

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 Isaiah

2:1-5

The vision of Isaiah son of Amoz, concerning Judah and Jerusalem.

In the days to come
the mountain of the Temple of the Lord
shall tower above the mountains
and be lifted higher than the hills.
All the nations will stream to it,
peoples without number will come to it; and they will say:

‘Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord,
to the Temple of the God of Jacob
that he may teach us his ways
so that we may walk in his paths;
since the Law will go out from Zion,
and the oracle of the Lord from Jerusalem.’

He will wield authority over the nations
and adjudicate between many peoples;
these will hammer their swords into ploughshares,
their spears into sickles.
Nation will not lift sword against nation,
there will be no more training for war.
O House of Jacob, come,
let us walk in the light of the Lord.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

PSALM

Ps 121:1-2.4-5.6-9. R.cf.v1

**R) I rejoiced when I heard them say:
‘Let us go to God’s house.’**

I rejoiced when I heard them say:
‘Let us go to God’s house.’
And now our feet are standing
within your gates, O Jerusalem. **(R)**

It is there that the tribes go up,
the tribes of the Lord.
For Israel’s law it is,
there to praise the Lord’s name.
There were set the thrones of judgement
of the house of David. **(R)**

For the peace of Jerusalem pray:
‘Peace be to your homes!
May peace reign in your walls,
in your palaces, peace!’ **(R)**

For love of my brethren and friends
I say: ‘Peace upon you!’
For love of the house of the Lord
I will ask for your good. **(R)**

SECOND READING

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans 13:11-14

You know ‘the time’ has come: you must wake up now: our salvation is even nearer than it was when we were converted. The night is almost over, it will be daylight soon – let us give up all the things we prefer to do under cover of the dark; let us arm ourselves and appear in the light. Let us live decently as people do in the daytime: no drunken orgies, no promiscuity or licentiousness, and no wrangling or jealousy. Let your armour be the Lord Jesus Christ.

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

Matthew 24:37-44

The Lord be with you.
And with your spirit.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.
Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus said to his disciples: ‘As it was in Noah’s day, so will it be when the Son of Man comes. For in those days before the Flood people were eating, drinking, taking wives, taking husbands, right up to the day Noah went into the ark, and they suspected nothing till the Flood came and swept all away. It will be like this when the Son of Man comes. Then of two men in the fields one is taken, one left; of two women at the millstone grinding, one is taken, one left.

‘So stay awake, because you do not know the day when your master is coming. You may be quite sure of this that if the householder had known at what time of the night the burglar would come, he would have stayed awake and would not have allowed anyone to break through the wall of his house. Therefore, you too must stand ready because the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.’

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.

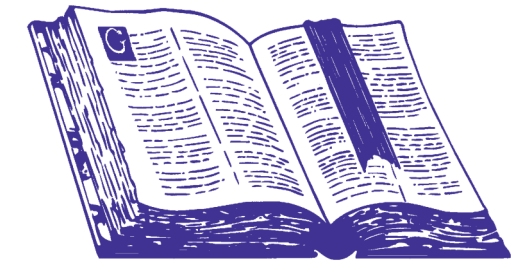
Our Faith on Sunday

GOSPEL REFLECTION



There are some moments in life which act as a kind of alarm bell: the sudden death of a loved one; the grave illness of a child; natural disasters which takes the lives of thousands. Such events tend to focus our minds on our own mortality and on our fragility. Most of the time we give little thought to these things. We usually live our lives as if we were immortal, even though the only certainty in life is death. In today’s Gospel Jesus gives us a strong reminder of the uncertainty of life on this earth and the need to be ready to be ‘taken’ at any moment.

But how do we make ourselves ready? Ready for what? For heaven. At the end of our lives we will not be asked how successful we were, or how much money we made, but on how much we loved our neighbour. Love for God and neighbour are the only currencies acceptable for entry into the Kingdom of Heaven.



POPE FRANCIS’ ENCYCLICAL
FRATELLI TUTTI
BROTHERS AND SISTERS ALL



LIBERTY, EQUALITY AND FRATERNITY

104. Nor is equality achieved by an abstract proclamation that “all men and women are equal”. Instead, it is the result of the conscious and careful cultivation of fraternity. Those capable only of being “associates” create closed worlds. Within that framework, what place is there for those who are not part of one’s group of associates, yet long for a better life for themselves and their families?

Our Father St Benedict* HOW TO RECEIVE GOD’S GIFTS

How richly blessed, how wonderful are God’s gifts, my dear people! Life in immortality, splendour in righteousness, truth in boldness, faith in confidence, self-control in sanctity - and, what is more, all these things are placed within the grasp of our understanding.

What then are the things that are being prepared for those who wait for him? The Creator and Father of the ages, the all holy One, he himself knows their greatness and beauty. We for our part must strive to be found among the number of those who wait, so that we too may have a share in these promised gifts.

But how, dear people, shall this be? It will come about only if our minds are fixed faithfully on God; if we seek those things that please and satisfy him; if we carry out fully what is in harmony with his will, which cannot err; and if we walk in the way of truth. It will happen if we free ourselves from all evil and wrongdoing, from greed, wrangling, ill-will and deceit, from gossip and back-biting, contempt for God, pride and arrogance, conceit and lack of hospitality. Those who indulge in these things can only be hateful to God, and this is true not only of those who commit these faults but also of those who encourage them.

Clement’s First Letter to the Corinthians

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

PARISH COMMUNITIES OF

ST GEORGE

Eastbourne Road
Polegate



Parish Priest: Fr. Rory Kelly
South Road, Hailsham, East Sussex BN27 3JG
Tel: (01323) 841504

(Answerphone service available)
Email: ssgeorge.wilfrid@btinternet.com
Website: www.saintsgeorgeandwilfrid.co.uk

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

ST WILFRID

South Road
Hailsham



WEEKLY SERVICES

First Sunday of Advent

(Collection Today for Christmas Flowers)

Sat 26th	10am	St Wilfrid's—	Church open for prayers and confessions
Sun 27th	9am	St George's —	Paul & John Bree RIP
	10.30am	St Wilfrid's —	Peter Robinson RIP
Mon 28th	2.30pm	St George's —	Rosary Group —All welcome
Tues 29th	10am	St George's—	Tom McCann RIP
Wed 30th	9am	St Wilfrid's —	Clodagh & Jack Coleman RIP
Thur 1st	10am	St George's —	Deceased Members of the Da Silva Family
Fri 2nd	10am	St Wilfrid's —	Parish Communities' Intention

Second Sunday of Advent

Sat 3rd	10am	St Wilfrid's—	Church open for prayers and confessions
Sun 4th	9am	St George's —	Parish Communities' Intention
	10.30am	St Wilfrid's —	Edmund Ginn RIP 4th Anniversary

Confession on request before and after Mass or at other times by arrangement with Father Rory.

Unable to attend mass? The 10.30am St Wilfrid's mass is livestreamed when possible and can be accessed via the Parish Website or via the following: <https://saintsgeorgeandwilfrid.co.uk/online-masses-and-recordings/>

Facebook: https://m.facebook.com/gary.westcar#_=_

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.

Local Catholic Education Contacts: 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

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 VIA THE PRIEST'S HOUSE PLEASE

Polegate Hall Hire (01323) 504753

Hailsham Hall Hire: (01323) 841504 or email at above address

Prayer Line Jean Barham-Wyatt (01323) 842824

IMPORTANT GIFT AID:

If any parishioner wishes to join the scheme please contact - Gerry on 01323 832577. By signing up the parish can benefit by claiming back from HMRC a further 25% on all your donations at no additional cost to you.

CROSSLINK CHURCHES TOGETHER, HAILSHAM: Volunteer needed contact Father Rory

POLEGATE CHURCHES TOGETHER Contact: Anne Bowe Tel: 07808 175455

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS those who are unwell

Lily May, Julliette 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, Laurey & Richard Stimpson, Nicole McCutchan, Jean Barham-Wyatt & Nellie Oakshott.

PLEASE ALSO REMEMBER THOSE NAMED IN THE BOOKS IN OUR CHURCHES

A WARM WELCOME: to all who join us for Mass, especially to any visitors.

New to the Parish/would like to get back in touch but not sure how? Please complete the welcome form in the porch and/or make yourself known to Fr. Rory. It would be great to get to know you and offer any help.

Fr Rory Writes:

Back on the road again; **we begin a new year in our lives of faith** and we look forward to the end of our life's journey when we will come into our true home in heaven.

As we make this journey of life to share our faith with others, this is the life of the church. As we begin each new year with the season of Advent **we light the First Advent Candle** "The Candle of Hope". Hope springs eternal. When everything else is taken from us we can always hold on to hope. The last few years have been a great challenge, preparing the mass intentions for the newsletter, I had to appreciate that it is the 4th Anniversary since Edmund Ginn died. The number of losses that we have experienced during this time take its toll, so it is important to appreciate the new and positive events that continue to happen.

Thanks be to God, and this year will be no different. I am always grateful for the help I get (even though I may not be good at expressing it) with God's help we will have a great opportunity to support one another. Joan Covey and company have got us off to a great start with events for the oldies, and real progress is being made as we prepare our church for a new generation. Let us be as positive as we can and "Full of Hope".

Fr Rory

Change of Mass Time: St Wilfrid's Mass this Wed (**30th Nov**) will take place at **9am**.

Parish Christmas Party: for adults & children. **Fri 30th Dec, 3-5pm** in St Wilfrid's Hall.

Parish Christmas Carol Service: This will take place on Sunday 11th December at 3pm, in St Wilfrid's Church followed by mulled wine/tea & coffee/mince pies and tombola in our hall. Any prizes for the tombola for men/women/children, bottles of wine/spirits! Or variety of gifts may be left in the church porch to be collected after Masses. Thank you.

Christmas Eve Nativity Mime - St Wilfrid's, 5.30pm Mass. Nativity rehearsal will be **Thursday 22nd December, 2-4pm** any children who would like to take part in the Christmas Eve Nativity, please attend this rehearsal, thank you.

St Wilfrid's Hospice & St George's are having a Lights of Love Service at St George's Church on Monday 12th December at 7pm. There will be refreshments afterwards in the church hall. Do please come to this wonderfully moving service.

Parish Over 50's Club: Our next afternoon tea will be **Thurs 29th Dec at 2pm**, "Pre New Year's Party" also £5 please. Music for all along with quiz and bingo. Let's make it a great party, see you there!

Staverton Nursery Trip - Mon 5th Dec. Just a few seats left. Contact Joan if you would like to go 07873390944.

CAFOD - The True Spirit of Christmas Giving, World Gifts this Christmas: We are collecting for gifts for the poor and needy throughout the world. There is a collecting box in the church porch and hall. Many new ideas for helping "those in need" have been introduced this year. Please help this worthy cause.

Dates for your Diary:

Sun 27th Nov, 10am - Charity Breakfast, St G's Hall.
Sat 3rd Dec, 3.30pm - Mistletoe & Melodies Concert, St G's
Sun 4th Dec, - Confirmation Classes, St G's
Sun 11th Dec, 3pm - Parish Christmas Carol Service, St W's
Mon 12th Dec, 7pm - Lights of Love Service, St G's Church.
Tue 13th Dec, 6.30pm - Reconciliation Service, St W's Church.
Thur 22nd Dec, 2-4pm - Nativity Rehearsal, St W's Church.
Sat 24th Dec, 5.30pm - Nativity Mime, St W's Church.
Thurs 29th Dec, 2pm - Over 50's Afternoon Tea, St W's Hall.
Fri 30th Dec, 11-12pm, Parish Bereavement Group, St W's Hall.

A fantastic time was had by all at our Parish Preparing for Advent Workshop last weekend. There was a great turn out from both parishes and it was enjoyed by parents and children alike. Huge thanks go to all those who helped to make this such a success. This is one of the first of our Youth Events hosted by the Youth Team Leaders of St G's and St W's. We look forward to working together on many more events in the near future.

Today (Sunday 27th) Parish Charity Breakfast at St George's Hall from 10am. Please join us for delicious hot breakfast baps of sausages and/or bacon or a selection of pastries. This month our charity fundraising will be for Children With Cancer - cash donations can be made at the breakfast, if you don't have any money with you, don't despair, enjoy the food and bring a donation next week. Everyone is welcome.

Las Posadas - the Travellers Journey Begins - Today both churches will welcome Joseph, Mary and the Donkey and they will go home with a parish family until another offers them lodgings for the night. They may stay at each home for one night or several, depending who is next to receive them. The home giving lodgings will each make them comfortable and when they leave offer hospitality (tea & mince pies or similar) to the parishioner/s collecting and send them away with prayers for their onward journey. The last parishioner/s with them will then return the travellers at our Christmas service. If you want to be part of this travelling nativity please let Teresa (St W) or Mary/Sandra (St G) know.

Churches Together Willingdon and Polegate: during Advent, will be participating in an "Inspiring Angels" theme, that is, creating an Angel focus within their parish community. If anyone at St George's would like to take part in this, and knit an Angel for our Church Christmas tree, please collect a Christmas Angel knitting pattern from our welcomers as you leave Mass, from 27th November onwards.

Sunday 19th Nov - Mass Attendance:

St Wilfrid's 138 St George's 65