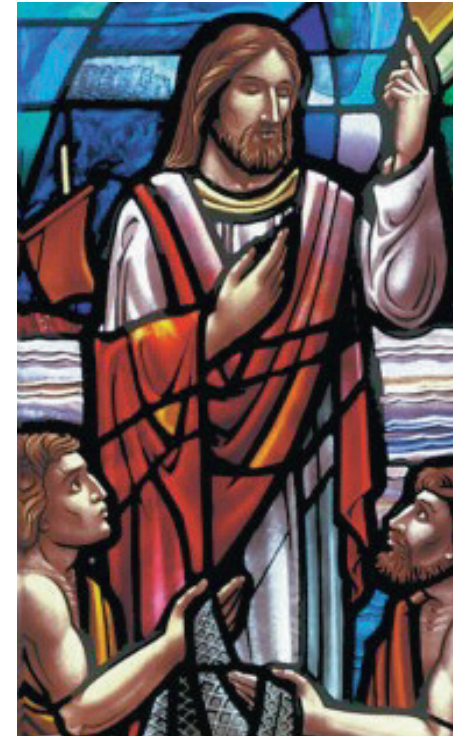




Our Faith on Sunday

GOSPEL REFLECTION



St. Matthew, Jewish author of today's Gospel passage, was clearly very aware of his people's history as having been an education, so to speak, preparing them – and through them, the human race – for the way in which God was going to restore the human race to its original state of grace and friendship with Himself. A restoration through the One promised as the fulfillment of all that had gone before. Abraham was the first to receive the promise, the beginning of God's Covenant. At the birth of Isaac, God promised, *"I shall maintain my Covenant with him, a Covenant in perpetuity, to be his God and the God of his descendants after him."* Those descendants were far from faithful, but God is always faithful, and through faithful

individuals, Moses, the prophets, God pursued his Covenant, determined to rescue, not only Abraham's descendants, but the whole human race living under the power of Satan, of evil, of darkness. Matthew had accepted Jesus as *"the Christ"*, and with him we hear of other faithful descendants: James and John, Peter and Andrew – messengers of *"the great light"* prophesied by Isaiah for a people living in darkness.



POPE FRANCIS' ENCYCLICAL
FRATELLI TUTTI
BROTHERS AND SISTERS ALL



PROMOTING THE MORAL GOOD

112. Nor can we fail to mention that seeking and pursuing the good of others and of the entire human family also implies helping individuals and societies to mature in the moral values that foster integral human development. The New Testament describes one fruit of the Holy Spirit (cf. Gal 5:22) as *agathosyne*; the Greek word expresses attachment to the good, pursuit of the good. Even more, it suggests a striving for excellence and what is best for others, their growth in maturity and health, the cultivation of values and not simply material wellbeing. A similar expression exists in Latin: *benevolentia*. This is an attitude that "wills the good" of others; it bespeaks a yearning for goodness, an inclination towards all that is fine and excellent, a desire to fill the lives of others with what is beautiful, sublime and edifying.



Promise Of Good Things HUMILITY OF SPIRIT



So we must be of humble mind, dear brothers and sisters, and shed anything that smacks of arrogance, conceit, stupidity or rage. We must practise what is written, for the Holy Spirit says: 'Let not the wise man boast of his wisdom, nor the strong man of his strength, nor the rich man of his riches, but if anyone would boast, let his boast be in the Lord, as he seeks him out and performs acts of justice and righteousness'. We should bear in mind especially the words of the Lord Jesus, which he spoke when he was teaching gentleness and patient endurance. This was his message: 'Be merciful and you will obtain mercy. Forgive and you will be forgiven. As you do to others, so it will be done to you. As you give, so will you be given to. As you judge, so will you be judged. As you are kind, so will kindness be shown to you. The measure you give will be the measure you get'.

With this commandment and these directives to guide us, let us resolve to walk in obedience to his sacred words and in humility of spirit. For, as the divine Word reminds us: 'On whom shall I look, but on the meek, the quiet, the one who trembles at my word?'

Clement's First Letter to the Corinthians



ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

**O sing a new song to the Lord;
sing to the Lord, all the earth.
In his presence are majesty and splendour,
strength and honour in his holy place.**

Cf. Ps 95:1,6

THE COLLECT

Almighty ever-living God,
direct our actions according to your good pleasure,
that in the name of your beloved Son
we may abound in good works.
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 8:23–9:3
In days past the Lord humbled the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in days to come he will confer glory on the Way of the Sea on the far side of Jordan, province of the nations.

The people that walked in darkness
has seen a great light;
on those who live in a land of deep shadow
a light has shone.
You have made their gladness greater,
you have made their joy increase;
they rejoice in your presence
as men rejoice at harvest time,
as men are happy
when they are dividing the spoils.

For the yoke that was weighing on him,
the bar across his shoulders,
the rod of his oppressor,
these you break as on the day of Midian.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

PSALM

Ps 26:1.4.13-14. R.v1

R) The Lord is my light and my help.

The Lord is my light and my help;
whom shall I fear?
The Lord is the stronghold of my life;
before whom shall I shrink? (R)

There is one thing I ask of the Lord,
for this I long,
to live in the house of the Lord,
all the days of my life,
to savour the sweetness of the Lord,
to behold his temple. (R)

I am sure I shall see the Lord's goodness
in the land of the living.
Hope in him, hold firm and take heart.
Hope in the Lord! (R)

SECOND READING

A reading from the first letter of St Paul
to the Corinthians 1:10-13.
17

I appeal to you, brothers, for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ,
to make up the differences between you, and instead of
disagreeing among yourselves, to be united again in your belief
and practice. From what Chloe's people have been telling me,
my dear brothers, it is clear that there are serious differences
among you. What I mean are all these slogans that you have,
like: 'I am for Paul,' 'I am for Apollos,' 'I am for Cephas,' 'I am
for Christ.' Has Christ been parcelled out? Was it Paul that was
crucified for you? Were you baptised in the name of Paul?

For Christ did not send me to baptise, but to preach the Good
News, and not to preach that in the terms of philosophy in which
the crucifixion of Christ cannot be expressed.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia! Mt 4:23
**Jesus proclaimed the Good News of the kingdom,
and cured all kinds of sickness among the people.
Alleluia!**

GOSPEL

Matthew 4:12-23

The Lord be with you.
And with your spirit.
A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.
Glory to you, O Lord.

Hearing that John had been arrested Jesus went back to
Galilee, and leaving Nazareth he went and settled in
Capernaum, a lakeside town on the borders of Zebulun and
Naphtali. In this way the prophecy of Isaiah was to be fulfilled:

Land of Zebulun! Land of Naphtali!
Way of the sea on the far side of Jordan,
Galilee of the nations!
The people that lived in darkness
has seen a great light;
on those who dwell in the land
and shadow of death
a light has dawned.

From that moment Jesus began his preaching with the
message, 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand.'
As he was walking by the Sea of Galilee he saw two brothers,
Simon, who was called Peter, and his brother Andrew; they were
making a cast in the lake with their net, for they were fishermen.
And he said to them, 'Follow me and I will make you fishers of
men.' And they left their nets at once and followed him.

Going on from there he saw another pair of brothers, James
son of Zebedee and his brother John; they were in their boat with
their father Zebedee, mending their nets, and he called them. At
once, leaving the boat and their father, they followed him.

He went round the whole of Galilee teaching in their
synagogues, proclaiming the Good News of the kingdom and
curing all kinds of diseases and sickness among the people.

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

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

Accept our offerings, O Lord, we pray,
and in sanctifying them
grant that they may profit us for salvation.
Through Christ our Lord.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

**Look toward the Lord and be radiant;
let your faces not be abashed.**

Cf. Ps 33:6

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Grant, we pray, almighty God,
that, receiving the grace
by which you bring us to new life,
we may always glory in your gift.
Through Christ our Lord.

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

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sat 21st	10am	St Wilfrid's—	Church Open for Prayers and Confessions
Sun 22nd	9am	St George's —	Cicily Karuka & Mathew Parambil RIP
	10.30am	St Wilfrid's —	Parish Communities' Intention
Mon 23rd	2.30pm	St George's —	Rosary Group —All welcome
Tues 24th	10am	St George's—	Mary Ackman RIP
Wed 25th	10am	St Wilfrid's —	Pat Hudson RIP
Thur 26th	10am	St George's —	Christopher Moroney RIP
Fri 27th	10am	St Wilfrid's —	Jim Ayres RIP

Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

(Collection for Racial Justice next Sunday)

Sat 28th	10am	St Wilfrid's—	Church Open for Prayers and Confessions
Sun 29th	9am	St George's —	Joseph & Rose Falkner RIP
	10.30am	St Wilfrid's —	Parish Communities' Intention

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, Lilian Summers, Tom Woodrow-Spencer, Colleen, Chris Neyenhuizen, Letty Booth, Michael Copper, 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:

“precious, truly precious”

The light of Christ has come into our world. A great focus for us to grow in His light is:-

“God is love, God is life, God is nourishment”

Recently a challenge was offered; come and speak to children in our local schools. We are in the process of responding, though I am hesitant. With concerns over the relevance of the church, especially because of the war that is taking place in Europe at the moment. Other ministries have been welcomed and it is part of our time of prayer each month, and highlights our divisions, so we are all in a work in progress.

Our future is a great challenge. My core position is that the light of Christ has come into our dark world. This was the great gift I received from my home and family. I have struggled with how we have expressed this in the life of our parishes, but thanks be to God, I am greatly helped by the work that is taking place here. I was asked by a parishioner who was particularly impressed with Stephen's input which was presented to us in our newsletter last week. It is so, so important. In fact it is brilliant.

Here is an extract from it, “The reports sent by Churches across the world give voice to the joys, hopes, sufferings and wounds of Christ's disciples. They express the desire for a Church that walks with Christ under the guidance of the Spirit, so to fulfil its mission of evangelization”.

Fr Rory

Evenings of Reflection for Confirmation Candidates/Youth Groups: St Martha's, Bexhill on Sea on Friday 3rd Feb from 7pm to 9pm. You can book your places here [Evenings of Reflection \(03-Feb-2023\) · ChurchSuite Events](#)

Southerden Books in the Link in the Market Square, are presently holding a sale to clear their old stock of Christian books at half price together with Christmas Cards and other Christmas stock at substantially discounted prices.

St Wilfrid's: Coming up, Sat 11th March, 10am-3pm in our hall, **A Grand Table Top Sale & Dress Rail.** Now is the chance to clear out any unwanted items. Please be generous and pop your donations in the box in the porch labelled “Gifts for table sale”. Thank you and don't forget to browse/buy on the day.

Parish Over 50's Club: Next Afternoon Tea is Thurs 26th Jan at 2pm till 4pm. As “Burns Night” falls on the day before, we are going to make the theme “Scottish”, so party time again! This time you may wear anything Tartan if you wish, men don't forget your sporran! Price is £5 each please. All welcome.

St George's Table sale - new and nearly new items suitable for sale are needed, please leave at back of church or under the table in the hall. Especially popular are Jigsaws, books (fiction & non fiction) toiletries and small gifts. Money raised in our table sale will be split between our charity of the month and Parish social events/youth activities.

St Wilfrid's Sun 29th January: Don't forget we are having a “Grand Raffle” to be drawn after Mass in the hall on the 29th. Tickets are available in our hall after Masses or tel: 07873390944, please don't leave it to the last minute. Tickets are £1 per strip, pink for ladies and blue for men. There is a box in the church porch for your donations please. The money will go towards future activities in our hall which will benefit us all.

St George's Charity of the Month is St Wilfrid's Hospice we will give 50% of our table sale proceeds to this charity (50% goes to support our Parish Youth activities).

Also, our last Sunday Breakfast on 29th January 10am is in aid of St Wilfrid's Hospice. Please make time to attend and invite friends and family to join us at breakfast even if not attending mass that morning. We will serve sausage and bacon baps and a selection of lighter pastries - Spread the word!

The Rosary: Do you own a Rosary? We all know how important it is to us Catholics to say the rosary or even one decade now and then, especially for a certain intention. Our Blessed Lady appeared to several people and employed them to say the “Rosary”. Fr Rory joins us before Masses on Wed & Fri at St Wilfrid's to say the rosary with us, it doesn't take long! So if you would like to join us we would be happy to see you. If you have any spare rosaries, there is a box marked “Spare Rosaries” on the table in the church porch. If you would like one, please help yourself. Thank you.

Dates for your Diary:

Sun 22nd Jan, 4-6pm, Confirmation Classes, St G's Hall.
Thur 26th Jan, 2-4pm, Parish Over 50's Club, St W's Hall.
Fri 27th Jan, 11-12pm, Parish Bereavement Group, St W's Hall.
Sun 29th Jan, 10am - Charity Breakfast, St G's Hall.
Sun 5th Feb, 4-6pm, Confirmation Classes, St G's Hall.
Tue 7th Feb, 5.30pm, Holy Communion Class, St W's Hall.
Sun 19th Feb, 4-6pm, Confirmation Classes, St G's Hall.
Sun 26th Feb, 10am - Charity Breakfast, St G's Hall.
Sat 11th March, 10am-3pm, Grand Table Top Sale, St W's Hall.
Fri 17th March, 6-9pm, Parish Irish Party Evening, St W's Hall.

Sunday 15th Jan - Mass Attendance:

St Wilfrid's 97

St George's 57