

23RD APRIL 2023

3RD SUNDAY OF EASTER (A)

**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON**

**Cry out with joy to God, all the earth;  
O sing to the glory of his name.  
O render him glorious praise, alleluia.**

Cf. Ps 65:1-2

**THE COLLECT**

May your people exult for ever, O God,  
in renewed youthfulness of spirit,  
so that, rejoicing now in the restored glory of our adoption,  
we may look forward in confident hope  
to the rejoicing of the day of resurrection.  
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 Acts of the Apostles 2:14. 22-33  
On the day of Pentecost Peter stood up with the Eleven and  
addressed the crowd in a loud voice: 'Men of Israel, listen to what  
I am going to say: Jesus the Nazarene was a man commended  
to you by God by the miracles and portents and signs that God  
worked through him when he was among you, as you all know.  
This man, who was put into your power by the deliberate  
intention and foreknowledge of God, you took and had crucified  
by men outside the Law. You killed him, but God raised him to  
life, freeing him from the pangs of Hades; for it was impossible  
for him to be held in its power since, as David says of him:

I saw the Lord before me always,  
for with him at my right hand nothing can shake me.  
So my heart was glad  
and my tongue cried out with joy:  
my body, too, will rest in the hope  
that you will not abandon my soul to Hades  
nor allow your holy one to experience corruption.  
You have made known the way of life to me,  
you will fill me with gladness through your presence.'

'Brothers, no one can deny that the patriarch David himself is dead  
and buried: his tomb is still with us. But since he was a prophet, and  
knew that God had sworn him an oath to make one of his  
descendants succeed him on the throne, what he foresaw and  
spoke about was the resurrection of the Christ; he is the one who  
was not abandoned to Hades, and whose body did not experience  
corruption. God raised this man Jesus to life, and all of us are  
witnesses to that. Now raised to the heights by God's right hand, he  
has received from the Father the Holy Spirit, who was promised,  
and what you see and hear is the outpouring of that Spirit.'

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.****PSALM**

Ps 15:1-2.5.7-11. R.v11

**R) Show us, Lord, the path of life.**

Preserve me, God, I take refuge in you.  
I say to the Lord: 'You are my God.  
O Lord, it is you who are my portion and cup;  
it is you yourself who are my prize.' (R)

I will bless the Lord who gives me counsel,  
who even at night directs my heart.  
I keep the Lord ever in my sight:  
since he is at my right hand, I shall stand firm. (R)

And so my heart rejoices, my soul is glad;  
even my body shall rest in safety.  
For you will not leave my soul among the dead,  
nor let your beloved know decay. (R)

You will show me the path of life,  
the fullness of joy in your presence,  
at your right hand happiness for ever. (R)

**SECOND READING**

A reading from the first letter of St Peter 1:17-21

If you are acknowledging as your Father one who has no  
favourites and judges everyone according to what he has done,  
you must be scrupulously careful as long as you are living away  
from your home. Remember, the ransom that was paid to free  
you from the useless way of life your ancestors handed down was  
not paid in anything corruptible, neither in silver nor gold, but in  
the precious blood of a lamb without spot or stain, namely Christ;  
who, though known since before the world was made, has been  
revealed only in our time, the end of the ages, for your sake.

Through him you now have faith in God, who raised him from  
the dead and gave him glory for that very reason – so that you  
would have faith and hope in God.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.****GOSPEL ACCLAMATION****Alleluia, alleluia!**

Cf. Lk 24:32

**Lord Jesus, explain the scriptures to us.****Make our hearts burn within us as you talk to us.****Alleluia!****GOSPEL**

Luke 24:13-35

The Lord be with you.

**And with your spirit.**

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

Two of the disciples of Jesus were on their way to a village  
called Emmaus, seven miles from Jerusalem, and they were  
talking together about all that had happened. Now as they talked  
this over, Jesus himself came up and walked by their side; but  
something prevented them from recognising him. He said to  
them, 'What matters are you discussing as you walk along?'  
They stopped short, their faces downcast.

Then one of them, called Cleopas answered him, 'You must  
be the only person staying in Jerusalem who does not know the  
things that have been happening there these last few days.'  
'What things?' he asked. 'All about Jesus of Nazareth' they  
answered 'who proved he was a great prophet by the things he  
said and did in the sight of God and of the whole people; and  
how our chief priests and our leaders handed him over to be  
sentenced to death, and had him crucified. Our own hope had  
been that he would be the one to set Israel free. And this is not  
all: two whole days have gone by since it all happened; and  
some women from our group have astounded us; they went to  
the tomb in the early morning, and when they did not find the  
body, they came back to tell us they had seen a vision of angels  
who declared he was alive. Some of our friends went to the  
tomb and found everything exactly as the women had reported,  
but of him they saw nothing.'

Then he said to them, 'You foolish men! So slow to believe the  
full message of the prophets! Was it not ordained that the Christ  
should suffer and so enter into his glory?' Then, starting with  
Moses and going through all the prophets, he explained to them  
the passages throughout the scriptures that were about himself.

When they drew near to the village to which they were going,  
he made as if to go on; but they pressed him to stay with them.  
'It is nearly evening' they said 'and the day is almost over.' So  
he went in to stay with them. Now while he was with them at the  
table, he took the bread and said the blessing; then he broke it  
and handed it to them. And their eyes were opened and they  
recognised him; but he had vanished from their sight. Then they  
said to each other, 'Did not our hearts burn within us as he  
talked to us on the road and explained the scriptures to us?'

They set out that instant and returned to Jerusalem. There  
they found the Eleven assembled together with their  
companions, who said to them, 'Yes, it is true. The Lord has  
risen and has appeared to Simon.' Then they told their story of  
what had happened on the road and how they had recognised  
him at the breaking of the bread.

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.****PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS**

Receive, O Lord, we pray,  
these offerings of your exultant Church,  
and, as you have given her cause for such great gladness,  
grant also that the gifts we bring  
may bear fruit in perpetual happiness.  
Through Christ our Lord.

**COMMUNION ANTIPHON**

Lk 24: 35

**The disciples recognized the Lord Jesus  
in the breaking of the bread, alleluia.**

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Look with kindness upon your people, O Lord,  
and grant, we pray,  
that those you were pleased to renew by eternal mysteries  
may attain in their flesh  
the incorruptible glory of the resurrection.  
Through Christ our Lord.

**GOSPEL REFLECTION**

*"At many moments in the past," we  
read in the Letter to the Hebrews, "  
and by many means, God spoke to our  
ancestors through the prophets; but in  
our time, the final days, He has spoken  
to us in the Person of His Son."* What

unprepared: and when the time  
came, they were prepared! Not all of  
them; indeed, not those who above  
all should have been prepared, the  
priests and leaders. But the humble  
and pure of heart, the faithful, they

a great grace and  
mercy that history  
of revelation, of  
God's teaching  
and instruction  
was – and is!  
God's greatest gift,  
of course, is the  
gift of his Son, our  
Saviour. But so  
great a gift could  
not be given to a  
p e o p l e

were prepared: the shepherds, Peter  
and Andrew, James and John, Mary  
of Magdala, Simeon and Anna,  
Matthew. Even outsiders, non-Jews,  
benefited from the preparation, as  
the *'three wise men'* have  
demonstrated. In today's story, the  
hearts of Cleopas and his companion  
*'burn'* as Jesus *"explains the  
scriptures"*. They are listening – and  
ready for the revelation of the Son!



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

**THE RIGHTS  
OF PEOPLES**

125. This presupposes a different way of  
understanding relations and exchanges between  
countries. If every human being possesses an  
inalienable dignity, if all people are my brothers and  
sisters, and if the world truly belongs to everyone,  
then it matters little whether my neighbour was  
born in my country or elsewhere. My own country  
also shares responsibility for his or her development,  
although it can fulfil that responsibility in a variety  
of ways. It can offer a generous welcome to those in  
urgent need, or work to improve living conditions in  
their native lands by refusing to exploit those  
countries or to drain them of natural resources,  
backing corrupt systems that hinder the dignified  
development of their peoples. What applies to  
nations is true also for different regions within each  
country, since there too great inequalities often exist.  
At times, the inability to recognize equal human  
dignity leads the more developed regions in some  
countries to think that they can jettison the "dead  
weight" of poorer regions and so increase their level  
of consumption.



**Promise Of Good Things**  
**THE ARMY OF GOD**



For our part then, brothers and sisters, we must serve in  
our own army with great commitment, obeying every one  
of its unerring commands.

Let us call to mind those who serve our generals and who  
obey their commands with such perfect order,  
promptness and submission. We know that they are not  
all prefects, tribunes, centurions or even minor officers,  
yet each and every one of them carries out the orders  
issued by the sovereign and the generals, according to the  
rank that they hold. The great can no more exist without  
the small than can the small without the great. There is a  
certain interdependence, and this is what makes  
everything work.

If we consider our body, then we see the same pattern:  
the head is of no use without the feet - nor the feet, for  
that matter, without the head. The smallest parts of our  
body are necessary and valuable for the body as a whole;  
all work and act together in order to preserve the whole  
body.

*Clement's First Letter to the Corinthians*



# PARISH COMMUNITIES OF

## ST GEORGE

Eastbourne Road  
Polegate



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(Answerphone service available)  
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The Arundel & Brighton Diocesan Trust is a Registered Charity No. 252878

## ST WILFRID



### WEEKLY SERVICES

#### Third Sunday of Easter

##### Next week, collection for the Education of Future Priests

Sat 22nd	10am	St Wilfrid's—	Church Open for Prayers & Confessions
Sun 23rd	9am	St George's —	SK John Gallagher PGK, PFN RIP
	10.30am	St Wilfrid's —	Parish Communities' Intention
Mon 24th	2.30pm	St George's —	Rosary Group —All welcome
Tues 25th	10am	St George's—	John & David Simmonds RIP
Wed 26th	10am	St Wilfrid's—	Geoff & Anita Stone RIP
Thurs 27th	10am	St George's —	John & Paul Bree RIP
Fri 28th	10am	St Wilfrid's —	Parish Communities' Intention

#### Fourth 'Good Shepherd' Sunday of Easter

##### Collection for the Education of Future Priests Today

Sat 29th	10am	St Wilfrid's—	Church Open for Prayers & Confessions
Sun 30th	9am	St George's —	Fred Rebello RIP
	10.30am	St Wilfrid's —	Clodagh Coleman RIP (1st 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#\\_=\\_](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/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.

#### Parish Safeguarding Reps:

St George's: Kelly - 07967562110

St Wilfrid's: Maria - 07873759962

**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.

#### 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.

Such a special occasion; indeed a great privilege to have been there. The food was so good, indeed delicious, yet the occasion was so, so sad. Kay's acknowledgement "she was heart broken as the Link had come to a close". After years of love and care, a sanctuary for those in need, a port of call as a Christian outreach to Hailsham and beyond. It expressed its belief in actions; always spoke louder than words, an open door. Ron will continue his outreach from the Christian bookshop for the moment and we will always keep them in our thoughts and prayers. It brought Anne Fielder to the foremost part of my mind, as she was always so involved in everything good that happened in our parish. It helps me to strengthen hope that our parish communities continue to refocus and grow. I believe Pentecost this year will be truly important. Let us walk and work together for a new Pentecost, for a revived journey of life, love and faith.

The Feast of St George brings with it an opportunity to highlight our shared journey. So the Mass at St George's will be followed by tea and cake, thanks to Shirley and friends. It presents us with an opportunity to share new steps on our journey. We look forward to the work of our parish council.

A sad note to end. We have been informed Anita Stone has died; with her husband Geoff, they too made a great contribution to the life of our parish.



**St George's Parishioners:** Join us this morning for a cuppa, piece of cake and a good natter in the hall after Mass to celebrate our patron saint St George's feast day.

**This years walking pilgrimage** is going from Bristol to Arundel from August 12th-27th 2023. Cost is £300 (£225 for under 21's). We are especially looking for more young people to join us. For more information go to [www.PilgrimsLive.org.uk](http://www.PilgrimsLive.org.uk) or tel: 07707513847.

**Parish Last Sunday Charity Breakfast, April 30th**, St George's Hall at 10am after mass, all funds raised will go to our local RNLI. These breakfasts are proving very popular with parishioners and their friends and family. Please encourage others to join us, they don't have to be at mass to attend, everyone is welcome, **spread the word**. Sausage and bacon baps and croissants and cake are all on offer along with a lovely cuppa and a good chat and laugh.

**A BIG THANK YOU** to all our parishioners, friends and family who have supported our Lent Charity, the local branch of HCPT (Hosanna House and Children's Pilgrimage Trust). So far we have raised over £550, achieved through a variety of fundraisers across both churches including; two last Sunday charity breakfasts, the family stations soup lunch and 50% of table sale takings in lent at St George's; and the Children's lent in a bag smartie tubes filled with coins and the Pound Cross at St Wilfrid's. We are still accepting donations to this charity if anyone wants to boost our total and the Pound Cross will remain in situ for more to be added. It costs around £850 for HCPT to provide a life-changing week-long pilgrimage holiday to Lourdes for disabled and disadvantaged young people. If you want to find out more about HCPT visit the website [www.hcpt.org.uk](http://www.hcpt.org.uk).

#### Dates for your Diary:

Thur 27th April, 2-4pm, Over 50's Club, St W's Hall.  
 Fri 28th April, 11-12pm, Parish Bereavement Gp, St W's Hall.  
 Sun 30th April, 10am - Charity Breakfast, St G's Hall.  
 Sun 30th April, 4-6pm, Confirmation Classes, St G's Hall.  
 Sun 14th May, 10.30am, Parish 1st Holy Com, St W's Church.  
 Sun 14th May, 4-6pm, Confirmation Classes, St G's Hall.  
 Sun 21st May, 10.30am, 1st Com B/fast, St W's Hall after Mass.  
 Sun 28th May, 4-6pm, Confirmation Classes, St G's Hall.  
 Sun 11th June, 3pm, Sponsored Walk, St G's to St W's Hall.

**Parish Over 50's Club:** Next afternoon tea will be Thurs 27th April, 2-4pm, St W's Hall. The theme will be Red for St George. All the usual fun for £5.

**Mon 24th April (tomorrow), Bluebell Walk:** A few places available, see or ring Joan 07873390944. We leave St Wilfrid's Car Park at 10am, return 4pm £10. Charity is "Demelza Hospice Care for Children".

**Tue 9th May, Emmaus Centre in Portslade:** £15. We leave St Wilfrid's Car Park 10am, pick up St George's Car Park 10.30am, return 4pm.

**Sat 24th June, Headcorn Aerodrome in Kent:** £20. We leave St Wilfrid's Car Park 10am, return 4pm. We will visit the Aerodrome, have tea/coffee in the village and a pub lunch.

For any of these outings please see or ring Joan on 07873390944. Thank you.

**Parish Sponsored Walk:** On June 11th we will be having a sponsored walk from St George's Polegate to St Wilfrid's Hailsham via the Cuckoo Trail with refreshments after in St Wilfrid's Hall. Starting time is 3pm from St George's car park. This is an event that all ages can take part in, you can walk as an individual or as a family. Forms are available in the Porch. If whoever is sponsoring you is a UK taxpayer they can gift aid their donation. We will be raising funds for the Foodbank and Church funds split 50/50. We will be needing stewards on the day to walk, also we will be asking for cakes and helpers in St Wilfrid's Hall. Please sign up if you can help.

**St George's Remembrance Garden:** Last weekend a tidy up of our garden took place after the long winter. The roses have been pruned and the border mulched. Around Our Lady's statue the border was tidied and the gravel area weeded. Dying plants and flowers were removed. Can we respectfully request that if you leave a plant or flowers (no false flowers please), you water it and remove it once it has finished. This way the garden always looks well cared for. Thank you.

**Sunday 16th April - Mass Attendance:**

St Wilfrid's 105

St George's 70