

5TH MARCH 2023

2ND SUNDAY OF LENT (A)

### ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

**Of you my heart has spoken: Seek his face.  
It is your face, O Lord, that I seek;  
hide not your face from me.**

Cf. Ps 26:8-9

### THE COLLECT

O God, who have commanded us  
to listen to your beloved Son,  
be pleased, we pray,  
to nourish us inwardly by your word,  
that, with spiritual sight made pure,  
we may rejoice to behold your glory.  
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

12:1-4

The Lord said to Abram, ‘Leave your country, your family and  
your father’s house, for the land I will show you. I will make you  
a great nation; I will bless you and make your name so famous  
that it will be used as a blessing.

‘I will bless those who bless you:  
I will curse those who slight you.  
All the tribes of the earth  
shall bless themselves by you.’

So Abram went as the Lord told him.

The word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

### PSALM

Ps 32:4-5.18-20.22. R.v22

**R) May your love be upon us, O Lord,  
as we place all our hope in you.**

The word of the Lord is faithful  
and all his works to be trusted.  
The Lord loves justice and right  
and fills the earth with his love. **(R)**

The Lord looks on those who revere him,  
on those who hope in his love,  
to rescue their souls from death,  
to keep them alive in famine. **(R)**

Our soul is waiting for the Lord.  
The Lord is our help and our shield.  
May your love be upon us, O Lord,  
as we place all our hope in you. **(R)**

### SECOND READING

A reading from the second letter of St Paul to Timothy.

1:8-10

With me, bear the hardships for the sake of the Good News,  
relying on the power of God who has saved us and called us  
to be holy – not because of anything we ourselves have done  
but for his own purpose and by his own grace. This grace had

already been granted to us, in Christ Jesus, before the  
beginning of time, but it has only been revealed by the  
Appearing of our saviour Christ Jesus. He abolished death,  
and he has proclaimed life and immortality through the Good  
News.

The word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Mt 17:5

**Glory and praise to you, O Christ!  
From the bright cloud, the Father’s voice was heard:  
‘This is my Son, the Beloved. Listen to him!’  
Glory and praise to you, O Christ!**

### GOSPEL

Matthew 17:1-9

The Lord be with you.

**And with your spirit.**

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and  
led them up a high mountain where they could be alone. There  
in their presence he was transfigured; his face shone like the  
sun and his clothes became as white as the light. Suddenly  
Moses and Elijah appeared to them; they were talking with him.  
Then Peter spoke to Jesus. ‘Lord,’ he said ‘it is wonderful for  
us to be here; if you wish, I will make three tents here, one for  
you, one for Moses and one for Elijah.’ He was still speaking  
when suddenly a bright cloud covered them with shadow, and  
from the cloud there came a voice which said, ‘This is my Son,  
the Beloved; he enjoys my favour. Listen to him’. When they  
heard this, the disciples fell on their faces, overcome with fear.  
But Jesus came up and touched them. ‘Stand up,’ he said ‘do  
not be afraid.’ And when they raised their eyes they saw no one  
but only Jesus.

As they came down from the mountain Jesus gave them this  
order. ‘Tell no one about the vision until the Son of Man has  
risen from the dead.’

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

### PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

May this sacrifice, O Lord, we pray,  
cleanse us of our faults  
and sanctify your faithful in body and mind  
for the celebration of the paschal festivities.  
Through Christ our Lord.

### COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Mt 17:5

**This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased;  
listen to him.**

### PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

As we receive these glorious mysteries,  
we make thanksgiving to you, O Lord,  
for allowing us while still on earth  
to be partakers even now of the things of heaven.  
Through Christ our Lord.

5TH MARCH 2023

2ND SUNDAY OF LENT (A)

DIVINE OFFICE: WEEK /PROPER

# Our Faith on Sunday

## GOSPEL REFLECTION



Today’s Gospel describes the scene  
of the Transfiguration of Jesus on  
the mountain top. This is probably

one of the most ‘mystical’ passages  
of the New Testament, where Jesus  
reveals himself in his glory to Peter,  
James and John, in the presence also  
of Moses and Elijah. If there was any  
doubt about who Jesus really was,  
then the words coming from the  
cloud: “This is my beloved son in  
whom I am well pleased,” confirmed  
for them who Jesus really was. Jesus  
also reveals to the Apostles that the  
Son of Man is to rise from the dead,  
something which he told them on  
various occasions, but which they  
either didn’t understand, or perhaps  
didn’t want to understand.

What significance does this Gospel  
have for us today? For most  
Christians there are moments of  
light and joy. These moments are

certainly a gift from God which can  
help us in darker times. But we must  
be careful not to try to hang on to  
them at all costs, because Jesus also  
wants us to come down from the  
mountain top, as it were, and to live  
our lives in the midst of the world,  
taking on the crosses that the world  
brings us, above all in the sufferings  
of our brothers and sisters. By doing  
so we will also experience the joy of  
the resurrection.



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



## RE-ENVISAGING THE SOCIAL ROLE OF PROPERTY

118. The world exists for everyone, because  
all of us were born with the same dignity.  
Differences of colour, religion, talent, place  
of birth or residence, and so many others,  
cannot be used to justify the privileges of  
some over the rights of all. As a  
community, we have an obligation to  
ensure that every person lives with dignity  
and has sufficient opportunities for his or  
her integral development.



So let our whole body be preserved in Christ Jesus, and let  
each one of us be subject to our neighbour, according to the  
position and the function they have been given. The strong  
should care for the weak, and the weak should respect the  
strong. The rich should come to the aid of the poor, and the  
poor should give thanks to God for giving them someone to  
help them in their need. Those who are wise should show their  
wisdom in good deeds, rather than in words, and the person of  
humble mind should not bear witness to their own humility  
but leave this task to others. Let those who remain pure in the  
flesh not be boastful, in the knowledge that it is another who  
gives them their self-control.

So, dear brothers and sisters, let us consider for a moment of  
what stuff we are made and what our nature was when we  
came into this world. Let us consider how he who made us and  
formed us led us out from the darkness of the grave into the  
world, preparing all kinds of good things for us even before  
we were born. Since we have all these things from him, we  
should give thanks to him for everything, to whom be glory for  
ever and ever. Amen.

*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

#### Second, 'Transfiguration' Sunday of Lent (Collection for CAFOD)

Sat	4th	10am	St Wilfrid's—	Church Open for Prayers Confessions
Sun	5th	9am	St George's —	Margaret Smith RIP
		10.30am	St Wilfrid's —	Parish Communities' Intention
		3pm	St George's -	Station of the Cross
Mon	6th	2.30pm	St George's —	Rosary Group —All welcome
Tues	7th	10am	St George's—	Angela Menendez RIP
Wed	8th	10am	St Wilfrid's—	Thanksgiving Intention
Thur	9th	10am	St George's —	Mahinda Jeronimus RIP
Fri	10th	10am	St Wilfrid's —	Special Intention

#### Third Sunday of Lent (Friday is the Feast of St Patrick)

Sat	11th	10am	St Wilfrid's—	Church Open for Prayers Confessions
Sun	12th	9am	St George's —	Parish Communities' Intention
		10.30am	St Wilfrid's —	Jim Ayres RIP
		3pm	St George's -	Stations of the Cross

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, Email: [gpalmer2703@gmail.com](mailto:gpalmer2703@gmail.com). 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, Laurey & Richard Stimpson, Nicole McCutchan, Jean Barham-Wyatt, Nellie Oakshott, Jay Jo Emmie & Niall Eames .

#### 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:**

**Le Cunamh De      with the help of God      Le Cunamh De**

On the 4th Sunday of Lent "Laetare", March 19th, Canon Paul will celebrate with us the 10.30am morning mass. This will give an opportunity for all the people from St George's to gather together after their 9am mass, to outline plans and actions for the future of the church at St George's. This is a response to the growing great shortage of priests. Above all it is a providential opportunity for the people of God to grow. As mentioned great and inspiring moments during our seminary preparation. A statement in the Old Testament was "Let my people go". I have occasionally mentioned restoring the use of selective moments of incense at some masses. Incense places special emphasis on God's holiness, sacred moments like the consecration of the mass. One other is the assemble of the faithful. Fr Seamus always highlighted that emphasis, by saying without the faithful we cannot have the rest. We are most grateful to Bob and Martin and all who have guided and facilitated our response. An outline of this is now being prepared, and it is a time for all of us to join in and work together for our good future.

*Fr Rory*

**St George's Last Sunday Charity Breakfasts - Success so far!** With five charity breakfasts now under our hat we have been delighted with the response so far and thank everyone for their support. The initial idea of these breakfasts was to create a regular post-pandemic socialising opportunity for us all while raising much needed funds for charities close to our hearts - we think we are well on our way to achieving this. Especially now people are starting to bring along friends and family to join as well, bring more and spread the word!

**Charities we have supported and amounts raised:** CAFOD £145 (Sept), Royal British Legion £72 (Oct), Children with Cancer £154 (Nov), St Wilfrid's Hospice £145 (Jan) and Hosanna House Children's Pilgrimage Trust £200 (Feb, this includes £66 from 50% of our table sale fundraising). Hosanna House is our dedicated Lent charity so we will add to this amount raised with the Family Stations of the Cross Soup Lunch and the March Breakfast on Sunday 27th.

**Do you have a Charity suggestion** that you would like us to support at one of our future breakfasts? Ideally local or Catholic. **Can you Help occasionally** - we are very much in need of extra team members so we can set up a rota as this event needs at least four people helping monthly and we are not always all available. Speak to Sandra after mass or email [sandraforte40@gmail.com](mailto:sandraforte40@gmail.com)

**Over 50's Club:** Tuesday 28th March we are considering paying a visit to the Emmaus Centre in Portslade. If interested please see Joan or Tel 07873390944 asap. Details to follow. Our afternoon tea last Thursday had a definite "Chinese New Year Theme", the table had a great display of lanterns etc. 25 of us & Fr Rory had a great time. Our next date will be 30th March, theme "Green for the Irish".

**Memorial Plaque at St Wilfrid's:** If you wish a name to be added, please contact the office on 841504. Thank you.

**Dates for your Diary:**

Sun 5th March, 11.30am, Parish Meeting, St W's Church.  
 Sun 5th March, 4-6pm, Confirmation Classes, St G's Hall.  
 Sat 11th March, 10am-3pm, Grand Table Top Sale, St W's Hall.  
 Sat 11th March, 11.30am, Family Stations, St G's Church.  
 Sun 12th March, 4-6pm, Confirmation Classes, St G'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, 5pm, Reconciliation Service, St W's Church.  
 Sun 19th March, After Mass, St G's Parish Mtg, St G's Hall.  
 Sun 26th March, 10am - Charity Breakfast, St G' Hall.

**St Wilfrid's & St George's First Communion Children** will be taking their first reconciliation during our Parish Penitential Service on Sat 18th March, 5pm at St Wilfrid's. Everyone is invited.

**Grand Table Top Sale, St Wilfrid's Hall:** Sat 11th March, 10am-3pm. We have received some goods for sale, but plenty more are needed, we can accept adults/children's clothes. Please pop your donations in the box in the church porch. We also need helpers on the day, please leave your name/time on the list in church porch/hall. Thank you.

**Churches Together Polegate and Willingdon "Pop In"** at St. John's Church Hall Polegate. Social Activities from 10am to 1.30pm every 1st and 3rd Wednesday. Contact Ruth on 01323 485463.

**St Patrick's day** cards are on sale at St George's Church.

**Parish St Patrick's Feast Day - Friday 17th March:** We couldn't let this great Irish day go by without celebrating in the true Irish way. We have arranged an evening of fun, music, singing and dancing. Good food, tea/coffee provided. You may bring your own drink. All for £5 Adults, Children Free. Tickets on sale now after Sunday and weekday masses.

**Family Stations and Soup Lunch Saturday 11th March 11.30am at St George's** - All our children and their families, along with all other parishioners are invited to this child friendly Stations of the Cross - please make every effort to join if you can. The stations will be followed by a homemade soup lunch in the hall. For catering numbers please sign up at the back of church or contact Sandra on 07736 839168/[sandraforte40@gmail.com](mailto:sandraforte40@gmail.com). Other Parish Stations of the Cross during lent at St George's will be held on Sunday 5th March, 12th March and 2nd April (Palm Sunday Stations includes Benediction and refreshments in hall). Also on **Good Friday 7th April** there will be a Family Service with Stations of the cross at 10.30am followed by refreshments and hot cross buns in the hall. All welcome.

**Sunday 26th Feb - Mass Attendance:**

St Wilfrid's 115                      St George's 74