

Our Faith on Sunday

GOSPEL REFLECTION




Today's Gospel raises the whole issue of prayer. It starts with Jesus teaching the disciples to pray – what we now know as the 'Our Father'. Then Jesus goes on to

explain what to expect when we pray. In particular, he deals here with prayers of petition. There are two important things to consider. The first is that God is our father, but unlike a 'natural' mother or father, he really does know what is best for us. So, if we ask for things which aren't good for us, he simply won't give them to us. The second thing to remember is that prayer is above all, not about asking for things, but it is about building a relationship with the Father. It is way of showing our complete dependence on his paternal love.

The basis of our prayer should always be to acknowledge our nothingness and our desire to grow in love for God and our neighbour. If we come before the Lord in this way, we can be absolutely certain that he will give us everything we need to reach the real goal of life – perfect happiness with him forever.




POPE FRANCIS' ENCYCLICAL
FRATELLI TUTTI
BROTHERS AND SISTERS ALL




A STRANGER ON THE ROAD

86. I sometimes wonder why, in light of this, it took so long for the Church unequivocally to condemn slavery and various forms of violence. Today, with our developed spirituality and theology, we have no excuses. Still, there are those who appear to feel encouraged or at least permitted by their faith to support varieties of narrow and violent nationalism, xenophobia and contempt, and even the mistreatment of those who are different. Faith, and the humanism it inspires, must maintain a critical sense in the face of these tendencies, and prompt an immediate response whenever they rear their head. For this reason, it is important that catechesis and preaching speak more directly and clearly about the social meaning of existence, the fraternal dimension of spirituality, our conviction of the inalienable dignity of each person, and our reasons for loving and accepting all our brothers and sisters.



Our Father St Benedict*
SOLITUDE



A chain of mountains on either side of the narrow valley, a leaping stream rushing through it, a patch of vivid, luminous, blue sky, a raven who comes daily to share his meal - this is Benedict's solitude.

Nothing else.

Alone with himself.

Alone before mankind.

Alone before his God.

Benedict has now no choice but to set out along the path of silence, of tranquillity, searching for God and his peace.

In single combat, there are no half measures.

Death or life.

Go mad or go deep.

Accept yourself or lose your head.

And in this alternative, Benedict discovers who he is.

He is one blessed by God.

*This set of mini-reflections is taken from Our Father St Benedict, published by New City



ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Cf. Ps 67: 6-7, 36

**God is in his holy place,
God who unites those who dwell in his house;
he himself gives might and strength to his people.**

THE COLLECT

O God, protector of those who hope in you, without whom nothing has firm foundation, nothing is holy, bestow in abundance your mercy upon us and grant that, with you as our ruler and guide, we may use the good things that pass in such a way as to hold fast even now to those that ever endure.
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 Genesis 18:20-32

The Lord said, 'How great an outcry there is against Sodom and Gomorrah! How grievous is their sin! I propose to go down and see whether or not they have done all that is alleged in the outcry against them that has come up to me. I am determined to know.'
The men left there and went to Sodom while Abraham remained standing before the Lord. Approaching him he said, 'Are you really going to destroy the just man with the sinner? Perhaps there are fifty just men in the town. Will you really overwhelm them, will you not spare the place for the fifty just men in it? Do not think of doing such a thing: to kill the just man with the sinner, treating just and sinner alike! Do not think of it! Will the judge of the whole earth not administer justice?' The Lord replied, 'If at Sodom I find fifty just men in the town, I will spare the whole place because of them.'
Abraham replied, 'I am bold indeed to speak like this to my Lord, I who am dust and ashes. But perhaps the fifty just men lack five: will you destroy the whole city for five?' 'No,' he replied, 'I will not destroy it if I find forty-five just men there.' Again Abraham said to him, 'Perhaps there will only be forty there.' 'I will not do it' he replied 'for the sake of the forty.'
Abraham said, 'I trust my Lord will not be angry, but give me leave to speak: perhaps there will only be thirty there.' 'I will not do it' he replied 'if I find thirty there.' He said, 'I am bold indeed to speak like this, but perhaps there will only be twenty there.' 'I will not destroy it' he replied 'for the sake of the twenty.' He said, 'I trust my Lord will not be angry if I speak once more: perhaps there will only be ten.' 'I will not destroy it' he replied 'for the sake of ten.'

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

PSALM

Ps. 137:1-3.6-8.R.v3

**R) On the day I called,
you answered me, O Lord.**

I thank you, Lord, with all my heart,
you have heard the words of my mouth.
Before the angels I will bless you.
I will adore before your holy temple. **(R)**

I thank you for your faithfulness and love
which excel all we ever knew of you.
On the day I called, you answered;
you increased the strength of my soul. **(R)**

The Lord is high yet he looks on the lowly
and the haughty he knows from afar.
Though I walk in the midst of affliction
you give me life and frustrate my foes. **(R)**

You stretch out your hand and save me,
your hand will do all things for me.
Your love, O Lord, is eternal,
discard not the work of your hands. **(R)**

SECOND READING

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Colossians 2:12-14
You have been buried with Christ, when you were baptised; and by baptism, too, you have been raised up with him through your belief in the power of God who raised him from the dead. You were dead, because you were sinners and had not been circumcised: he has brought you to life with him, he has forgiven us all our sins.

He has overridden the Law, and cancelled every record of the debt that we had to pay; he has done away with it by nailing it to the cross.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia! Jn 1:12.14
**The Word was made flesh and lived among us;
to all who did accept him
he gave power to become children of God. Alleluia!**

GOSPEL

Luke 11:1-13

The Lord be with you.

And with your spirit.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Once Jesus was in a certain place praying, and when he had finished, one of his disciples said, 'Lord, teach us to pray, just as John taught his disciples.' He said to them, 'Say this when you pray:

"Father, may your name be held holy,
your kingdom come;
give us each day our daily bread,
and forgive us our sins,
for we ourselves forgive each one who is in debt to us.
And do not put us to the test."

He also said to them, 'Suppose one of you has a friend and goes to him in the middle of the night to say, "My friend, lend me three loaves because a friend of mine on his travels has just arrived at my house and I have nothing to offer him"; and the man answers from inside the house, "Do not bother me. The door is bolted now, and my children and I are in bed; I cannot get up to give it to you," I tell you, if the man does not get up and give it him for friendship's sake, persistence will be enough to make him get up and give his friend all he wants.

'So I say to you: Ask, and it will be given to you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened to you. For the one who asks always receives; the one who searches always finds; the one who knocks will always have the door opened to him. What father among you would hand his son a stone when he asked for bread? Or hand him a snake instead of a fish? Or hand him a scorpion if he asked for an egg? If you then, who are evil, know how to give your children what is good, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

Accept, O Lord, we pray, the offerings
which we bring from the abundance of your gifts,
that through the powerful working of your grace
these most sacred mysteries may sanctify our present way of life
and lead us to eternal gladness.
Through Christ our Lord.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Ps 102: 2

**Bless the Lord, O my soul,
and never forget all his benefits.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

We have consumed, O Lord, this divine Sacrament,
the perpetual memorial of the Passion of your Son;
grant, we pray, that this gift,
which he himself gave us with love beyond all telling,
may profit us for salvation.
Through Christ our Lord.

PARISH COMMUNITIES OF

ST GEORGE



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ST WILFRID



South Road
Hailsham

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

WEEKLY SERVICES

Sat	23rd		St Wilfrid's	Church open for Prayer & Confessions
Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time				
(Collection for refreshments after the Centenary Mass on 13th August next Sunday)				
Sun	24th	9.00am	St George's -	Parish Communities' Intention
		10.30am	St Wilfrid's -	Kenneth & Jean Compton RIP
Mon	25th	2.30pm	St George's -	Rosary Group
Tue	26th	10.00am	St George's -	Daphne Piegrome RIP
Wed	27th	10.00am	St Wilfrid's -	Mary O'Neill RIP
Thurs	28th	10.00am	St George's -	In Thanksgiving
Fri	29th	10.00am	St Wilfrid's -	Margaret Westcar RIP (2nd Anniversary)
Sat	30th		St Wilfrid's -	Church open for Prayers & Confessions
Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time				
(Collection for refreshments after the Centenary Mass on 13th August Today)				
Sun	31st	9.00am	St George's -	Ken Williams RIP
		10.30am	St Wilfrid's -	Margaret Westcar RIP (2nd Anniversary)

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, Richard Stimpson, Teresa Palmer and Jean Barham-Wyatt.

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:

Help..... Help help is truly needed as we respond to the real challenge of this time. At the same time please God, we have a great window of opportunity as we respond to our process of preparation for the Synod, and also our Centenary Celebration on Saturday 13th August at St Wilfrid's.

The challenge of our time is truly great. It is coming from many directions and there is no escape. Our first priority must be the future for our parish communities, and our life of faith which is our greatest treasure. With the help of "God's grace" must be our constant prayer. In all ages and at all times, life has its difficulties. The term sometimes heard "life is no rose garden".

Good news for me is that my sisters Mary and Freda are hoping to join us for our Centenary Celebrations. The liturgy for the occasion and the social entertainment are beginning to take good shape. Our gratitude is great to those who are planning and making preparations. Obviously there will be expenditure, but we have made a decision that there will be no charge on the day. Good suggestions have been made to raise some money and I ask you to support this.



Second Collection: There will be a second collection on Sunday 31st July to cover the cost of refreshments after the Centenary Mass on August 13th.

Parish Meeting: Our next open Parish Meeting will be held after the 10.30am Mass at St Wilfrid's on Sunday 31st July.

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

Everyone is invited to this Mass, celebrated by Bishop Richard to mark the First Mass in the First St Wilfrid's Church on 14th August 1922. However, please put your name on the list in the church (or ring the parish office 841504), if you would like to stay for refreshments afterwards, to help with the catering. Thank you.

St Wilfrid's Centenary Celebration: We are hoping to form a choir to support the congregation at the 11am Mass on the 13th August. We shall be singing hymns and parts of the New Celtic Mass. There will be two evening rehearsals on August 3rd and 10th at 7.30pm to prepare for this. You do not have to be able to read music, just love to sing. Please contact Pat Gaglione or David Hoad at St Wilfrid's and Shirley at St George's for more information and any queries you may have. We welcome your support.

The Second World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly takes place on 24 July with the theme: 'In old age they will still bear fruit' (Psalm 92:15). Pope Francis has requested that we use this day to honour those who have taken further steps on their life journey, particularly grandparents.

Pope Francis writes: "Along with old age and white hairs, God continues to give us the gift of life and to keep us from being overcome by evil. If we trust in him, we will find the strength to praise him still (cf. vv. 14-20). We will come to see that growing old is more than the natural decline of the body or the inevitable passage of time, but the gift of a long life. Aging is not a condemnation, but a blessing!"

FOODBANK HELP WITH EVENING SUPERMARKET COLLECTIONS

Would you be able to help collect end of day food 'waste' from Hailsham Tesco and/or Waitrose? It's currently on Tuesday and Thursday evenings at around 8.15/8.30pm. There is no expectation of commitment - you can just sign up to slots you are able to do. It usually takes between 30-45 minutes. If you are able to help or want more details please email operations@hailsham.foodbank.org.uk.

Retrouvaille: Retrouvaille helps married couples to build a loving relationship through a technique of heartfelt communication. Retrouvaille helps married couples who are: struggling to communicate, struggling to stay together, cold and distant from each other, and separated or divorced, but want to try again. For more information email: retrouvailleukinfo@gmail.com, +44 7887 296983.

Wanted: If anyone has any unwanted photo albums with pocket sleeves to use for the church photo's, we would be grateful to receive them here at St Wilfrid's. Thank you.

Afternoon Tea for the over 50's: Unfortunately due to holidays our July tea is cancelled, so our next afternoon tea will be on 25th August 2022 at 2pm in St Wilfrid's Church Hall. All are welcome for tea and a chat.

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

Fri 29th July, 11am - Bereavement Group, St Wilfrid's Hall.

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

Sunday 17th July 2022

St George's Attendances: 70 St Wilfrid's Attendances: 99

