

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON Cf. Is 66: 10-11
Rejoice, Jerusalem, and all who love her.
Be joyful, all who were in mourning;
exult and be satisfied at her consoling breast.

THE COLLECT
O God, who through your Word reconcile the human race to yourself in a wonderful way, grant, we pray, that with prompt devotion and eager faith the Christian people may hasten toward the solemn celebrations to come. 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 book of Joshua 5:9-12
The Lord said to Joshua, ‘Today I have taken the shame of Egypt away from you.’
The Israelites pitched their camp at Gilgal and kept the Passover there on the fourteenth day of the month, at evening in the plain of Jericho. On the morrow of the Passover they tasted the produce of that country, unleavened bread and roasted ears of corn, that same day. From that time, from their first eating of the produce of that country, the manna stopped falling. And having manna no longer, the Israelites fed from that year onwards on what the land of Canaan yielded.
The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

PSALM Ps. 33:2-7.R.v9
R) Taste and see that the Lord is good.

I will bless the Lord at all times,
his praise always on my lips;
in the Lord my soul shall make its boast.
The humble shall hear and be glad. **(R)**

Glorify the Lord with me.
Together let us praise his name.
I sought the Lord and he answered me;
from all my terrors he set me free. **(R)**

Look towards him and be radiant;
let your faces not be abashed.
This poor man called; the Lord heard him
and rescued him from all his distress. **(R)**

SECOND READING
A reading from the second letter of St Paul to the Corinthians 5:17-21

For anyone who is in Christ, there is a new creation; the old creation has gone, and now the new one is here. It is all God’s work. It was God who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the work of handing on his reconciliation. In other words, God in Christ was reconciling the world to himself, not holding men’s faults against them, and he has entrusted to us the news that they are reconciled. So we are ambassadors for Christ; it is as though God were appearing through us, and the appeal that we make in Christ’s name is: be reconciled to God. For our sake God made the sinless one into sin, so that in him we might become the goodness of God.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION
Praise and honour to you, Lord Jesus! Lk 15:18
I will leave this place and go to my father and say:
‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you.’
Praise and honour to you, Lord Jesus!

GOSPEL Luke 15:1-3. 11-32
The Lord be with you.
And with your spirit.
A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.
Glory to you, O Lord.

The tax collectors and the sinners were all seeking the company of Jesus to hear what he had to say, and the Pharisees and the scribes complained. ‘This man’ they said ‘welcomes sinners and eats with them.’ So he spoke this parable to them:
‘A man had two sons. The younger said to his father, “Father, let me have the share of the estate that would come to me.” So the father divided the property between them. A few days later, the younger son got together everything he had and left for a distant country where he squandered his money on a life of debauchery.
‘When he had spent it all, that country experienced a severe famine, and now he began to feel the pinch, so he hired himself out to one of the local inhabitants who put him on his farm to feed the pigs. And he would willingly have filled his belly with the husks the pigs were eating but no one offered him anything. Then he came to his senses and said, “How many of my father’s paid servants have more food than they want, and here am I dying of hunger! I will leave this place and go to my father and say: Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you; I no longer deserve to be called your son; treat me as one of your paid servants.” So he left the place and went back to his father.
‘While he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was moved with pity. He ran to the boy, clasped him in his arms and kissed him tenderly. Then his son said, “Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I no longer deserve to be called your son.” But the father said to his servants, “Quick! Bring out the best robe and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. Bring the calf we have been fattening, and kill it; we are going to have a feast, a celebration, because this son of mine was dead and has come back to life; he was lost and is found.” And they began to celebrate.
‘Now the elder son was out in the fields, and on his way back, as he drew near the house, he could hear music and dancing. Calling one of the servants he asked what it was all about. “Your brother has come” replied the servant “and your father has killed the calf we had fattened because he has got him back safe and sound.” He was angry then and refused to go in, and his father came out to plead with him; but he answered his father, “Look, all these years I have slaved for you and never once disobeyed your orders, yet you never offered me so much as a kid for me to celebrate with my friends. But for this son of yours, when he comes back after swallowing up your property – he and his women –you kill the calf we had been fattening.”
‘The father said, “My son, you are with me always and all I have is yours. But it is only right we should celebrate and rejoice, because your brother here was dead and has come to life; he was lost and is found.” ’

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

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS
We place before you with joy these offerings, which bring eternal remedy, O Lord, praying that we may both faithfully revere them and present them to you, as is fitting, for the salvation of all the world. Through Christ our Lord.

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

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS
We place before you with joy these offerings, which bring eternal remedy, O Lord, praying that we may both faithfully revere them and present them to you, as is fitting, for the salvation of all the world. Through Christ our Lord.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON Lk 15: 32
You must rejoice, my son,
for your brother was dead and has come to life;
he was lost and is found.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION
O God, who enlighten everyone who comes into this world, illuminate our hearts, we pray, with the splendour of your grace, that we may always ponder what is worthy and pleasing to your majesty and love you in all sincerity. Through Christ our Lord.

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.

Stand

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.

Kneel

The mystery of faith.
We proclaim your Death, O Lord,
and profess your Resurrection
until you come again.

Or:

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

All bow

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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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	26th	10.00am	St Wilfrid's	Church open for Confessions
Fourth 'Laetare' Sunday of Lent				
Sun	27th	9.00am	St George's -	Parish Communities' Intention
		10.30am	St Wilfrid's -	Elizabeth Woodrow-Spencer RIP
Mon	28th	2.30pm	St George's -	Rosary Group
Tue	29th	10.00am	St George's -	Sean Gavin RIP
Wed	30th	10.00am	St Wilfrid's -	Pauline Kelly's Intention
Thurs	31st	10.00am	St George's -	Conor Lane RIP
Fri	1st	10.00am	St Wilfrid's -	Kitty Callaghan Intention
Sat	2nd	10.00am	St Wilfrid's -	Church open for Confessions
Fifth Sunday of Lent				
Sun	3rd	9.00am	St George's -	Sheila Mary Campbell RIP
		10.30am	St Wilfrid's -	David Curtis RIP 1st Anniversary
		3.00pm	St George's	Holy Hour for peace in Ukraine with Station of the Cross

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 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, 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:

Our journey through Lent is speeding by. The changing hour of the clock is a clear sign that it is nearly over. It is a very special time of grace if we are faithful to our Lenten journey. The way of the cross, the stations of the cross have a most important role to play. Each year, one of my very strongest memories is my dad making the stations of the cross after mass during Lent, because he had much suffering in his life. It is a very fitting memory when aligned with the hope "after this our exile will be a welcome to our true home in heaven". We now have the stations of the resurrection at St Wilfrid's, once when I was doing the rounds of the stations they merged for me at the 13th station "Jesus is taken down from the cross". This became a real sign of hope when my eyes turned to the station of the resurrection "Mary and the Apostles pray for the coming of the Holy Spirit". The disciples set about preparing for Pentecost "little did they know then what was in store for them". The Holy Spirit came upon them "in tongues of fire".

At the same time it revealed a thought, maybe an attitude on my part "the day of Pentecost never came". When I was first ordained the Pentecostal movement, with marriage encounter Taizé and its prayer seemed to be flourishing with a promise of great things to come. So after my first parish I had a minor sabbatical, a great window of experience.... most of it spent in America, where there was a lot of good experiences in the life of the church. Now, in the light of our present experience, I feel the institutional church did not embrace the "Spirit of the times". After the 2nd Vatican Council with the closing of so many seminaries, and a closing of hearts to so many, promising sighs of spring. Now I look forward to new life, the Synod opens the way if it is allowed to bring new life, a new Spring. Remember seeds take time and the right environment to prosper and grow. Please God, this will happen for us this Spring.

The second failure is actually two fold. We have received "Missio" The Red Boxes, which over the years has played a good part in our "giving" and supporting new life in the church. The material stimulate new hope "build a vibrant catholic church for the future". Also, the material used by St George's church for confirmation preparation "The Alpha" youth discussion guide. Hearing words of Deacon John's excellent way of the cross, with the richness of the story, the script, the seeds are there. It calls for the response. So members in attendance were very disappointing. Sincerely this time last week I had intended to attend, but a circumstance from the pandemic turned up and took priority. It was something important So prayers for guidance and who can give the best guidance "only the Holy Spirit". Let us this year prepare for Pentecost.



Deacon John Writes:

I found this account concerning this Sunday's special significance for us on the Internet:

Mothering Sunday is the fourth Sunday Of Lent. Although it's often called Mothers' Day it has no connection with the American festival of that name. Traditionally, it was a day when children, mainly daughters, who had gone to work as domestic servants were given a day off to visit their mother and family. Today it is a day when children give presents, flowers, and home-made cards to their mothers. Most Sundays in the year churchgoers in England worship at their nearest parish or 'daughter church'.

Centuries ago it was considered important for people to return to their home or 'mother' church once a year. So each year in the middle of Lent, everyone would visit their 'mother' church - the main church or cathedral of the area.

Inevitably the return to the 'mother' church became an occasion for family reunions when children who were working away returned home. Most historians think that it was the return to the 'Mother' church which led to the tradition of children, particularly those working as domestic servants, or as apprentices, being given the day off to visit their mother and family. As they walked along the country lanes, children would pick wild flowers or violets to take to church or give to their mother as a small gift.

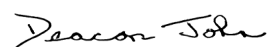
Another thought is that the name comes from one of the Bible readings for that day, which refers to motherhood in a different way. In Galatians 4:26 we read: "But the Jerusalem which is above is free, which is the mother of us all".

The writer of the text wanted to explain to the Galatian community what their relationship as Christians was to the Jewish Law.

Mothering Sunday was also known as Refreshment Sunday because the fasting rules for Lent were relaxed that day.

Originally, both Old and New Testament lessons on mid-lent Sunday made a point of food. The Gospel reading from the New Testament told the story of how Jesus fed five thousand people with only five small barley loaves and two small fish. The food item specially associated with Mothering Sunday is the Simnel cake. This is a fruit cake with two layers of almond paste, one on top and one in the middle. It has 11 balls of marzipan icing on top representing the 11 disciples. (Judas is not included.) Traditionally, sugar violets would also be added. The name Simnel probably comes from the Latin word *simila* which means a fine wheat flour usually used for baking a cake.

There's a legend that a man called Simon and his wife Nell argued over whether the cake for Mothering Sunday should be baked or boiled. In the end they did both, so the cake was named after both of them: SIM-NELL.



At St George's we need someone to train up as a Sacristan, either gender. As you know we have three Masses a week. Sunday at nine o'clock and Tuesday and Thursday at ten o'clock. It is such a rewarding and uplifting task, preparing for Mass. If you feel you could do it, please ask Fr. Rory, Angela or myself Cathy or ring me 01323 487688 for more information. Thank you.

Platinum Jubilee: We will be celebrating the Queen's Platinum Jubilee on Sunday 5th June with a Jubilee Lunch. Please put your name on the list in the church porch with the dish you can provide. If possible the dish would be able to serve approximately 15 people with a small bowl of food. If you are unsure what to provide please see Teresa Bradley or Loretta Fry. Thank you.

St George's Church: St Patrick's day cards & Easter cards are on sale at the back of St. George's.

John & Margaret's Diamond Wedding Anniversary: A really big thank you from us and the Macmillan Cancer Support for donating £140.00 which was raised from celebrating our 'Diamond Anniversary'. Macmillan understand that cancer can impact people's whole life - health, money, families, work; everything. They provide support that's about all these things, helping people live their life with cancer. They advise on work and benefits, and are always there for emotional support when things get tough. They give people the support, energy and inspiration to feel more like themselves. Thank you.

Over 50's Activities - St Wilfrid's Church Hall:

Our next Afternoon Tea will be **Thursday 31st March**, 2pm to 4pm in the church hall. Everyone is welcome to this friendly social event.

Good Friday Way of the Cross (family friendly)

On Good Friday at 10.30am in St Wilfrid's Church we will be holding a Way of the Cross Service. Although designed specifically for our children, we warmly welcome ALL parishioners to this event. Following the service we will be sharing hot cross buns in the hall. Donations to our Lenten Appeal, Tiny Tickers, will be gratefully received.

The Rosary - during these very traumatic times the Rosary is a powerful tool. We are so lucky to have had a Rosary Group at St George's for decades quietly bringing together our pleas for intercession and help. This group meets in St George's Hall on a Monday afternoon at 2.00 pm to pray the rosary and finish with a cuppa and some biscuits. Everyone is welcome to join and never have we needed the help of our Blessed Lady more than now.

On Sunday 3rd April, and 10th April there will be a Holy Hour for peace in the world and end to the war in the Ukraine, it will include **Stations of the Cross** in St. George's at 3pm. On Passion Sunday, 10th April, Stations will be followed by **Benediction**.

We are a small group in Polegate praying for our children and all children. We are opening up the group to include those who feel they would like to join us. We meet on Wednesday mornings and are part of a much bigger worldwide group, over a hundred countries are all praying for our children and grandchildren. It is truly a wonderful achievement, after all meeting together, to have prayed for them. Ring me on Polegate 487688 for more information Cathy.

Children's Liturgy Fundraising during Lent 2022

Join us to support

Our Lent fundraising has been a great success so far. Thank you to everyone who has supported us. The Stations of the Cross and Lent Lunch raised £80 and last Sunday's Big Bake and Raffle nearly £250. This equates to the ability to purchase at least one portable machine for use on a ward or at a home birth.

Why the need for these vital pieces of equipment? 1 in 125 babies is born with a serious heart condition. Early detection of Congenital Heart Defects (CHD) is key to saving lives. If a CHD is picked up at the birth of a child, using specialist infant Pulse Oximetry machines, it dramatically reduces the risk of complications and infant deaths. Our local NHS Trust has committed to having these monitors and all funds raised by our children will go to help make this happen. Tiny Tickers places the pulse oximetry monitors in maternity wards and for use at home births and also arranges the staff training required. We have one more event to go and hope that you can continue to support us with your prayers and generosity.

Sponsored - Walk, Talk & Picnic – Jevington to Alfriston - Sunday 3rd April 12noon (picnic approx. 1.30pm)

Our parish Children, their families and children's liturgy leaders are planning a sponsored walk from Jevington to Alfriston, 3+miles (and some will also walk back). Everyone is welcome to join us on this lovely South Downs walk, however we realise the terrain is not ideal for all. For those who can't manage the walk you are invited to join us for our picnic at Alfriston, in the Church grounds. Even if you are not able to join us, you can help us by sponsoring the children, forms are now available at the back of church. If you can gift aid please do. Reserve date April 10th – contact Sandra on 07791 627368 or email sandraforte40@gmail.com for further information.

IMPORTANT - Sponsor forms are available for all those walking to take away today and gain sponsorship from friends and family. Please take a form away with you. Alternatively, if you wish to sponsor our children as a group a form is available to add to at the back of both churches.

For more information on the work Tiny Tickers does visit www.tinytickers.org Registered Charity No: 1078114

Save the Date, Saturday 13th August 2022 when there will be a special Mass with Bishop Richard to celebrate 100 years since the first Mass here at St Wilfrid's.

St Wilfrid's Church: We are compiling a list of deceased members of our parish to be inscribed on St Wilfrid's Memorial Garden Stone. Please could you let us know if you would like a name added and if you require a space to be left underneath. Please email your requests to ssgeorge.wilfrid@btinternet.com Thank you.

Dates for your Diary

Sun April 3rd at 12noon - Sponsored Walk, Jevington to Alfriston - More information to follow. Reserve date **Sun 10th April**.

Sat 13th August - Special Mass with Bishop Richard to celebrate 100 years since first Mass at St Wilfrid's.

Sunday 20th March 2022

St George's Attendances: 70 St Wilfrid's Attendances: 95