

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Proclaim a joyful sound and let it be heard;
proclaim to the ends of the earth:
The Lord has freed his people, alleluia.

Cf. Is 48:20

THE COLLECT

Grant, almighty God,
that we may celebrate with heartfelt devotion
these days of joy,
which we keep in honour of the risen Lord,
and that what we relive in remembrance
we may always hold to in what we do.
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.

8:5-8.14-17

Philip went to a Samaritan town and proclaimed the Christ to them. The people united in welcoming the message Philip preached, either because they had heard of the miracles he worked or because they saw them for themselves. There were, for example, unclean spirits that came shrieking out of many who were possessed, and several paralytics and cripples were cured. As a result there was great rejoicing in that town.

When the apostles in Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them, and they went down there, and prayed for the Samaritans to receive the Holy Spirit, for as yet he had not come down on any of them: they had only been baptised in the name of the Lord Jesus. Then they laid hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

PSALM

Ps 65:1-7.16.20. R.v1

R) Cry out with joy to God all the earth.

Cry out with joy to God all the earth,
O sing to the glory of his name.
O render him glorious praise.
Say to God: 'How tremendous your deeds! **(R)**

'Before you all the earth shall bow;
shall sing to you, sing to your name!
Come and see the works of God,
tremendous his deeds among men. **(R)**

He turned the sea into dry land,
they passed through the river dry-shod.
Let our joy then be in him;
he rules for ever by his might. **(R)**

Come and hear, all who fear God.
I will tell what he did for my soul:
Blessed be God who did not reject my prayer
nor withhold his love from me. **(R)**

SECOND READING

A reading from the first letter of St Peter.

3:15-18

Reverence the Lord Christ in your hearts, and always have your answer ready for people who ask you the reason for the hope that you all have. But give it with courtesy and respect and with a clear conscience, so that those who slander you when you are living a good life in Christ may be proved wrong in the accusations that they bring. And if it is the will of God that you

should suffer, it is better to suffer for doing right than doing wrong.

Why, Christ himself, innocent though he was, had died once for sins, died for the guilty, to lead us to God. In the body he was put to death, in the spirit he was raised to life.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

Jn 14:23

**Jesus said: 'If anyone loves me he will keep my word,
and my Father will love him, and we shall come to him.'
Alleluia!**

GOSPEL

John 14:15-21

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

Jesus said to his disciples:

'If you love me you will keep my commandments.
I shall ask the Father,
and he will give you another Advocate
to be with you for ever,
that Spirit of truth
whom the world can never receive
since it neither sees nor knows him;
but you know him,
because he is with you, he is in you.
I will not leave you orphans;
I will come back to you.
In a short time the world will no longer see me;
but you will see me,
because I live and you will live.
On that day
you will understand that I am in my Father
and you in me and I in you.
Anybody who receives my commandments and keeps them
will be one who loves me;
and anybody who loves me will be loved by my Father,
and I shall love him and show myself to him.'

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

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

May our prayers rise up to you, O Lord,
together with the sacrificial offerings,
so that, purified by your graciousness,
we may be conformed to the mysteries of your mighty love.
Through Christ our Lord.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Jn 14:15-16

**If you love me, keep my commandments,
says the Lord,
and I will ask the Father and he will send
you another Paraclete,
to abide with you for ever, alleluia.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Almighty ever-living God,
who restore us to eternal life in the Resurrection of Christ,
increase in us, we pray, the fruits of this paschal Sacrament
and pour into our hearts the strength of this
saving food.
Through Christ our Lord.

Our Faith on Sunday

GOSPEL REFLECTION



"Yes, my yoke is easy and my burden light," Jesus says of his teaching, of his commandments. *"If you love me, you will keep my commandments."* Yes, love makes all things easy, Divine Love. Jesus' commandments are very clear; they are not his own

commands, he tells us. They are his Father's, the Creator of human nature, Who tells us, by this means, what makes for human happiness and fulfillment. The Greek word for sin (not keeping the commandments) hamartia can be translated: *not up to*

the mark, a good description of what it means to fail to keep the commandments. Those who have received the commandments and, through prayer and faithfulness, keep them, in spite of difficulties, for love



POPE FRANCIS' ENCYCLICAL
FRATELLI TUTTI
BROTHERS AND SISTERS ALL



THE RIGHTS OF PEOPLES

128. If the conviction that all human beings are brothers and sisters is not to remain an abstract idea but to find concrete embodiment, then numerous related issues emerge, forcing us to see things in a new light and to develop new responses.



Help us to place our hope in your name, O Lord, which is the source of all creation, and to open the eyes of our heart to recognize that you alone are the highest in the highest, the holy One who abides among the holy. It is you who crush the pride of the arrogant and reduce to nothing the plans of the nations. You raise up on high those who are brought low and bring down those who are raised up. You bring riches to some and allow others to go poor. Some you slay, while to others you give new life. You alone are the searcher of spirits and are the God of all flesh. You gaze into the depths and see all that we do. You come to the help of those in danger and save those in despair. You are the Creator of every spirit, and you watch over them all. You have increased the nations over all the earth and from them you have chosen those who love you through Jesus Christ, your beloved Child. Through him you have taught us, you have made us holy and have brought us honour.

Clement's First Letter to the Corinthians



PARISH COMMUNITIES OF

ST GEORGE

Eastbourne Road
Polegate



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

ST WILFRID

South Road
Hailsham



WEEKLY SERVICES

Sixth Sunday of Easter (Collection today for Missionary Endeavour of the Diocese)

Sat 13th	10am	St Wilfrid's—	Church Open for Prayers & Confessions
Sun 14th	9am	St George's —	GCSE & A Level Students Intention
	10.30am	St Wilfrid's —	Margaret Nevill Intention
Mon 15th	2.30pm	St George's —	Rosary Group —All welcome
Tues 16th	10am	St George's—	Private Intention
Wed 17th	10am	St Wilfrid's—	Mrs Mary Brown & Mrs Elsie Brown RIP
Thurs 18th	10am	St George's —	Feast of the Ascension , Donor's Intention
	12pm	St Wilfrid's -	Feast of the Ascension , Dorothy Blake RIP
Fri 19th	10am	St Wilfrid's —	Simon Davis Anniversary RIP

Seventh Sunday of Easter

(Today, Collection for World Communications Sunday)

Sat 20th	10am	St Wilfrid's—	Church Open for Prayers & Confessions
Sun 21st	9am	St George's —	Parish Youth Group Intention
	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/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.
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.

Fr Rory Writes:

With the Help of God

Our initial meeting of our parish council got off to a good start on Tuesday evening in the church. Its role and above all its responsibility will be of great importance and will please God, be a great gift, very beneficial for our parish in the years to come. The awareness that a body is made up of many parts, but working together is most beneficial; hence please God, core groups will enable this to bear fruit.

This coming Thursday to the Feast of the Ascension, with its focus upon the words of Jesus "It is good for you that I should go, for I will send the Holy Spirit, hence Feast of Pentecost" the most important event in the life of our church.

Fr Rory

Parish Sponsored Walk: June 11th Start time 3pm - collect your sponsorship form today from welcomers.

All parishioners, their friends and families are invited to take part in the sponsored walk. We will start promptly at 3pm from St George's Car Park Polegate and walk via the Cuckoo Trail to St Wilfrid's Hailsham (approx 3miles). At St Wilfrid's we will be greeted by those who couldn't walk with delicious cakes and refreshments. Fundraising is to be split 50/50: Hailsham and Eastbourne Foodbank, who will need more than ever during school holiday time this year; and Parish Church funds, much needed at this time with rising costs and often lower collections. Joan is already organising a team of helpers for the refreshments (the ones who cannot walk so far) and rattling a sponsor pot for these good causes, please give generously.

Volunteers for Stewarding are also needed please speak to Sandra at St Georges or Jean at St Wilfrid's if you can help. This is an event that all ages can take part in, let's make this a whole Parish effort, if you can't walk join us at 4pm onwards anyway.

The Parish Rosary Group meets every Monday at 2pm in St George's Hall (not bank holidays). Everyone is welcome to join as a regular or occasional member to Pray the Rosary a most wonderful devotion together. May is the Month of Our Lady so a good time to start.

The entire month of May is dedicated to Our Lady and once again we celebrate this at both our Parish churches with our children placing a Crown on Her head whilst we all sing.

2023 Sacrament of Confirmation for young people - our parish is delighted to be instructing 12 local young Catholics for Confirmation. Please keep our candidates in your prayers.

Parish Youth Group - to all our 13+ youth and their parents/carers who joined us last October to launch the group, please accept our apologies for not yet delivering on promises made for some fun activities. Our focus was diverted to confirmation group instruction and general social support in the church. We hope to plan a couple of good events soon. All 13+ youth can join this group text or email Sandra on 07791 627368 / sandraforte40@gmail.com.

Sun 21st May: 10.30am Mass at St W's, 1st Holy Com. Certificates and books given back, followed by 1st Holy Communion Breakfast in St W's Hall.

Dates for your Diary:

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.
Wed 24th May, 6.30pm, Fundraising/Social Comm, St W's Hall
Thurs 25th May, 2-4pm, Over 50's Club, St W's Hall.
Fri 26th May, 11-12pm, Parish Bereavement Gp, St W's Hall.
Sun 28th May, 10am - Charity Breakfast, St G's Hall.
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.
Sun 11th June, 4-6pm, Confirmation Classes, St G's Hall.

Parish Fund Raising and Social Committee Meeting on Wednesday 24th May at 6.30pm in St Wilfrid's Hall to finalise the Sponsored Walk.

DEANERY CONFIRMATION MASS : We would love to have a **group of singers and musicians from across the Deanery** for the Deanery Confirmation on Sunday 18th June 3pm (arrive 2pm) at the Cathedral. There will be a rehearsal on Saturday 3rd June at 11am in Eastbourne. All who wish to be involved contact Marylou Cockshoot on marylou.cockshoot@gmail.com by 27th May.

The Charity Breakfast: Our next breakfast Sunday 28th May 10am after mass. Charity for May is Kipling Children's Ward. They are raising money for the Children's communal courtyards so our fundraising will be used for purchasing plants/garden features. ALL WELCOME

Table Sale - St George's table sale is in need of more donations of new/nearly new items that can easily be placed on the table, please leave at the back of the church or under the table in the hall. Or even placed directly on table if space permits. Thank you

The Link: As we know the Link closed due to Ron & Kay's retirement. An answer to many prayers; a caterer will be renting the coffee shop for 3 months, opening in June. Serving Tea/coffee/cakes, no hot meals. Please do support her, to help her make a good go of it. Thank you.

Parish Over 50's Club: Next afternoon tea will be Thurs 25th May, 2-4pm, St W's Hall. £5

Sunday 7th May - Mass Attendance:
St Wilfrid's 122 St George's 70