16TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (B) 18TH JULY 2021

## **ENTRANCE ANTIPHON**

Ps 53:6,8

See, I have God for my help. The Lord sustains my soul. I will sacrifice to you with willing heart, and praise your name, O Lord, for it is good.

# THE COLLECT

Show favour, O Lord, to your servants and mercifully increase the gifts of your grace, that, made fervent in hope, faith and charity, they may be ever watchful in keeping your commands. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever.

## **FIRST READING**

A reading from the prophet Jeremiah

'Doom for the shepherds who allow the flock of my pasture to be destroyed and scattered - it is the Lord who speaks! This, therefore, is what the Lord, the God of Israel, says about the shepherds in charge of my people: You have let my flock be scattered and go wandering and have not taken care of them. Right, I will take care of you for your misdeeds – it is the Lord who speaks! But the remnant of my flock I myself will gather from all the countries where I have dispersed them, and will bring them back to their pastures: they shall be fruitful and increase in numbers. I will raise up shepherds to look after them and pasture them; no fear, no terror for them any more; not one shall be lost - it is the Lord who speaks!

See, the days are coming - it is the Lord who speaks when I will raise a virtuous Branch for David, who will reign as true king and be wise. practising honesty and integrity in the land. In his days Judah will be saved and Israel dwell in confidence. And this is the name he will be called: The Lord-our-integrity.

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

**PSALM** Ps 22. R.v1

R) The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want. Fresh and green are the pastures where he gives me repose. Near restful waters he leads me, to revive my drooping spirit. (R)

He guides me along the right path; he is true to his name. If I should walk in the valley of darkness no evil would I fear. You are there with your crook and your staff: with these you give me comfort. (R)

You have prepared a banquet for me in the sight of my foes. My head you have anointed with oil; my cup is overflowing. (R)

Surely goodness and kindness shall follow me all the days of my life. In the Lord's own house shall I dwell for ever and ever. (R)

# **I SECOND READING**

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians 2:13-18

In Christ Jesus, you that used to be so far apart from us have been brought very close, by the blood of Christ. For he is the peace between us, and has made the two into one and broken down the barrier which used to keep them apart, actually destroying in his own person the hostility caused by the rules and decrees of the Law. This was to create one single New Man in himself out of the two of them and by restoring peace through the cross, to unite them both in a single Body and reconcile them with God. In his own person he killed the hostility. Later he came to bring the good news of peace, peace to you who were far away and peace to those who were near at hand. Through him, both of us have in the one Spirit our way to come

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

# **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

Alleluia, alleluia!

Jn 10:27

The sheep that belong to me listen to my voice, says the Lord,

I know them and they follow me.

Alleluia!

### **GOSPEL**

Mark 6:30-34

The Lord be with you. And with your spirit.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark. **Glory to you, O Lord.** 

The apostles rejoined Jesus and told him all they had done and taught. Then he said to them, 'You must come away to some lonely place all by yourselves and rest for a while'; for there were so many coming and going that the apostles had no time even to eat. So they went off in a boat to a lonely place where they could be by themselves. But people saw them going, and many could guess where; and from every town they all hurried to the place on foot and reached it before them. So as he stepped ashore he saw a large crowd; and he took pity on them because they were like sheep without a shepherd, and he set himself to teach them at some length.

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

# PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

O God, who in the one perfect sacrifice brought to completion varied offerings of the law, accept, we pray, this sacrifice from your faithful servants and make it holy, as you blessed the gifts of Abel, so that what each has offered to the honour of your majesty may benefit the salvation of all. Through Christ our Lord.

# **COMMUNION ANTIPHON**

Rv 3:20

Behold, I stand at the door and knock, says the Lord. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door to me, I will enter his house and dine with him, and he with me.

### PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Graciously be present to your people, we pray, O Lord, and lead those you have imbued with heavenly mysteries to pass from former ways to newness of life. Through Christ our Lord.

16TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (B) DIVINE OFFICE: WEEK 4/PROPER

# Our Faith on Sunday

# **GOSPEL REFLECTION**



Jesus is concerned for his apostles: they must be exhausted. So he and they try to escape to "a lonely place", but without success! The crowds are there to meet them; the crowds to whom Jesus has been preaching while his apostles toured the villages. The presence of the

crowds, their eagerness, their need, calls to the heart of the "Good Shepherd"; he cannot rest; he starts sighed; but then, they were also 'sheep', learners, eager to hear from the 'One Teacher'. Jesus is always, and still is, the "One Teacher. All priests, catechists - teach for him the unfaithful. and in him; they have no other authority. In relation to the "Good Shepherd" - who, as he assures us and has demonstrated, comes from Heaven and is the Truth - we are all learners, all sheep. Such is the pity and concern of the Good Shepherd for the sheep, that from Heaven he

still teaches and guides: "I shall not leave you orphans," he said at the Last Supper. "In a short time the again to teach. Perhaps the apostles world will no longer see me; but you will see that I live." History has proved the truth of his promise: for 2000 years his Church – which is himself and in him the faithful who come after him - whether the has stood firm - in spite of being apostles, the Pope and bishops; often rocked to its foundations by



# **EVANGELII GAUDIUM** (JOY OF THE GOSPEL)

# **BROTHERS AND SISTERS ALL** AN ABSENCE OF HUMAN **DIGNITY ON THE BORDERS**

37. Certain populist political regimes, as well as certain liberal economic approaches, maintain that an influx of migrants is to be prevented at all costs. Arguments are also made for the propriety of limiting aid to poor countries, so that they can hit rock bottom and find themselves forced to take austerity measures. One fails to realize that behind such statements, abstract and hard to support, great numbers of lives are at stake. Many migrants have fled from war, persecution and natural catastrophes. Others, rightly, "are seeking opportunities for themselves and their families. They dream of a better future and they want to create the conditions for achieving it".

# The Still Waters of Beauty\* EXAMINE YOUR OWN HEART

' If I had cherished iniquity in my heart, the Lord would not have listened.' Consider now, my brothers and sisters, how easily, even every day, people turn red and accuse others of sins. He does evil things, they say, he does base things, he is a wicked man; though perhaps it is fear of other people that leads us to say these things.

And so look to see whether you do not harbour wickedness in your own heart in case you should condemn in someone else what you yourself intend to do and, therefore, make a fuss about them, not because of what they do, but only because they have been found out.

Look within yourself. Be your own inner judge. In the secret chamber, in the innermost recess of your heart, where you are alone with him who sees all, there wickedness must be displeasing to you, so that you can be pleasing to God. Have no regard for it, then, nor love for it, but rather despise it, condemn it and turn away from it. Whatever pleasurable thing it has promised you in order to lead you to sin, whatever nasty thing it has threatened you with in order to drive you on to sin, it is all emptiness which passes away. Wickedness must be despised so that it can be trodden underfoot, and not dwelt on in case it should win us over.

\*Augustine of Hippo Edited by Oliver Davies Published by New City





# PARISH COMMUNITIES OF

# ST GEORGE

Eastbourne Road Polegate

# ST WILFRID

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Email: ssgeorge.wilfrid@btinternet.com Website: www.saintsgeorgeandwilfrid.co.uk





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

# **WEEKLY SERVICES**

Sat	17th		St Wilfrid's	
Jai	1741	Sixteenth	Sunday in Ordinary	. Time
Sun	18th	9.00am	St George's -	Parish Communities' Intention
		10.30am	St Wilfrid's -	Bill O'Rourke RIP
Mon	19th		St George's -	
Tue	20th	10.00am	St George's -	Anne Kelly RIP
Wed	21st	10.00am	St Wilfrid's -	Repose of the Soul of Vincent O'Brine RI
Thurs	22nd		St Georges -	·
Fri	23rd	10.00am	St Wilfrid's -	Creta O'Neil RIP
Sat	24th		St Wilfrid's -	
		Seventeer	nth Sunday in Ordin	ary Time
Sun	25th	9.00am	St George`s -	In Thanksgiving
		10.30am	St Wilfrid`s -	Brian Winter RIP
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First Communion Breakfast

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 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, Julliette 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:

Responsibility: is always part and parcel of life. The decision to raise the lockdown makes it very important to do our best to stay safe. The chances of the numbers of cases of covid rising is quite certain to happen. Continuing to wear masks when needed, and other practical ways of being cautious and careful are important.

It also presents us with an important opportunity to truly value and express our faith as communities, that we are grateful to God for the great gift that our faith brings to us. All through the pandemic I can honestly say that there was something very special about saying mass. When it came to the sign of peace I sensed a real depth of peace to be experienced then in the church. In great contrast with the affliction and injury that was happening in the wider world, "My peace I give you", greater than any peace the world can bring. Please God, we continue to gather to experience that peace and to bring it to the world we live in.

Last Sunday we had a very valuable profound prayer as part of the Prayers of the Faithful:-

"We ask you Lord to guide us, so that we can improve communication within our own parish and help us to recognise opportunities to assist in working towards re-socialisation, friendship, providing comfort and creating safe spaces within a framework of Faith. We need to all work together to achieve our goals. Please give us your Grace and humility to succeed. The Lord Hear Us".

We have frequently been blessed by the prayers of the faithful that are prepared by fellow parishioners on our behalf.

Celebrations to take place on Sunday 15th August (The Assumption of Our Blessed Lady). Refreshments will be served after and a tombola to help raise funds, donations of bottles and any unwanted gifts that are in pristine condition would be greatly appreciated.

Ja Rory

## **Deacon John Writes:**

The readings this weekend explain how God, like a good shepherd, redeems His people and provides for them. The readings challenge us to use our God-given authority in the family, in the Church, and in society, with faith and responsibility. In the world of today this includes of course the pastoral care given by our priests but also includes the loving service given by all Christians who follow different callings to serve and lead others.

We need God's grace to become good shepherds. The Christian life can be regarded as being in the presence of God, then to the presence of people and then back to God again. We do this through prayer which is essentially listening to God and talking to Him. We should allow God the opportunity to speak to us and recharge us with spiritual energy and strength by setting aside time for Him to speak to us and for us to speak to Him. One important way we can facilitate this is by spending some time every day reading the Bible and meditating on the message God gives us in Scripture. We receive strength from God to do our share of the shepherd's preaching and healing ministry by asking for it individually, in the family, and as a community in the parish Church, when we participate in Mass. We must be people of compassion. We must be able to feel deeply the suffering of others, to understand why they fear and worry. We are all called to lead and "govern wisely" living out what we communicate. We must guide people in right paths and are to be concerned about what is right and just. Our pastoral care should be involved with people's real needs, both spiritual and material, and provide peaceful care and guidance. There are so many people searching for truth today, people hungering for instruction, good people who are looking for direction. They may be parents who are worried over the future of a troubled child; a man suffering because of unemployment; a woman facing a pregnancy alone; elderly people who feel lonely; people who are angry and confused because they have lost confidence in their leaders. They are all people who are looking for answers and for meaning. They are like sheep without a shepherd. They all need someone filled with the spirit of Christ the "Good Shepherd to help them.

Let us all try in the coming days to be people of compassion and put ourselves out to help at least one person in need. We can all be good shepherds.

# St Wilfrid's Community Lunch at the Treacle Mine - 12 noon on the 5th August:

After our very successful meal together in June, we have decided to have another on Thursday the 5th August at 12 noon at the Treacle Mine. If you are interested, please contact Joan tel: 07873390944. We invite all our friends from St George's and St Wilfrid's and look forward to seeing you there. The latest date for confirming your place will be Sunday 1st August. Please don't leave it to the last date as I have to confirm ASAP with the management at the Treacle Mine. Thank you.

**St George's First Communion Catechists** have decided to run the 'I Belong' programme for 12 sessions from 12<sup>th</sup> September the children will then all be prepared and ready to make their First Communion on the Feast of Christ the King Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> November. This programme is only for any children who have missed out on taking the sacrament over the last two years due to Covid restrictions and will be in school year 4 or above from September 2021. If anyone would like to register an interest in being part of this programme please contact Sandra on 07791627368 or email sandraforte40@gmail.com

**St Wilfrid's Memorial Plaque:** If anyone would like any names put on our second memorial plaque, please could they be forwarded by email to ssgeorge.wilfrid@btinternet.com or phone 01323 841504. Thank you.

**St Wilfrid's First Holy Communion breakfast** will be on Sunday 25th July at 10:30am.

# St Wilfrid's Children's Liturgy will restart in September:

St Wilfrid's First Holy Communion Introductory meeting will be in September. If your child would like to receive their First Holy Communion 2021/2022 please email your name, child's full name and contact details to the church email. Any queries please see Annette or Teresa.

# Margaret Westcar 1st RIP Anniversary - Thursday 29th July at 11:45am, Requiem Mass St. Wilfrid's Church

It is my beloved Mum, Mrs Margaret Westcar 1st RIP Anniversary on Thursday 29th July 2021. So I have arranged with Fr Rory to do a Requiem Mass In Celebration of my beloved beautiful Mum Clife & family life. All dear parishioner friends are welcome to attend this Mass celebration.

**St George's First Communion Breakfast:** This will be held on Sunday July 25<sup>th</sup> after mass. All the children will enjoy a party breakfast together for this occasion with our three First Communion Candidates attending in their communion outfits and receiving their certificates at Mass that morning.

# The Open Cloister @ Worth Abbey:

# Desert Wisdom: the power of thoughts - Online Day Retreat led by David Clayton & Michael Woodward

Saturday 24th July 2021. 10am-4:30pm

Evagrius (b.345) is honoured as 'one of the most important names': come & see why his teaching lives. . .

To book your place online go to www.worth.co.uk/retreats/online-retreats

For further information email toc@worth.org.uk

# FINDING STILLNESS: The Open Cloister @ Worth Abbey

Tuesday 24th-Thursday 26th August 2021

An experimental hybrid retreat where you are invited to come and stay at Worth or join the retreat online. For further information or to book your place online go to: <a href="www.worth.co.uk/retreats/online-retreats">www.worth.co.uk/retreats/online-retreats</a> Enquiries: <a href="mailto:toc@worth.org.uk">toc@worth.org.uk</a>

Diocesan Youth Service – 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration – 4 September 2021 - Arundel Cathedral - We are delighted to be able to celebrate our Youth Service, which has impacted many people in the last four decades and we want to invite anyone who has ever attended an event hosted by the service to come along and join the festivities. Whether it was a Maryvale Retreat, a World Youth Day Pilgrimage, Youthgather, Lourdes Redshirts, or you are a member of our new online community BeCome, or one of our other virtual networks, everyone will be welcome to give thanks for all that has been done and to pray for the success of the Youth Service in the future. Reminisce with old friends, and meet new friends in person (not just on a screen!). A thanksgiving Mass will be said by Bishop Richard, followed by a chance to chat over refreshments. Please click here for more information and to register.

**CCRS** - The Catholic Certificate in Religious Studies (CCRS) is beginning again in our Diocese this September. The course is designed for teachers in Catholic schools, for Catechists and for anyone who would like to grow in understanding as they live their Catholic faith. The CCRS offers a very flexible and accessible way of learning, it includes some online content and is made up of eight modules: six core and two specialist modules. Each module involves ten hours of course time and an assignment. For more information or to register your place please contact our Formation Adviser

**Joke of the Week:** The young priest was teaching the 23rd psalm to the Sunday school children. He told them that they were sheep who needed guidance. Then the priest asked, "If you are the sheep then who is the shepherd?" (Obviously meaning himself). A silence of a few seconds followed. Then a young boy said, "Jesus. Jesus is the Shepherd." The young priest, obviously caught by surprise, said to the boy, "Well then, who am I?" The boy frowned thoughtfully and then said, "I guess you must be a sheep dog.

**Bereavement Mass:** A decision has been made to change the date of our Bereavement Mass from Sunday 4th July, a new date will be established and we will let you know as soon as possible. We are looking forward to this taking place as it will be so helpful because for many there has been much sadness and indeed loss, so it is important to pray for one another and when we can to support each other.