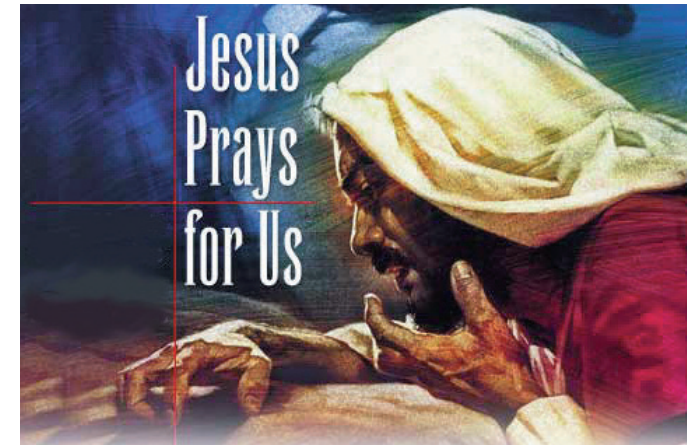




Our Faith on Sunday

GOSPEL REFLECTION



In this Gospel passage Our Lord speaks with joy: “*Father,*” he says, “*I have glorified you on earth and finished the work you gave me to do*”. He has in fact not yet suffered the agony in Gethsemane or the crucifixion, his

passion. He was showing his disciples – and those who came after – how, for the spiritual man or woman, “accomplishment” lies in the will. So St. Thomas More, in the boat on the way to the Tower where he would be asked to take the oath that Henry was head of the Church in England, and would refuse, said to his son-in-law, “*Son Roper, I thank the Lord the field is won*”. The struggle was over, he was at peace, at one with what God was

asking of him. Our Lord, although he still has Gethsemane ahead of him, is always entirely ‘one’ with the will and the mind of his Father; at the Last Supper the battle for our salvation is already won. Jesus reminds his followers, that glory is the reward of a will that is one with the Father’s will: the battle may be hard, but the reward is great; “*Keep those you have given me true to your name, so that they may be one like us.*”



POPE FRANCIS’ ENCYCLICAL
FRATELLI TUTTI
BROTHERS AND SISTERS ALL



BORDERS AND THEIR LIMITS

129. Complex challenges arise when our neighbour happens to be an immigrant.¹⁰⁹ Ideally, unnecessary migration ought to be avoided; this entails creating in countries of origin the conditions needed for a dignified life and integral development. Yet until substantial progress is made in achieving this goal, we are obliged to respect the right of all individuals to find a place that meets their basic needs and those of their families, and where they can find personal fulfilment. Our response to the arrival of migrating persons can be summarized by four words: welcome, protect, promote and integrate. For “it is not a case of implementing welfare programmes from the top down, but rather of undertaking a journey together, through these four actions, in order to build cities and countries that, while preserving their respective cultural and religious identity, are open to differences and know how to promote them in the spirit of human fraternity”.¹¹⁰

¹⁰⁹. Cf. CATHOLIC BISHOPS OF MEXICO AND THE UNITED STATES, A Pastoral Letter Concerning Migration: “Strangers No Longer Together on the Journey of Hope” (January 2003).
¹¹⁰. General Audience (3 April 2019): L’Osservatore Romano, 4 April 2019, p. 8.

Promise Of Good Things WHAT SHALL WE GIVE IN RETURN?

What, then, shall we give him in return, or what shall we offer that will be worthy of what he has given us? How great a debt of holiness we owe him! He gave us the light, he called us his ‘child’ as a father does, he saved us when we faced destruction. How, then, shall we praise him or repay him for all that we have received? We were in a state of mental blindness. We worshipped stones and pieces of wood, not to mention gold, silver and copper: the works of human hands. Our whole life was nothing other than death. We were immersed in thick darkness, and mist completely obscured our vision. But we were given back our sight, and it was his will that we should be free of that cloud which surrounded us. He had pity on us, and he saved us in his mercy. What he saw was the great error and destruction which was within us, and that we had no hope of salvation apart from him. For he called us when we were not, and it was his will that we should come to be.

Clement’s Second Letter to the Corinthians

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Cf. Ps 26:7-9

**O Lord, hear my voice, for I have called to you;
of you my heart has spoken: Seek his face;
hide not your face from me, alleluia.**

THE COLLECT

Graciously hear our supplications, O Lord, so that we, who believe that the Saviour of the human race is with you in your glory, may experience, as he promised, until the end of the world, his abiding presence among us. 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

1:12-14

After Jesus was taken up into heaven, the apostles went back from the Mount of Olives, as it is called, to Jerusalem, a short distance away, no more than a sabbath walk; and when they reached the city they went to the upper room where they were staying; there were Peter and John, James and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus and Simon the Zealot, and Jude son of James. All these joined in continuous prayer, together with several women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, and with his brothers.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

PSALM

Ps 26:1.4.7-8. R.v13

**R) I am sure I shall see the Lord’s goodness
in the land of the living.**

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)**

O Lord, hear my voice when I call;
have mercy and answer.
Of you my heart has spoken;
‘Seek his face.’ **(R)**

SECOND READING

A reading from the first letter of St Peter.

4:13-16

If you can have some share in the sufferings of Christ, be glad, because you will enjoy a much greater gladness when his glory is revealed. It is a blessing for you when they insult you for bearing the name of Christ, because it means that you have the Spirit of glory, the Spirit of God resting on you. None of you should ever deserve to suffer for being a murderer, a thief, a criminal or an informer; but if anyone of you should suffer for being a Christian, then he is not to be ashamed of it; he should thank God that he has been called one.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

Cf. Jn 14:18

**I will not leave you orphans, says the Lord;
I will come back to you, and your hearts will be full of joy.
Alleluia!**

GOSPEL

John 17:1-11

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

Jesus raised his eyes to heaven and said:

‘Father, the hour has come:
glorify your Son
so that your Son may glorify you;
and, through the power over all mankind that
you have given him,
let him give eternal life to all those you have entrusted to him.
And eternal life is this:
to know you,
the only true God,
and Jesus Christ whom you have sent.
I have glorified you on earth
and finished the work
that you gave me to do.
Now, Father, it is time for you to glorify me
with that glory I had with you
before ever the world was.
I have made your name known
to the men you took from the world to give me.
They were yours and you gave them to me,
and they have kept your word.
Now at last they know
that all you have given me comes indeed from you;
for I have given them
the teaching you gave to me,
and they have truly accepted this, that I came from you,
and have believed that it was you who sent me.
I pray for them:
I am not praying for the world
but for those you have given me,
because they belong to you:
all I have is yours
and all you have is mine,
and in them I am glorified.
I am not in the world any longer,
but they are in the world,
and I am coming to you.’

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

Accept, O Lord, the prayers of your faithful
with the sacrificial offerings,
that through these acts of devotedness
we may pass over to the glory of heaven.
Through Christ our Lord.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Jn 17:22

**Father, I pray that they may be one
as we also are one, alleluia.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Hear us, O God our Saviour,
and grant us confidence,
that through these sacred mysteries
there will be accomplished in the body of the whole Church
what has already come to pass in Christ her Head.
Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.



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

Seventh Sunday of Easter

(Collection today 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
Mon 22nd	2.30pm	St George's —	Rosary Group —All welcome
Tues 23rd	10am	St George's—	Margaret Rose O'Brien RIP
Wed 24th	10am	St Wilfrid's—	Richard Ng RIP
Thurs 25th	10am	St George's —	Felix Harbert Chetwynd RIP
Fri 26th	10am	St Wilfrid's —	Norman & Angela Wright RIP

Pentecost

Sat 27th	10am	St Wilfrid's—	Church Open for Prayers & Confessions
Sun 28th	9am	St George's —	Parish Communities' Intention
	10.30am	St Wilfrid's —	Bridie Ginn 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, 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 and Jean Molloy.

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:**'As Good as Gold'**

and with the help of God, far more valuable. We had our first parish council meeting to lay out the tasks and responsibilities. To focus our care for our parish and with the help of God "bear fruit, fruit that will last". Jesus could not be clearer "by their fruits you shall know them, good trees bear good fruit".

For years now there has been question marks about the number of priests that are available to serve in our parishes. An honest assessment is that in the prevailing circumstances a great shortage, not likely to change any time soon. Now with the help of God, we will respond to our present circumstances and the Lord will provide.

Two thousand years ago, the church was in exactly the same situation, coping with the circumstances of their time. One idea they came up with was deacons, God's grace always works in other ways. The greatest obstacle always is human nature effected by the sin of Adam.

Fr Rory

Parish Sponsored Walk: June 11th Start time 3pm: All parishioners, friends and families please join this sponsored walk. We will start 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 and warm hospitality from Joan and her refreshments team with delicious cakes and a cuppa.

Fundraising is very important: Sponsor forms are available at the back of church please gather as many sponsors as you can from friends and family. We are raising funds, 50/50 for: 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.

Young & Old Unite - all our parishioners whatever age and their families are welcome to join us. Our Confirmation candidates will all be there and as they are not all from our parish we want them to meet as many of us as they can - this will be great for all ages, let's make this a whole Parish effort, if you can't walk join us at 4pm onwards anyway in St Wilfrid's hall.

Important - the Parish Fundraising and Social Committee Meeting is being held on Wednesday 24th May at 6.30pm in St Wilfrid's Hall. We will focus on finalising the Sponsored Walk.

Urgent - more parishioners from both St George's and St Wilfrid's are needed to join our social committee and even more importantly help the team for future events. If you can't attend the meeting or be part of the committee but can offer your help for events, speak to Jean at St Wilfrid's or Sandra at St George's after mass or email the parish office with your name and contact details to pass on to the committee.

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. The Deanery service is at 3pm in Arundel Cathedral all are welcome

Parish Youth Group - to all our 13+ youth and their parents/carers we hope to plan a couple of good events in autumn please contact Sandra on 07791 627368 / sandraforte40@gmail.com if you want to be part of this group and were not at the meeting last October.

Dates for your Diary:

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 B/fast - Kipling Ward, St G's Hall.
Sun 28th May, 4-6pm, Confirmation Classes, St G's Hall.
Sun 4th June, 11.30am, St W's Parish Meeting, St W's Church.
Sun 4th June, 10am - Charity B/fast - Foodbank/Parish, St G's
Sun 11th June, 3pm, Sponsored Walk, St G's to St W's Hall.
Sun 18th June, 3pm, Confirmation, Arundel Cathedral.

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

Parish Over 50's Club: Next afternoon tea will be Thurs 25th May, 2-4pm, St W's Hall. £5. Unfortunately we cancelled the trip to Headcorn, due to lack of interest. We are now arranging a trip to Staverton Nursery, now re-open after the fire. Either Mon 19th or 26th June, dates to be confirmed. If interested please contact Joan on 07873390944.

Thank you to Teresa, Annette & Sophie for arranging our Parish First Holy Communion last Sunday. Everything was just perfect, the church was packed, sun shining, and the children all enjoyed the service. Don't forget you are all invited to our First Communion Breakfast in St Wilfrid's hall today after Mass.

St Wilfrid's: We welcome Lulu back, she was greatly missed for her part in clearing away after an event and of course looking after our beautiful plants around the church. Many of us have been off sick after accidents etc. so we welcome them all back due to many prayers.

Sunday 14th May - Mass Attendance:

St Wilfrid's 180

St George's 82