

29TH JANUARY 2023

4TH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME (A)

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Save us, Lord our God,  
and gather us together from the nations,  
that we may proclaim your holy name  
and glory in your praise.

THE COLLECT

Lord our God,  
help us to love you with all our hearts  
and to love all men as you love them.  
Grant this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,  
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
God, for ever and ever.

FIRST READING

Zephaniah 2:3; 3:12-13

Seek the Lord all you, the humble of the earth,  
who obey his commands.  
Seek integrity, seek humility:  
you may perhaps find shelter  
on the day of the anger of the Lord.  
In your midst I will leave a humble and lowly people,  
and those who are left in Israel  
will seek refuge in the name of the Lord.  
They will do no wrong, will tell no lies;  
and the perjured tongue will no longer  
be found in their mouths.  
But they will be able to graze and rest  
with no one to disturb them.

PSALM

Ps. 145

**R) How happy are the poor in spirit;  
theirs is the kingdom of heaven.**

It is the Lord who keeps faith for ever,  
who is just to those who are oppressed.  
It is he who gives bread to the hungry,  
the Lord, who sets prisoners free. **(R)**

It is the Lord who gives sight to the blind,  
who raises up those who are bowed down,  
the Lord, who protects the stranger  
and upholds the widow and orphan. **(R)**

It is the Lord who loves the just  
but thwarts the path of the wicked.  
The Lord will reign for ever,  
Zion's God, from age to age. **(R)**

SECOND READING

I Corinthians 1:26-31

Take yourselves, brothers, at the time when you were  
called: how many of you were wise in the ordinary sense of  
the word, how many were influential people, or came from  
noble families? No, it was to shame the wise that God  
chose what is foolish by human reckoning, and to shame  
what is strong that he chose what is weak by human  
reckoning; those whom the world thinks common and

Ps. 105:47

contemptible are the ones that God has chosen - those who  
are nothing at all to show up those who are everything. The  
human race has nothing to boast about to God, but you,  
God has made members of Christ Jesus and by God's  
doing he has become our wisdom, and our virtue, and our  
holiness, and our freedom. As scripture says: if anyone  
wants to boast, let him boast about the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

**Alleluia, alleluia!**  
**Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth,**  
**for revealing the mysteries of the kingdom**  
**to mere children. Alleluia!**

GOSPEL

Matthew 5:1-12

Seeing the crowds, Jesus went up the hill. There he sat  
down and was joined by his disciples. Then he began to  
speak. This is what he taught them:

'How happy are the poor in spirit;  
theirs is the kingdom of heaven.  
Happy the gentle:  
they shall have the earth for their heritage.  
Happy those who mourn:  
they shall be comforted.  
Happy those who hunger and thirst for what is right:  
they shall be satisfied.  
Happy the merciful:  
they shall have mercy shown them.  
Happy the pure in heart:  
they shall see God.  
Happy the peacemakers:  
they shall be called sons of God.  
Happy those who are persecuted in the cause of right:  
theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

'Happy are you when people abuse you and persecute you  
and speak all kinds of calumny against you on my account.  
Rejoice and be glad, for your reward will be great in heaven.'

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

Lord, be pleased with the gifts we bring to your altar,  
and make them the sacrament of our salvation.  
We ask this through Christ our Lord.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Ps. 30:17-18

**Let your face shine on your servant,**  
**and save me by your love.**  
**Lord, keep me from shame, for I have called to you.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Lord, you invigorate us with this help to our salvation.  
By this eucharist  
give the true faith continued growth throughout the world.  
We ask this in the name of Jesus the Lord.

29TH JANUARY 2023

4TH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME (A)

DIVINE OFFICE: WEEK /PROPER

# Our Faith on Sunday

## GOSPEL REFLECTION



The Sermon on the Mount! A  
marvelous statement of the  
meaning and intention of God's  
Covenant, of His promises.  
Made, first of all, with the  
'Chosen People', the Jews, who  
were to be, as it were, apostles to

the world of the Old  
Covenant, Jesus now  
announces, introduces,  
the New Covenant. All  
those who will accept  
Jesus as *'the Christ'* and  
follow him faithfully, are  
to be messengers of the  
New Covenant.  
Happiness, or blessedness,  
is God's desire and  
intention for all the  
human beings He has created.  
What will be that happiness in  
practice? The possession of the  
Kingdom of Heaven; *"the earth  
for their heritage"*; full satisfaction  
of all righteous desires and hopes;  
full comfort and consolation to

replace all sorrow. Even  
persecution faithfully endured, is  
promised a rich reward. Above  
and beyond all these, the faithful  
shall see the face of God, shall be  
fully and forever the children of  
God, sons in the Son. The  
reward is enormous, far  
surpassing all that is asked of the  
living for the short duration of  
earthly life; far surpassing  
anything that could be deserved.



POPE FRANCIS' ENCYCLICAL  
**FRATELLI TUTTI**  
BROTHERS AND SISTERS ALL



### PROMOTING THE MORAL GOOD

113. Here, regrettably, I feel bound to reiterate  
that "we have had enough of immorality and  
the mockery of ethics, goodness, faith and  
honesty. It is time to acknowledge that light-  
hearted superficiality has done us no good.  
Once the foundations of social life are  
corroded, what ensues are battles over  
conflicting interests".<sup>86</sup> Let us return to  
promoting the good, for ourselves and for the  
whole human family, and thus advance  
together towards an authentic and integral  
growth. Every society needs to ensure that  
values are passed on; otherwise, what is handed  
down are selfishness, violence, corruption in its  
various forms, indifference and, ultimately, a  
life closed to transcendence and entrenched in  
individual interests.

86. Encyclical Letter Laudato Si' (24 May 2015), 229; AAS 107 (2015), 937.



**Promise Of Good Things**  
**HASTEN TO GOD**



The humility and submissive obedience of so many well known Old  
Testament figures has not only done us good, but it also improved the  
generations that went before us, who received the Lord's oracles in fear  
and truth. But now that we have received a share in many great deeds  
of glory, we must hasten on to that goal of peace which was set before  
us at the beginning, with our eyes fixed on the Father, the Creator of  
the whole universe, and hold to the magnificent gifts of peace which he  
has lavished upon us.

With our mind we should contemplate him, and with the eyes of our  
soul we should gaze hard on his purpose which displays such great  
patience. And let us recognize how free from anger God is towards all  
his creatures.

The heavens, which move at his command, are subject to him in peace.  
Day and night follow the course that he himself allotted them without  
confusion. The sun, the moon and the choirs of stars all proceed in  
accordance to his command. With one mind they exactly follow the  
path marked out for them, and do not swerve from it. The teeming  
earth brings forth fruit in the proper season according to his will,  
yielding nourishment in full abundance for human beings and beasts  
and for all creatures, without dissenting from or changing any of his  
decrees. Those parts of the depths which no one has ever plumbed and  
the unexplored regions of the underworld are all under the control of  
the same supreme command.

*Clement's First Letter to the Corinthians*



# 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](mailto:ssgeorge.wilfrid@btinternet.com)  
Website: [www.saintsgeorgeandwilfrid.co.uk](http://www.saintsgeorgeandwilfrid.co.uk)

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

## ST WILFRID

South Road  
Hailsham



### WEEKLY SERVICES

#### Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

##### (Collection for the White Flower Appeal Today)

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
Mon	30th	2.30pm	St George's —	Rosary Group —All welcome
Tues	31st	10am	St George's—	Claire Greggs Intention
Wed	1st	<b>12.30am</b>	St Wilfrid's—	Requiem Mass for Jim Ayres
Thur	2nd	10am	St George's —	Harry Fairtlough RIP
Fri	3rd	10am	St Wilfrid's —	Grace Verrell RIP

#### Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

##### (Collection for Racial Justice Today)

Sat	4th	10am	St Wilfrid's—	Church Open for Prayers and Confessions
Sun	5th	9am	St George's —	Peter Carter 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#\\_=\\_](https://m.facebook.com/gary.westcar#_=_)

**Newsletter items:** Please send to Jackie at [ssgeorge.wilfrid@btinternet.com](mailto: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:

**"So Important"**

Grateful for the team for taking on great responsibility and progressing our response to the synod experience. It is now time to engage with our present situation and develop the parish council, the ministries needed, and a window to develop the liturgy and life of the church.

Those who are already committed are in danger of taking on too greater burden, tasks that are difficult and are put under too much pressure. The work that they do is so important we are truly grateful, and our gratitude is best expressed by working together to the best of our abilities.

I am trying to place myself on a learning curve; my role as parish priest is to keep our parish functioning..... paying our bills. But above all to focus upon the challenge for us to grow as communities of faith, to bear witness to the good news of God's salvation in a world that is challenged by many dark forces.

*Fr Rory*

**Racial Justice Sunday 2023 - 5th February**

Our theme *"All are included in the mission of Christ and His Church. Let us walk together, pray together and work together"* reflects on the role each of us must play in promoting the mission of Christ and His Church. This was inspired by conversations around last year's Racial Justice Sunday and Pope Francis' visit to Canada last year when he spoke about looking towards a future of 'Justice, healing and reconciliation'.

To mark the day, three video reflections have been produced, highlighting the three sections; Walking together; Praying together; and Working together. This years' resources can be found on the Bishops' Conference website at: [www.cbcew.org.uk/racial-justice-Sunday](http://www.cbcew.org.uk/racial-justice-Sunday).

**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.

**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 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!

**Dates for your Diary:**

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.  
Thur 23rd Feb, 2-4pm, Parish Over 50's Club, St W's Hall.  
Fri 24th Feb, 11-12pm, Parish Bereavement Group, St W'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.  
Tue 14th March, 5.30pm, Holy Communion Class, St W's Hall.  
Fri 17th March, 6-9pm, Parish Irish Party Evening, St W's Hall.  
Sat 18th March, First Reconciliation Service, St W's Church

**St George's Church** needs someone, either male or female to clean up the candle sticks each week, time to suit you. Please ring Cathy on 487688.

**St George's Church** also needs a lady/man who would like to join our flower arranger team. Friday or Saturday morning, training will be given. PS. My husband is a natural flower arranger. Please contact Cathy on 487688. Thank you.

**Ash Wednesday** is on 22 February. It is traditional for the ashes used on that day to come from the palms that were blessed on Palm Sunday the previous year. So please bring your old palms and place them in the box at the back of the church. Thank you.

**Parish Irish Party Evening:** St Wilfrid's Hall on Friday 17th March, 6-9pm. If anyone has any words to Irish Tunes, we would be truly grateful, we can then give everyone a copy to sing-a-long! If you can help in anyway contact Joan on 07873390944. Thank you.

**Grand January Raffle:** will be drawn this Sunday 29th January after Mass in our hall. It will not be a 'long drawn out affair' as some raffles can be! But a quick efficient operation under our new arrangements!!

Do come and join us, there will be plenty of biscuits & cakes. If your number comes up you choose what you like from the table, laden with prizes. Good luck and hope to see you in the hall on Sunday. The money taken will be put towards future events in our parish, so we will all benefit.

**Sunday 22nd Jan - Mass Attendance:**

St Wilfrid's 109                      St George's 60