draws closer. As He is stripped of His garments we are stripped of our comforts, and our distractions, while especially our children were stripped of their school, their supports, their access to life and friends. For others the opportunity to find work and also to access the life of the sacraments. Jesus is stripped.

One our Father, one Hail Mary, one Glory be to the Father.

The Eleventh Station: Jesus is nailed to the Cross. "We adore thee O Christ and we praise thee, because by your Holy Cross you have redeemed the World".

Options and choices are now so limited. The sponge and the vinegar are galling and yet offered as a comfort. Our lives can echo these realms of loss. The memory of my dad with his constant pain, ministering as a priest opens one's eyes to deep afflictions. The nails signify His abandonment, there is no way He could crucify Himself - yet He is God. He could put a stop to it. So often the afflictions in our lives as in the Gospel reading today are so self-afflicted. In the Gospel of St John 5: 1-3, 5-16. Jesus heals the man on the sabbath and tells him to take up his mat and walk. The powers that be, and they are the religious ones, are down to him. He is breaking the sabbath. The flow out of the vaccine is a very important element to us returning to a stable life. Interruptions are a challenge and this to my family in Ireland at the moment has become a disturbance. With the help of Him who loves us and died for us, obstacles will be overcome.

Jesus bows His Head and dies.

Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

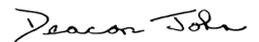


One our Father, one Hail Mary, one Glory be to the Father.

Deacon John Writes:

The readings for the 5th Sunday of Lent concentrate on the approaching death of Jesus which Paul considers a priestly sacrifice and John considers the moment of Jesus' "exaltation" and "glorification." We are all offered a challenge by these readings. If we are to achieve our goal of heaven we must stop thinking of ourselves and instead live lives of giving of ourselves to others through our actions. Think for a moment of some everyday events such as lighting a candle - it will emit light from its burning wick until all the wax is consumed. Similarly salt does nothing until used in cooking to provide taste. Parents show their love for their children through sacrifice - home schooling during the Covid lockdown has called for a huge effort by parents, often in limited accommodation and trying to balance work with helping and supporting their children. Think of Mother Teresa who gave up her comfortable teaching career, and with just 5 rupees (13p) in her pocket began her challenging life for the "poorest of the poor" in the crowded slums of Calcutta. Let us do the same and think of others. Pick up the phone and call someone who is unable to go out and possibly lonely. Write a letter to someone, perhaps someone living alone or is unwell. Make a difference in the life of someone.

There is a story with the title: "I made a difference for that one." (Adapted and condensed from "The Star Thrower" - a story by Loren Eiseley (1907-1977), from the book *Unexpected Universe*): One day, a man was walking along the beach when he noticed a boy picking something up and gently throwing it into the ocean. Approaching the boy, he asked, "What are you doing?" The boy replied, "Throwing starfish back into the ocean. The surf is up and the tide is going down. If I don't throw them back, they'll die." "Son," the man said, "don't you realise there are miles and miles of beach and hundreds of starfish? You can't make a difference!" After listening politely, the boy bent down, picked up another starfish and threw it back into the surf. Then, smiling at the man, he said, "See, I made a difference for that one." Surely that tells of the power within each one of us to make a difference in the lives of others.



Tuesday 23rd March 2021 - National Day of Reflection for COVID-19

We welcome the designation of Tuesday 23rd March as a National Day of Reflection to mark the anniversary of the first national lockdown with a minute's silence at midday and doorstep vigils of light at 8pm. A statement from the Presidency of the Bishops' Conference can be found on our website.

White Flower Appeal 2021

Please be a friend to unborn babies and their mothers. In March 2020 the government used temporary Covid-19 rules to permit home abortion. Both doses of abortion pills can now be taken at home without medical supervision. This is very dangerous and traumatic for the mother. The number of unborn babies killed under the DIY abortion scheme has risen. Please support our campaign to ask the Prime Minister to **stop home abortion** in our country by filling in your White Flower postcard. Thank you.