

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Cf. Ps 47:10-11

Your merciful love, O God,
we have received in the midst of your temple.
Your praise, O God, like your name,
reaches the ends of the earth;
your right hand is filled with saving justice.

THE COLLECT

O God, who in the abasement of your Son
have raised up a fallen world,
fill your faithful with holy joy,
for on those you have rescued from slavery to sin
you bestow eternal gladness.
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 Ezekiel

2:2-5

The spirit came into me and made me stand up, and I heard the Lord speaking to me. He said, 'Son of man, I am sending you to the Israelites, to the rebels who have turned against me. Till now they and their ancestors have been in revolt against me. The sons are defiant and obstinate; I am sending you to them, to say, "The Lord says this." Whether they listen or not, this set of rebels shall know there is a prophet among them.'

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

PSALM

Ps 122:2. R.v2

**R) Our eyes are on the Lord
till he show us his mercy.**

To you have I lifted up my eyes,
you who dwell in the heavens:
my eyes, like the eyes of slaves
on the hand of their lords. **(R)**

Like the eyes of a servant
on the hand of her mistress,
so our eyes are on the Lord our God
till he show us his mercy. **(R)**

Have mercy on us, Lord, have mercy.
We are filled with contempt.
Indeed all too full is our soul
with the scorn of the rich,
with the proud man's disdain. **(R)**

SECOND READING

A reading from the second letter of St Paul
to the Corinthians

12:7-10

In view of the extraordinary nature of these revelations, to stop me from getting too proud I was given a thorn in the flesh, an angel of Satan to beat me and stop me from getting too proud! About this thing, I have pleaded with the Lord three times for it to leave me, but he has said, 'My grace is enough

for you: my power is at its best in weakness.' So I shall be very happy to make my weaknesses my special boast so that the power of Christ may stay over me, and that is why I am quite content with my weaknesses, and with insults, hardships, persecutions, and the agonies I go through for Christ's sake. For it is when I am weak that I am strong.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

Lk 4:18

**The Lord has sent me to bring the good news to the poor,
to proclaim liberty to captives.
Alleluia!**

GOSPEL

Mark 6:1-6

The Lord be with you.

And with your spirit.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus went to his home town and his disciples accompanied him. With the coming of the sabbath he began teaching in the synagogue and most of them were astonished when they heard him. They said, 'Where did the man get all this? What is this wisdom that has been granted him, and these miracles that are worked through him? This is the carpenter, surely, the son of Mary, the brother of James and Joset and Jude and Simon? His sisters, too, are they not here with us?' And they would not accept him. And Jesus said to them, 'A prophet is only despised in his own country among his own relations and in his own house'; and he could work no miracle there, though he cured a few sick people by laying his hands on them. He was amazed at their lack of faith.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

May this oblation dedicated to your name
purify us, O Lord,
and day by day bring our conduct
closer to the life of heaven.
Through Christ our Lord.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Mt 11:28

**Come to me, all who labour and are burdened,
and I will refresh you, says the Lord.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Grant, we pray, O Lord,
that, having been replenished by such great gifts,
we may gain the prize of salvation
and never cease to praise you.
Through Christ our Lord.

Our Faith on Sunday

GOSPEL REFLECTION



"A prophet," Jesus says, "is only despised in his own country, among his relations..." History certainly shows this to be true; not only Old Testament history (Isaiah, Jeremiah), but the history of many of our saints. Why is this so? Is it that "familiarity

breeds contempt". "This is the carpenter", isn't it? We know him well – and all his family; we cannot take him seriously! The 'every-day', the normal, we do not like to be jolted out of it, to be challenged. So a certain synagogue official was angry that the normal Sabbath routine was disturbed by Jesus healing a crippled woman. But the Jewish people had a tradition of prophecy – of prophets appearing from among themselves, called by God for a specific purpose. True, there had been many self-made prophets, condemned by God; the proof of authenticity, of the genuine prophet called by God, lay in their works and in the fulfilment of what

they prophesied. If Jesus was "amazed" at the people's lack of faith ('amazed' is a strong word) surely it was because he expected His Father's 'chosen people' to be alert and prepared for the word of God, for the works of God, for the fulfilment of the prophesies; expected them to live and judge by their history as God's people, and not by the 'normal'?

EVANGELII GAUDIUM
(JOY OF THE GOSPEL)BROTHERS AND SISTERS ALL
PANDEMICS AND OTHER
CALAMITIES IN HISTORY

35. All too quickly, however, we forget the lessons of history, "the teacher of life". Once this health crisis passes, our worst response would be to plunge even more deeply into feverish consumerism and new forms of egotistic self-preservation. God willing, after all this, we will think no longer in terms of "them" and "those", but only "us". If only this may prove not to be just another tragedy of history from which we learned nothing. If only we might keep in mind all those elderly persons who died for lack of respirators, partly as a result of the dismantling, year after year, of healthcare systems. If only this immense sorrow may not prove useless, but enable us to take a step forward towards a new style of life. If only we might rediscover once for all that we need one another, and that in this way our human family can experience a rebirth, with all its faces, all its hands and all its voices, beyond the walls that we have erected.

The Still Waters of Beauty*
THE POWER OF LOVE

Let us appear to God in holy desire, so he may appear to us in the power and glory of his Son.

For there are many to whom he has not yet appeared. Let them also be filled with holy desire, so he may appear to them too.

And there are many who imagine him to be merely human, since it is said that he was born of a woman, that he was crucified, that he walked on the earth, that he ate and drank and did other things that mortals do. And they think he was just like other men. But you have heard in the Gospel how he also announced his immense majesty: 'I and the Father are one'. In becoming human, a majesty so great, such equality with the Father took flesh because of our weakness.

This is how we were loved by God, even before we ourselves loved him. And if, before we loved God, we were loved so much that he made his Son, his very equal, a human being for our sake, what does he reserve for us now that we love him?

Many people think it is insignificant that the Son of God should have appeared on earth. As they do not share in the Holy One, they do not see his power and his glory. That is, because their hearts are not yet made holy (which would give them the means to perceive the excellence of his virtue, and thank God that so great a One should come on their behalf, thanking him for so great a nativity, so great a Passion), they are blind to his glory and to his power.

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



PARISH COMMUNITIES OF

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ST WILFRID

South Road
Hailsham



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

WEEKLY SERVICES

Sat	3rd		St Wilfrid's	
			Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Today, Collection for Peter's Pence)	
Sun	4th	9.00am	St George's -	Parish Communities' Intention
		10.30am	St Wilfrid's -	Patricia Webb RIP
Mon	5th		St George's -	
Tue	6th	10.00am	St George's -	A.S.E. Rawlson RIP
Wed	7th	10.00am	St Wilfrid's -	Mary Jenner RIP
Thurs	8th		St Georges -	
Fri	9th	10.00am	St Wilfrid's -	Holy Souls' Intention
Sat	10th	3.00pm	St Wilfrid's -	First Holy Communion Mass for Intention of Candidates and Family
			Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Today, Collection for the Apostleship of the Sea)	
Sun	11th	9.00am	St George's -	Parish Communities' Intention
		10.30am	St Wilfrid's -	Mrs Grace Fenn & Son Chris 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, 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:

And now for something different. Recently I had a "God sent" outing with a group of parishioners from the children's liturgy at St George's church. The walk had been planned some time ago. First and foremost it was a challenge, with the walk and views refreshing. The weather was not ideal for picnics or sitting around. It was in neighbouring Kent, noticeably different. On our farm when I was growing up as a child we had some sheep, and that breed was called Sussex. The sheep in neighbouring Kent, noticeably different.

The walk was quite long, allowing for a more prolonged quality time being spent together. Continuing with my hobby horse: life having two characteristics a) journey and b) story telling. So like the disciples on the road to Emmaus, there are always issues in the background. In a way the issue in the background is the effects of the pandemic, and the drastic effects it has upon life. The stresses and strains breaking through; and what will be the outcome, especially for our churches.

On Sunday we had our celebration of First Holy Communion at St George's. This celebration of the sacrament can be a powerful window into our life of faith. Again, two things - belief and prayer. At baptism the parents and godparents are given a baptism candle with the words "this light has been entrusted to you to be kept burning brightly". Through baptism your child has been enlightened by Christ. Now as part of our first communion celebration the parents present their child with their baptismal candle which they have just lit. The children take the candle, quench it in order to place their candle on the altar as part of the offertory of the Mass. The parents place their children's preparation book, the work that has taken place, at the foot of the altar.

Because of the covid virus we recently had a very rare celebration of confirmation at St Wilfrid's without it being the Bishop who was the celebrant. At that service, we had the candidates lighting the candle themselves from the pascal candle, as a sign that they had taken upon themselves the light of Christ that had been entrusted to their parents and godparents. Please God, they will continue to be active witnesses to their faith, as it now influences their lives. A particularly memorable moment during a preparation class when asked what do we need to help us grow? - the response 1) food would you believe, and after some discussion 2) exercise.

Fr Rory

Deacon John Writes:

Fr Rory has written above about two characteristics of living:- journeying and telling stories. Someone wrote this story about Mother Teresa in Time Magazine in answer to the question "Are we poor?" She was asked about the materialism of the West. "The more you have, the more you are occupied," she contends. "But the less you have the freer you are. Poverty for us is a freedom. It is a joyful freedom. There is no television here, no this, no that. This is the only fan in the whole house...and it is for the guests. But we are happy. "I find the rich poorer," she continues. "Sometimes they are lonelier inside...The hunger for love is much more difficult to fill than the hunger for bread...The real poor know what joy is." When asked about her plans for the future, she replied, "I just take one day. Yesterday is gone. Tomorrow has not come. We have only today to love Jesus." Is there anyone in this area as rich as Mother Teresa? The Gospel for this Sunday contains a story with which we can identify ourselves. It is the story of Jesus' rejection by fellow-townsmen and is a story that has happened to most of us. We might have experienced the pain of rejection caused by hurts, wounds, betrayal, divorce, abandonment, violated trust, trauma, neglect, or abuse in its various forms. What about rejection by those closest to us? Often our friends, families, or childhood companions fail to listen to, and refuse to accept, the love and encouragement that we offer to them, because they are so familiar with us as we were that they are unable to see us as God's appointed instruments, the agents of God's healing and saving grace.

There is another side to this story which we should think about. How often do we discount God's agents through prejudice? How often do we fail to see God's image in them because of our own hardheartedness? We must realise that God's power is always available to transform even the most unlikely people.

Let us acknowledge the prophets of God's goodness around us. God is always present giving us his message through our nearest and dearest and all we meet. Since God uses them as His prophets to convey His message to us, it is our duty to acknowledge and honour them. Let us express our appreciation today for our families – spouses for each other, parents and children for each other. Remember to say "thank you" for any act of kindness offered to us. We can all act as God's messengers of love and light to those around us. At the same time we should recognise God's presence in our lives through His words in the Bible and through the advice, help and examples of others.

Deacon John

CAFOD:

Thanks for your support, CAFOD has been helping communities around the world cope with the pandemic. Just in Zambia, in the past year, our reports show we've been able to reach 1,234,200 people with messages on COVID-19, provide 13,312 people with access to safe water, train 392 frontline health workers from Zambia's 11 dioceses on how to prepare and respond to COVID-19 in their local communities and donate over 1000 handwashing hygiene stations in communities to support handwashing measures. Thank you for standing alongside people in Zambia and for supporting people in more than 30 other countries worldwide.



St Wilfrid's First Holy Communion: Please remember and keep in your prayers our 10 First Holy Communion Candidates who will be celebrating their First Holy Communion on the 10th July at 3pm

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.

The First Communion Mass for three St George's Children took place on Sunday 27th June, it was a wonderful occasion enjoyed by all those who attended in person and from afar by watching it on the livestream. The service is still available to watch by going to the online mass recordings on our website, www.saintsgeorgeandwilfrid.co.uk/online-masses-and-recordings/. Being able to livestream was so important to the families, especially at this time as it enabled family and friends in India and Catalan to be at the celebration mass.

During the mass the children had their Baptism candles relit and passed on to them by their fathers to show how they are now taking forward the light of Christ within them

Our thanks go to all who made this such a special occasion: Father Rory for his spiritual leadership of the families, children and their catechists in the preparation for the sacrament; the Catechists Mary Burbage, Marie and Cathy for teaching and preparing the children over many weeks; Mary Lou, Shirley and Anne who all sang beautifully bringing this special ministry back into our church once more; Thomas and Alen who took time to prepare in advance and manage on the day the great responsibility of filming the service ensuring the sound quality was the best we could achieve with minimal equipment; Cathy, Trevor and Anne who decorated the church with ribbons, bunting and lovely floral displays; and off course everyone who offered good wishes and prayed for our children and their families at this special time.

St George's First Communion Breakfast: This will be held on Sunday July 25th 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.

Pilgrimage of Reparation and Consecration: On Saturday, 17th July, at West Grinstead, from 12 noon. More details from Jayne at jaynelock1@gmail.com or 07816 422851.

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: www.worth.co.uk/retreats/online-retreats Enquiries: toc@worth.org.uk

NEW Colour and Shape website launch! Mass resources for families.

Colour and Shape developed over the pandemic providing a weekly video liturgy for families to use at home during lockdown. This video – Connect Sunday – has now changed into a new shorter format, along with a set of accompanying resources on a brand new website. Head over to www.colourandshapeonline.com to check out the resources reflecting on the Sunday Gospel each week, plus links to Spotify playlists, ideas on how to pray together as a family, and information on how to join the online community supporting families.

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](#)

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.

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.