

28TH NOVEMBER 2021

1ST SUNDAY OF ADVENT (C)

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Cf. Ps 24:1-3

**To you, I lift up my soul, O my God.
In you, I have trusted; let me not be put to shame.
Nor let my enemies exult over me;
and let none who hope in you be put to shame.**

THE COLLECT

Grant your faithful, we pray, almighty God,
the resolve to run forth to meet your Christ
with righteous deeds at his coming,
so that, gathered at his right hand,
they may be worthy to possess the
heavenly Kingdom.
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 33:14-16
See, the days are coming — it is the Lord who speaks — when
I am going to fulfil the promise I made to the House of Israel and
the House of Judah:

‘In those days and at that time,
I will make a virtuous Branch grow for David,
who shall practice honesty and integrity in the land.
In those days Judah shall be saved
and Israel shall dwell in confidence.
And this is the name the city will be called:
The Lord-our-integrity.’

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

PSALM

Ps. 24:4-5.8-9.10.14.R.v1

R) To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul.

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)**

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)**

His ways are faithfulness and love
for those who keep his covenant and will.
The Lord’s friendship is for those who revere him;
to them he reveals his covenant. **(R)**

SECOND READING

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Thessalonians 3:12 - 4:2

May the Lord be generous in increasing your love and make
you love one another and the whole human race as much as
we love you. And may he so confirm your hearts in holiness
that you may be blameless in the sight of our God and Father

when our Lord Jesus Christ comes with all his saints.
Finally, brothers, we urge you and appeal to you in the Lord
Jesus to make more and more progress in the kind of life that
you are meant to live: the life that God wants, as you learnt from
us, and as you are already living it. You have not forgotten the
instructions we gave you on the authority of the Lord Jesus.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia! Ps 84:8
**Let us see, O Lord, your mercy
and give us your saving help.
Alleluia!**

GOSPEL

Luke 21:25-28. 34-36

The Lord be with you.
And with your spirit.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.
Glorify to you, O Lord.

Jesus said to his disciples: ‘There will be signs in the sun and
moon and stars; on earth nations in agony, bewildered by the
clamour of the ocean and its waves; men dying of fear as they
await what menaces the world, for the powers of heaven will
be shaken. And then they will see the Son of Man coming in
a cloud with power and great glory. When these things begin
to take place, stand erect, hold your heads high, because your
liberation is near at hand.’

‘Watch yourselves, or your hearts will be coarsened with
debauchery and drunkenness and the cares of life, and that day
will be sprung on you suddenly, like a trap. For it will come down
on every living man on the face of the earth. Stay awake,
praying at all times for the strength to survive all that is going to
happen, and to stand with confidence before the Son of Man.’

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

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

Accept, we pray, O Lord, these offerings we make,
gathered from among your gifts to us,
and may what you grant us to celebrate devoutly here below,
gain for us the prize of eternal redemption.
Through Christ our Lord.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Ps 84:13

**The Lord will bestow his bounty, and our
earth shall yield its increase.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

May these mysteries, O Lord,
in which we have participated,
profit us, we pray,
for even now, as we walk amid passing things,
you teach us by them to love the things of heaven
and hold fast to what endures.
Through Christ our Lord.

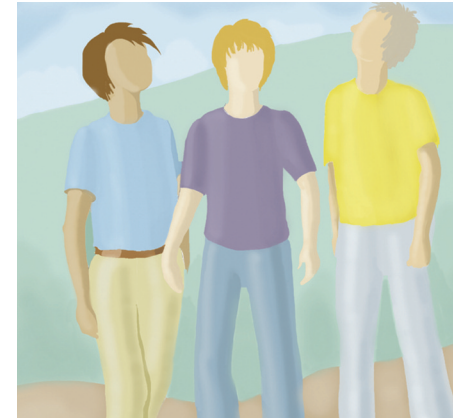
28TH NOVEMBER 2021

1ST SUNDAY OF ADVENT (C)

DIVINE OFFICE: WEEK 1/PROPER

Our Faith on Sunday

GOSPEL REFLECTION



We are entering the time of
‘advent’, of coming, of
preparation for Christmas.
Christmas celebrates the arrival of
a baby. This is not something we
easily connect with what Our
Lord speaks about in today’s

Gospel passage. But as with each
of us, birth is the start of a story.
This birth is the start of a
mission|: the mission of the Son
of God to restore the fallen
human race to the love and
friendship of his Father, himself
and the Holy Spirit. Crucifixion
was the end of his earthly story,
for himself, but not for *his*
mission. And so, today, we hear,
“Stay awake, praying at all times!”
Our Lord has not told us when
he is going to come again in
glory; only that he will. The signs
he speaks of – and warns us of –
would seem to be present in every

age, including our own: fires,
floods, winds, terrorism, wars. So
his advice is for every age: live
clean lives, watch yourselves! But
at the same time, *“stand erect,
hold your heads high!”* You are the
Baptized, the children of God,
sons with the Son of man, whose
final coming – whose glorious
advent - will be the culmination
of his saving work.



EVANGELII GAUDIUM (JOY OF THE GOSPEL)



A STRANGER ON THE ROAD

56. The previous chapter should not be read as
a cool and detached description of today’s
problems, for “the joys and hopes, the grief and
anguish of the people of our time, especially of
those who are poor or afflicted, are the joys and
hopes, the grief and anguish of the followers of
Christ as well. Nothing that is genuinely
human fails to find an echo in their hearts”.⁵³ In
the attempt to search for a ray of light in the
midst of what we are experiencing, and before
proposing a few lines of action, I now wish to
devote a chapter to a parable told by Jesus
Christ two thousand years ago. Although this
Letter is addressed to all people of good will,
regardless of their religious convictions, the
parable is one that any of us can relate to and
find challenging.

53. SECOND VATICAN ECUMENICAL COUNCIL, Pastoral Constitution on the
Church in the Modern World Gaudium et Spes, 1.



Discerning the right kind of love



We all know that we can never be filled with a love of eternity or anointed
with the sweet oil of heaven unless we are genuinely converted to God. We
have to turn from worldly things, even if only in our minds. This means
loving what we ought to love, and not loving what we ought to hate.

We must love God first and foremost, and then other heavenly things. Only
necessary love should be given to what is earthly. We must desire nothing but
Christ and eschew all that is false and would pervert our steps into the paths
of wickedness. It is possible to find people like this who have no taste for
earthly things and deal with worldly matters no more than is strictly
necessary, but they are few.

Those who get rich find comfort in what they have (at least for now) so they
are not necessarily entitled to enjoy even a little of this heavenly love. They
think they should be given future bliss because they have a surface kind of
devotion. But as their love for earthly treasures is unlimited, the fire of love
in them will come to nothing. Moreover, they will lack the sweetness that
God gives to his true lovers. They enjoy only a counterfeit ‘love’ which brings
them no good in the long run.

On the other hand, there are those who are not interested in beautiful
women or riotous living, so they consider themselves sure of salvation. They
think themselves saintly because their lives are chaste! But the real root of sin
is not chastity but greed. ‘The love of money is the root of all evil’ (1 Tim.
6: 10). Look at what people do and you will see what they really love.

Those who are God’s chosen ones direct everything Godwards and turn their
thoughts constantly back to him.



PARISH COMMUNITIES OF

ST GEORGE



Eastbourne Road
Polegate

Parish Priest: Fr. Rory Kelly

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Tel: (01323) 841504 or Deacon John (01323) 486280
(Answerphone service available on both numbers)
Email: ssgeorge.wilfrid@btinternet.com
Website: www.saintsgeorgeandwilfrid.co.uk

ST WILFRID

South Road
Hailsham



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

WEEKLY SERVICES

Sat	27th	10-11am	St Wilfrid's	Confessions
First Sunday of Advent				
Sun	28th	9.00am	St George's -	Paul & John Bree RIP
		10.30am	St Wilfrid's -	Deceased Relatives & Friends of Judy Davis
Mon	29th	2.30pm	St George's -	Rosary Group
Tue	30th	10.00am	St George's -	Parish Communities' Intention
Wed	1st	10.00am	St Wilfrid's -	Jack Coleman RIP
Thurs	2nd	10.00am	St George's -	Wladiswaua Zylowicz RIP
Fri	3rd	10.00am	St Wilfrid's -	Philomena & Frederick Southam
Sat	4th	10-11am	St Wilfrid's -	Confessions
Second Sunday of Advent				
Sun	5th	9.00am	St George's -	Parish Communities' Intention
		10.30am	St Wilfrid's -	Edmund Ginn 3rd Anniversary RIP

Confessions on request at anytime or before and after Masses at St Wilfrid's and St George's Church.

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 Gerry Palmer
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: Anne Bowe Tel: 07808 175455
Contact Care: 07900 823138

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS those who are unwell: Lily May, Edna Andrews, Juliette Lusted, Jennifer Piskac, Joshua Hardy, Peter & Teresa Zurenkas, Anne Holt, Margaret, Rosie Tuson, Dee Challis, Lilian Summers, Tom Woodrow-Spencer, Colleen, Chris Neyenhuizen, Letty Booth, Michael Copper, Peter Standen and Richard Stimpson.

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 9am-1pm & Friday 9am-12.30pm

Fr Rory Writes:

For a Synodal Church

Two Questions

Our Process

Why do we need it? How can we best progress it?

First it is important that we are aware that there is a process presented to us on the Diocesan Website and that we read it. It also has an introduction by Bishop Richard. This is the link to find the information <https://www.abdiocese.org.uk/synod>.

I believe that the most important thing is the outcome. I am aware that there is a late February deadline. For the best outcome I have two constant points of reference; to farming and to building. In farming what is the most important to begin ploughing, or preparing the ground. In the building trade the foundations. I would be very interested to hear the process for other achievements. For my own calling, preparation leaves me with a great sense of failure.

From last year; with an awareness of thanksgiving for the harvest, what is most important are the seeds for future growth. When I came to the parish I first introduced our Leaven Group for each community. I now believe we need to return to our roots and begin again with core groups. These can be made up from within extended family, children's liturgy group, parish groups etc to make the most of this opportunity to do good. Responding to their questions, hopes and expectations.

This Sunday we are highlighting the Synod. Next Sunday we will turn our attention to the ministries. The third Sunday, most important, be reconciled with God. What we grew up with, confession, and when I was first ordained I spent hours in the confessional. The true, true gift "God's pardon and peace. Then the fourth Sunday, preparation to make it the best Christmas celebration ever in our lives.



Deacon John Writes:

Food for thought:

A writer called Mark Link wrote the following: On the night of April 15, 1912, the Titanic hit an iceberg in the North Atlantic and sank. Over 1,500 people lost their lives in one of the worst sea disasters in history. A few years ago a magazine recalled the great disaster and asked its readers this shocking, almost blasphemous, question: "If we'd been on the Titanic when it sank, would we have arranged the deckchairs?" At first we say to ourselves, "What a ridiculous question! No one in his right mind would ignore wailing sirens on a sinking ship and rearrange its deck chairs! No one with an ounce of sanity would ignore the shouts of drowning people and keep arranging deck chairs!" But as we continue to read the magazine, we see the reason for the strange question. And suddenly we ask ourselves, "Are we perhaps, rearranging the deckchairs on a sinking ship? — For example, are we so caught up with material things in life that we are giving a back seat to spiritual things? Are we so busy making a living that we are forgetting the purpose of life? Are we so taken up with life that we are forgetting why God gave us life?"



St Wilfrid's Church: Advent Penitential Service and First Confession for our 7 candidates on Saturday 11th December at 5 pm. **Rehearsal for Nativity Mime at Christmas Eve Mass** will be Saturday 18th December at 2pm, Children from St Wilfrid's and St George's are all welcome to take part in this special part of the Mass.

St George's Suggestions box – there is a suggestions box in the porch where parishioners should give ideas of social activities they would like organised during 2022 and beyond. These may be activities/events we have run in the past or entirely new ideas, the more the merrier! Once we have the suggestions we will look to plan a programme of activities (probably 4-6 over the year). We do need help with events though so if you are happy to be involved as well as attend your suggested event please do indicate this on the suggestion form. Events can't run without helping hands.

St George's Love In A Box: A big thank you for all the donations you have made to this wonderful cause. We have knitted 51 blankets, filled 26 shoe boxes and raised £293 to cover the boxes and transportation costs. This is a tremendous effort from you all and the Mustard Seed Mission lorries will soon be on the way to children in Romania with all our good things.

Christmas Carol Concert at St George's - The South Downs Singers are a community choir based at our hall in Polegate. The choir has used the hall since it first began more than 20 years ago. They support local charities through concerts held up to three times a year. This year has been very difficult for the choir due to the Covid pandemic and, once the green light was given to rehearse again, they met up and used the car park to begin with! Now back in the hall, their Christmas Carol concert this year will be held at St George's Church on Saturday 4th December at 3.30 pm. It will be a perfect opportunity to begin your preparation of Christmas with a beautiful selection of carols and seasonal music. Tickets are priced at £8.00 available from Shirley or Kelly at St George's, or ring 01323 504753 to book.

Hello, my name is Kelly Richards, and I am the Safeguarding Rep for St George's

Christmas is fast approaching and it is a joyful time, but can also be a lonely time for those that may not have family or friends that they can spend this Holy time with. Safeguarding is not only there to help and support families, or children that may be of concern regarding any issues, but also for older people in our community in need of help. If you feel that anyone is in a situation of concern please do contact me Merry Christmas Kelly (07967562110).

St Wilfrid's last Sunday, 21st November: We had a special sale in our hall after Mass of Hannah's toys. The money raised will go to the Lourdes Pilgrimage Fund in her honour. Well we raised £104, mainly from donations given to this very worthy cause. The goods, very good quality, will be on sale until the 1st week in December when the 'Sales Table' will have a Christmas Theme. Do pop in after Mass on a Sunday, have a cup of tea with us and buy some 'Bargain Goods' or pop some money in the pot for this very worthwhile cause - Lourdes Fund for Handicap Children. Thank you so much.

We have an opening for a Parish Treasurer and this will involve around 5-8 hours work a month. Please contact Jackie at ssgeorge.wilfrid@btinternet.com for further details about the role and the application process. Closing date for applications will be Thursday 2nd December 2021.

Please make a note in your diaries of our over 50's Activities:

Christmas Lunch at Kings Head - Horsebridge: Thursday 9th December, in the function room, 12noon. We have had to close the list for people coming, as we have reached our maximum available. Sorry if you cannot join us for this Happy Event. We have a good interest in our monthly lunches so perhaps you would like to join us on our next date which will be Thursday 10th January, details to follow in the New Year. Of course our friends from St George's are invited to any of the events organised by us here at St Wilfrid's.

Thursday 30th December, 2pm in our Hall for Afternoon Tea: We have decided to make this a pre New Years Eve Party, homemade food, music, games suitable to our age group!! Crackers, goody bags and special raffle. The cost for this will be £5 and I can assure you it will be worth every penny - come on lets make it a jolly good party. 2-4pm, looking forward to seeing you there, make a New Years resolution.

All these events are open to St Wilfrid's and St George's plus any friends are most welcome of course. Please contact Joan 07873390944 or after Sunday and Wednesday Mass in the Hall.

"ENRICHING OUR CATHOLIC FAITH": a series of talks at Our Lady of Ransom Catholic Church, Eastbourne. A chance to enrich and deepen our understanding of our faith.

Tuesday, 30th November: 'Jesus: who do people say I am? What the New Testament tells us - also the Early Church' Speaker: John de Waal.

Monday, 6th December: 'Gaudete! and the gift of Christian Joy.' Speaker: Fr Tristan.

Tuesday, 14th December: 'COP 26 and its aftermath.' Speaker: Barbara Echlin.

Sessions will be in the Parish Centre (accessed from the church car park) from 7.30 – 8.30pm - with a break halfway for refreshments. All are welcome to all or any of the talks!

St Wilfrid's Church - Notices at Mass on Sunday. If you require a notice read out after Mass please email Alan by Saturday mornings. alanjozwik@gmail.com

Bidding Prayer Rota: We are currently looking for more people to help with the Bidding Prayers for Mass at the weekends. If this is something you would like to do, please email Jackie on ssgeorge.wilfrid@btinternet.com and I will add you to the next rota which will start in February 2022.

Friends of St Thomas a Becket CP School..... Calling all businesses.... Do you own or work for a business which might be interested in supporting us by way of a Christmas raffle prize donation? If so, please get in touch via email ptfa@stthomasbecket.e-sussex.sch.uk

CAFOD School Volunteers needed!

Looking for a new challenge?

Could you visit schools in your local area to deliver assemblies and workshops about CAFOD's work and encourage young people to take action, fundraise and pray with CAFOD?

No experience necessary. Full support, resources and regular training provided.

As well as using your skills to help the poorest people in the world volunteers are inspired by young people, it strengthens their faith, develops their communication and presentation skills, plus much more. If this of interest and you would like more information, please contact either: **Jenny Finlayson**, Community Participation Coordinator for Arundel and Brighton Diocese, email:

arundelandbrighton@cafod.org.uk Tel: 01483 898866 Mobile: 07710 094448 or **Mike Dean** Education Volunteer Coordinator for Arundel and Brighton Diocese email: mdean@cafod.org.uk

St George's Church: Christmas cards are now on sale at the back of the church.

Sunday 21st November 2021

St George's Attendances: 81 St Wilfrid's Attendances: 102