

29TH MAY 2022

7TH SUNDAY OF EASTER (C)

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Cf. Ps 26:7-9

**O Lord, hear my voice, for I have called to you;
of you my heart has spoken: Seek his face;
hide not your face from me, alleluia.**

THE COLLECT

Graciously hear our supplications, O Lord,
so that we, who believe that the Saviour of the human race
is with you in your glory,
may experience, as he promised,
until the end of the world,
his abiding presence among us.
Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
God, for ever and ever.

FIRST READING

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

7:55-60

Stephen, filled with the Holy Spirit, gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at God's right hand. 'I can see heaven thrown open' he said 'and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God.' At this all the members of the council shouted out and stopped their ears with their hands; then they all rushed at him, sent him out of the city and stoned him. The witnesses put down their clothes at the feet of a young man called Saul. As they were stoning him, Stephen said in invocation, 'Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.' Then he knelt down and said aloud, 'Lord, do not hold this sin against them'; and with these words he fell asleep.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.**PSALM**

Ps. 96:1-2.6-7.9.R.vv1.9

R) The Lord is king, most high above all the earth.

The Lord is king, let earth rejoice,
the many coastlands be glad.
His throne is justice and right. **(R)**

The skies proclaim his justice;
all peoples see his glory.
All you spirits, worship him. **(R)**

For you indeed are the Lord
most high above all the earth
exalted far above all spirits. **(R)**

SECOND READING

A reading from the book of the Apocalypse 22:12-14. 16-17. 20

I, John, heard a voice speaking to me: 'Very soon now, I shall be with you again, bringing the reward to be given to every man according to what he deserves. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the First and the Last, the Beginning and the End. Happy are those who will have washed their robes clean, so that they will have the right to feed on the tree of life and can come through the gates into the city.'

I, Jesus, have sent my angel to make these revelations to you for the sake of the churches. I am of David's line, the root of David and the bright star of the morning.

The Spirit and the Bride say, 'Come.' Let everyone who listens answer, 'Come.' Then let all who are thirsty come; all who want it may have the water of life, and have it free.

The one who guarantees these revelations repeats his promise: I shall indeed be with you soon. Amen; come, Lord Jesus.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION****Alleluia, alleluia!**

Cf. Jn 14:18

**I will not leave you orphans, says the Lord;
I will come back to you, and your hearts will be full of joy.
Alleluia!**

GOSPEL

John 17:20-26

The Lord be with you.

And with your spirit.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus raised his eyes to heaven and said:

'Holy Father,
I pray not only for these,
but for those also who through their words will believe in me.
May they all be one.
Father, may they be one in us,
as you are in me and I am in you,
so that the world may believe it was you who sent me.
I have given them the glory you gave to me,
that they may be one as we are one.
With me in them and you in me,
may they be so completely one
that the world will realise that it was you who sent me
and that I have loved them as much as you love me.
Father,
I want those you have given me
to be with me where I am,
so that they may always see the glory
you have given me
because you loved me
before the foundation of the world.
Father, Righteous One,
the world has not known you,
but I have known you,
and these have known
that you have sent me.
I have made your name known to them
and will continue to make it known,
so that the love with which you loved me may be in them,
and so that I may be in them.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS**

Accept, O Lord, the prayers of your faithful
with the sacrificial offerings,
that through these acts of devotedness
we may pass over to the glory of heaven.
Through Christ our Lord.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Jn 17:22

**Father, I pray that they may be one
as we also are one, alleluia.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Hear us, O God our Saviour,
and grant us confidence,
that through these sacred mysteries
there will be accomplished in the body of the whole Church
what has already come to pass in Christ her Head.
Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

29TH MAY 2022

7TH SUNDAY OF EASTER (C)

DIVINE OFFICE: WEEK 3/PROPER

Our Faith on Sunday

GOSPEL REFLECTION



Jesus has been praying for his apostles who, as he says, are about to take his message out into the world. Then he says, *"My prayer is not for them alone,"* but for all those who

listen to his message and believe. They are to be one. Unity is a fruit of belief and love: unity which is an image of the One-ness of the Father and the Son in Love. *"In the beginning,"* Genesis tells us, *"God created Adam (in Hebrew 'adam' means 'man') in the image of Himself, in the image of God He created him, male and female He created them."* Jesus came to restore that image, not just in himself, but in all those who would attach themselves to him and through Baptism be enabled to share his Holy

Spirit. In sharing in the Spirit of Love all Christians are united: *"Just as you, Father, are in me and I in You."* This is the most profound and real unity there can be. In this life it is experienced in small ways: it requires co-operation. It is a gift, given at the cost of Jesus' crucifixion, to be freely and gratefully accepted.



POPE FRANCIS' ENCYCLICAL
FRATELLI TUTTI
BROTHERS AND SISTERS ALL



A STRANGER ON THE ROAD

78. We can start from below and, case by case, act at the most concrete and local levels, and then expand to the farthest reaches of our countries and our world, with the same care and concern that the Samaritan showed for each of the wounded man's injuries. Let us seek out others and embrace the world as it is, without fear of pain or a sense of inadequacy, because there we will discover all the goodness that God has planted in human hearts. Difficulties that seem overwhelming are opportunities for growth, not excuses for a glum resignation that can lead only to acquiescence. Yet let us not do this alone, as individuals. The Samaritan discovered an innkeeper who would care for the man; we too are called to unite as a family that is stronger than the sum of small individual members. For "the whole is greater than the part, but it is also greater than the sum of its parts".⁶⁰ Let us renounce the pettiness and resentment of useless in-fighting and constant confrontation. Let us stop feeling sorry for ourselves and acknowledge our crimes, our apathy, our lies. Reparation and reconciliation will give us new life and set us all free from fear.

60. Apostolic Exhortation *Evangelii Gaudium* (24 November 2013), 235; AAS 105 (2013), 1115.

A Prayer in Advancing Years

O God my heavenly Father, whose gift is length of days, help me to make the noblest use of mind and body in my advancing years. According to my strength apportion thou my work. As thou hast pardoned my transgressions sift the in gatherings of my memory, that evil may grow dim, and good may shine more clearly.

I bless thee for thy gifts, and especially for thy presence, and for love of friends in heaven and earth. Grant me new ties of friendship, new opportunities of service, joy in the growth and happiness of children, sympathy with those who bear the burdens of the world, clear thought and quiet faith.

Teach me to bear infirmity with cheerful patience. Let thy peace rule my spirit through all the changes and trials of my waning powers.

Take from me all fear of death, and all despair, and undue love of life, that with a peaceful heart at rest in thee I may await thy will concerning me. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Author unknown

PARISH COMMUNITIES OF

ST GEORGE

Eastbourne Road
Polegate



Parish Priest: Fr. Rory Kelly

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(Answerphone service available on both numbers)
Email: ssgeorge.wilfrid@btinternet.com
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ST WILFRID

South Road
Hailsham



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

WEEKLY SERVICES

Sat	28th	10.00am	St Wilfrid's	Church is open, an opportunity for confession
Seventh Sunday of Easter				
(Collection for Catholic Communications Network Today)				
Sun	29th	9.00am	St George's -	Parish Communities' Intention
		10.30am	St Wilfrid's -	Jean Barham-Wyatt Intention
Mon	30th	2.30pm	St George's -	Rosary Group
Tue	31st	10.00am	St George's -	Soul of Mother of Gary O'Brien RIP
Wed	1st	10.00am	St Wilfrid's -	Special Intention Mary O'Donoghue
Thurs	2nd	10.00am	St George's -	Terry O'Regan's Intention
Fri	3rd	10.00am	St Wilfrid's -	In Thanksgiving for prayers answered
Sat	4th	10.00am	St Wilfrid's -	Church open for Confessions
Pentecost				
Sun	5th	9.00am	St George's -	Confirmation Candidates In Thanksgiving
		10.30am	St Wilfrid's -	Parish Communities' Intention

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

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, Sebastian Martin, 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:

"Go out to the whole world Mk16:5"
"Proclaim the good news to all creation".

This is the final parting message from Jesus to his disciples for all ages, as He ascended into heaven. But while on earth living like one of us He revealed the reality of what it means and what it entails, "no bed of roses".

When I left my family home in order to do this; it had become enshrined in the expression "no cross, no crown". This is a great constant in all our lives and of my family. The years of preparation had embedded this in my life. His final instructions compelled His Apostles and His Mother Mary to return to Jerusalem. They prepared to watch and pray because they were faithful, **the Holy Spirit came down upon them and this is the great legacy of Pentecost**. It is important for us each year that after the Feast of the Ascension, we likewise "watch and pray" in preparation for the Holy Spirit being poured out upon us. We may be more open and prepared for the Holy Spirit to be more active and at work in our lives.

This year gives us the opportunity to work together, to build up and renew our parish communities. The Synod, and now our parish response is truly important. As we receive reports from other parishes and churches, the continuing scandals in the churches, we must really raise up our hearts and minds to be refreshed and refocused. It is only through the power of the Holy Spirit at work in us, that we can change and respond by really working together. A start has been made, and one sign of the fruits that it can bear, was the celebration of the Sacrament of Confirmation with Bishop Richard, on Sunday at Our Lady of Ransom Church. Our 10 candidates and their sponsors, Mary, Sandra and all those who helped, left us with an inspiring moment, and a very happy occasion to celebrate and remember.

Please God, may your Holy Spirit be at work in us, and let us all say Amen to this.



SYNOD SUGGESTIONS:

The minutes of the meeting of the Core Group are available on the notice board of each church.

The next meeting of the whole parish to discuss these suggestions will be held in St Wilfrid's Church on Tuesday 31 May. This day is the Feast of the Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary and there will be Marian Devotions at 6pm. The meeting will be held immediately afterwards.

Jubilee Celebration at St. George's after 9am Mass on Sunday 5 June 2022

As we are having Teas, Coffee, Cakes, Scones, Croissants and other goodies at our Jubilee Celebration, after Mass, it would be great if any bakers out there would like to make a small cake/scones/fairy cakes, already plated up or sliced in portions, and bring it to the hall before Mass, so that we can have a smashing selection and celebrate the occasion with Father Rory, fellow parishioners, families and friends! If you need any more details, feel free to contact Anne Bowe on 07808175455 or annebowe@btinternet.com or just arrive and enjoy yourselves! Thank you!

WANTED:

Do you like computers? Do you know how to update a website? The Parish could do with a bit of help and would be delighted if some clever people would offer their help on internet things. Please give your name to Fr Rory or send him an email. Thank you.

St Wilfrid's 1st Holy Communion Breakfast: on Sunday 29th May in St Wilfrid's Hall after Mass. All invited.

Thank You: Jean appreciates all the prayers, cards and mass cards along with all the good wishes as she contends with the chemotherapy etc and sends her heartfelt thanks to all parishioners and friends. God Bless you all.

Are you struggling with bereavement or loss?

Would it help to have someone to talk to? Our Deanery has a team of trained Catholic Bereavement Supporters available to listen and support people experiencing bereavement and loss. Please contact your Parish Priest if you would like to speak to one of our team. To find out more about Bereavement Support please contact our Marriage and Family Life Project Officer:
E: simon.south@abdiocese.org.uk T: 01293 651155

Collection for the Ukraine:

If you would like to support us in collecting items for Ukraine, here are some of the items we are collecting:-
Tinned food i.e. meat/fruit, good condition clothing, nappies, baby wipes, toiletries etc. If you would like more information please speak to Loretta after Mass. 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 if you would like to contribute a dish. 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.

Time for tea? Please allow a little extra time on a Sunday to enjoy tea/coffee and a chat with your fellow parishioners. Both St George's and St Wilfrid's are blessed to be able to hold this social opportunity, in our halls, after mass and would love to have more people join us weekly. All friends and family are also welcome - they don't have to have been at mass to enjoy some time with us!

Queen's Platinum Jubilee - Sunday 5th June
St George's Church 9am & St Wilfrid's Church 10.30am

At St Wilfrid's we will be celebrating with a Jubilee Lunch after the 10.30am Mass. Please reserve a seat on our website www.saintsgeorgeandwilfrid.co.uk or contact Jackie on 841504. All welcome.

Special Centenary Mass - Saturday 13th August 2022
St Wilfrid's Church, Hailsham at 11am

A Special Mass with Bishop Richard will be held at St Wilfrid's Church, Hailsham to celebrate 100 years since first Mass was held.

If you would like to join us in celebrating this special Mass please either book on-line on our website www.saintsgeorgeandwilfrid.co.uk or contact Jackie by email ssgeorge.wilfrid@btinternet.com or phone 841504. Thank you.

Lourdes Pilgrimage helpers required! We have received several applications from Pilgrims who will require assistance to join this year's Lourdes Pilgrimage, but at this point we are short of Helpers. After two 'grace years' dictated by the pandemic we are conscious of people's wellbeing, and we are having to look for more helpers than usual who are fit and well to support others. Subsidies are available for helpers to go towards them meeting the costs of the pilgrimage. As we currently stand, we will have to turn down some pilgrims who require assistance, if we do not get a significant number of fit helpers applying in the next few weeks, so please do apply if you can spare the time to help those in need. The Pilgrimage Office is happy to answer any questions anyone has prior to applying 01403 740110, office@ablourdes.org Helpers Apply now lourdes.abdiocese.org.uk

ENRICHMENT TALKS: Our Lady of Ransom Hall, Eastbourne, from 7.30pm – 8.30pm. **Thurs 9th June** : Henry VIII and Annulment. (John de Waal). **Thurs 23rd June** : Love of Neighbour - examples from Jesus in the Gospels. (John Kimberley).

The paradox of abundance

Over 800 million people go hungry each day. Yet the world produces over 4 billion tonnes of food, and we only need 3.7 billion tonnes to feed everyone. From all this food produced, a third is wasted. St John Paul II called this 'the paradox of abundance.' Clearly the current global food system is not working. But as Pope Francis said, "Each of us has a role to play in transforming food systems for the benefit of people and the planet." Let's respond to his call! CAFOD's new campaign is called Fix the Food System. See www.cafod.org.uk/food for more information, including an invitation for parish groups to learn about the impact of our food with our *Fix the Food System: a 7-station journey* resource.

Refugee Crisis Coffee Morning with Bishop Richard, Saturday 25 June at 11.30am.

Bishop Richard will be hosting an informal coffee morning to discuss our response to the refugee crisis, at St Gabriel's Hall, Billingshurst, RH14 9QH. Everyone is very welcome, to reserve your free place please sign up here: <https://abdiocese.churchsuite.com/events/an04uoxn>

Grandparents Day Wednesday 8 June at West Grinstead

A pilgrimage to the shrine at West Grinstead. If you would like to find out more please contact E: katherine.bergin@abdiocese.org.uk

BeCome: Diocesan Young Adults Group (18-35). We are coming to the end of our online study of the Sycamore series but will be starting a new process of studying and praying with scriptures very soon. If you are interested in joining our community and diving deeper into the bible whilst forming new friendships, contact E: lizzie.wakeling@abdiocese.org.uk

LINK for Online Masses & Recordings: <https://saintsgeorgeandwilfrid.co.uk/online-masses-and-recordings/>

LINK for Funerals & Baptisms: <https://saintsgeorgeandwilfrid.co.uk/other-services/>

LINK Facebook <https://m.facebook.com/gary.westcar#> =

Dates for your Diary

Sat 13th August, 11am - Special Mass with Bishop Richard to celebrate 100 years since first Mass at St Wilfrid's.

Sunday 22nd May 2022

St George's Attendances: 75 St Wilfrid's Attendances: 144