

28TH MAY 2023

PENTECOST SUNDAY (A)

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

**The Spirit of the Lord has filled the whole world
and that which contains all things
understands what is said, alleluia.**

Wis 1:7

THE COLLECT

O God, who by the mystery of today's great feast sanctify your whole Church in every people and nation, pour out, we pray, the gifts of the Holy Spirit across the face of the earth and, with the divine grace that was at work when the Gospel was first proclaimed, fill now once more the hearts of believers. 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

2:1-11

When Pentecost day came round, the apostles had all met in one room, when suddenly they heard what sounded like a powerful wind from heaven, the noise of which filled the entire house in which they were sitting; and something appeared to them that seemed like tongues of fire; these separated and came to rest on the head of each of them. They were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and began to speak foreign languages as the Spirit gave them the gift of speech.

Now there were devout men living in Jerusalem from every nation under heaven, and at this sound they all assembled, each one bewildered to hear these men speaking his own language. They were amazed and astonished. 'Surely' they said 'all these men speaking are Galileans? How does it happen that each of us hears them in his own native language? Parthians, Medes and Elamites; people from Mesopotamia, Judaea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya round Cyrene; as well as visitors from Rome - Jews and proselytes alike - Cretans and Arabs; we hear them preaching in our own language about the marvels of God.'

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

PSALM

Ps 103:1.24. 29-31. 34. R.cf v30

**R) Send forth your Spirit, O Lord,
and renew the face of the earth.**

Bless the Lord, my soul!
Lord God, how great you are.
How many are your works, O Lord!
The earth is full of your riches. **(R)**

You take back your spirit, they die,
returning to the dust from which they came.
You send forth your spirit, they are created;
and you renew the face of the earth. **(R)**

May the glory of the Lord last for ever!
May the Lord rejoice in his works!
May my thoughts be pleasing to him.
I find my joy in the Lord. **(R)**

SECOND READING

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians
12:3-7. 12-13

No one can say, 'Jesus is Lord' unless he is under the influence of the Holy Spirit.

There is a variety of gifts but always the same Spirit; there are all sorts of service to be done, but always to the same Lord; working in all sorts of different ways in different people, it is the same God who is working in all of them. The particular way in which the Spirit is given to each person is for a good purpose.

Just as a human body, though it is made up of many parts, is a single unit because all these parts, though many, make one body, so it is with Christ. In the one Spirit we were all baptised, Jews as well as Greeks, slaves as well as citizens, and one Spirit was given to us all to drink.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

SEQUENCE

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

**Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful
and kindle in them the fire of your love.
Alleluia!**

GOSPEL

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John 20:19-23

In the evening of the first day of the week, the doors were closed in the room where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews. Jesus came and stood among them. He said to them, 'Peace be with you,' and showed them his hands and his side. The disciples were filled with joy when they saw the Lord, and he said to them again, 'Peace be with you.'

'As the Father sent me,
so am I sending you.'

After saying this he breathed on them and said:

'Receive the Holy Spirit.
For those whose sins you forgive,
they are forgiven;
for those whose sins you retain,
they are retained.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

Grant, we pray, O Lord,
that, as promised by your Son,
the Holy Spirit may reveal to us more abundantly
the hidden mystery of this sacrifice
and graciously lead us into all truth.
Through Christ our Lord.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

**They were all filled with the Holy Spirit
and spoke of the marvels of God, alleluia.**

Acts 2:4,11

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

O God, who bestow heavenly gifts upon your Church,
safeguard, we pray, the grace you have given,
that the gift of the Holy Spirit poured out upon her
may retain all its force
and that this spiritual food
may gain her abundance of eternal redemption.
Through Christ our Lord.

28TH MAY 2023

PENTECOST (A)

DIVINE OFFICE: WEEK 4/PROPER

Our Faith on Sunday

GOSPEL REFLECTION



Today's Gospel reading is a brief but very important one. Jesus had promised his disciples that when he returned to the Father he would send his Holy Spirit to them. As often in the Gospel, the disciples were taken by surprise, even though Jesus had promised or forewarned them of something. Jesus was no longer with them. The disciples felt alone and afraid and so had hidden themselves away from the Jews, in fear of their lives. Knowing how they were feeling, Jesus appears before them and bestows his peace upon them to calm them down and to prepare them for the long-promised gift of the Holy Spirit. Jesus 'breathed on them'. The word 'breathe' is often associated with the Holy Spirit. A breath is something gentle and silent, but it is also life-giving - without breath we cannot live.

Without God, we are spiritually dead and we need the gentle breath of the Holy Spirit to revive us. Jesus says to the disciples: "Receive the Holy Spirit," and immediately goes on to speak about the forgiveness of sins. At first glance it may seem rather incongruous to link the Holy Spirit with sin. But on reflection, the life of God cannot grow in us if we are burdened with sin. All of us, if we want to receive the life-giving breath of the Spirit, need first to make an offering of our sins to God.



POPE FRANCIS' ENCYCLICAL
FRATELLI TUTTI
BROTHERS AND SISTERS ALL



BORDERS AND THEIR LIMITS

130. This implies taking certain indispensable steps, especially in response to those who are fleeing grave humanitarian crises. As examples, we may cite: increasing and simplifying the granting of visas; adopting programmes of individual and community sponsorship; opening humanitarian corridors for the most vulnerable refugees; providing suitable and dignified housing; guaranteeing personal security and access to basic services; ensuring adequate consular assistance and the right to retain personal identity documents; equitable access to the justice system; the possibility of opening bank accounts and the guarantee of the minimum needed to survive; freedom of movement and the possibility of employment; protecting minors and ensuring their regular access to education; providing for programmes of temporary guardianship or shelter; guaranteeing religious freedom; promoting integration into society; supporting the reuniting of families; and preparing local communities for the process of integration.¹¹¹

111. Cf. Message for the 2018 World Day of Migrants and Refugees (14 January 2018): AAS 109 (2017), 918-923.

Promise Of Good Things A BLESSING

And now may God, who sees all things, who is Master of spirits and Lord of all flesh, and who chose the Lord Jesus Christ and us through him to be his very own people, grant to every soul which has received the invocation of his sublime and holy name, the gifts of faith, fear, peace, patient endurance, self-control, purity and moderation. May we thus be pleasing to his name through our high-priest, the champion of our race, Jesus Christ. For it is through this same Christ that all will receive glory and majesty, might and honour, both now and for all ages to come.

*Clement's First Letter to the
Corinthians*



PARISH COMMUNITIES OF

ST GEORGE

Eastbourne Road
Polegate



Parish Priest: Fr. Rory Kelly
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(Answerphone service available)
Email: ssgeorge.wilfrid@btinternet.com
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The Arundel & Brighton Diocesan Trust is a Registered Charity No. 252878

ST WILFRID

South Road
Hailsham



WEEKLY SERVICES

Pentecost			
Sat 27th	10am	St Wilfrid's—	Church Open for Prayers & Confessions
Sun 28th	9am	St George's —	Filomena Forte RIP
	10.30am	St Wilfrid's —	Bridie Ginn Intention
	2.30pm	St George's —	Rosary Group —All welcome
Mon 29th	10am	St George's—	Dolly, Dudley & David Rudd RIP
Tues 30th	10am	St Wilfrid's—	Julliet Lusted Intention
Wed 31st	6pm	St Wilfrid's -	Parish Council Meeting
	10am	St George's —	Donor's Intention
Thurs 1st	10am	St Wilfrid's —	Holy Souls' Intention
Fri 2nd	10am	St Wilfrid's —	Holy Souls' Intention
The Most Holy Trinity			
Sat 3rd	10am	St Wilfrid's—	Church Open for Prayers & Confessions
Sun 4th	9am	St George's —	Parish Communities' Intention
	10.30am	St Wilfrid's —	Peter Robinson RIP

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, 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:

The Feast of Pentecost

“Once more the day of Pentecost has come”

With it is the awareness that actions speak louder than words, praying in tongues is a real gift of the spirit and has great benefits. Expectation, wanting to act in the light of the spirit are steps to revive and strengthen faith. Communication, sharing our hope and expectations, a most important step in the right direction. This Sunday we will share our names at St Wilfrid's. We have done this previously, and will bear fruit in our parish. We will continue to develop and grow our plans for the future.

On Wednesday at 6pm we will have a parish council meeting, that will be of benefit for our future. There are good ideas with important plans to structure, support and bring to fruition suggestions that are being made. In time it will form a fruitful coherent strategy. This evening I will be attending an overnight stay, and will be involved with Bishop Richard and the plans that are being formed for the Diocese. So this is a time of importance for a real alive active parish community to develop and grow. Some have already engaged; preparation for our liturgies, children's liturgy, social activities and our parish sponsored walk are preparing the way for an active living and sharing of faith. Streaming will come to play an important part in this, as with our website, the way of things for the future.

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.

Parish 1st Holy Communion Breakfast: We had 4 children making their 1st Holy Communion this year. The whole parish was invited to join them in St Wilfrid's Hall. The tables were set out beautifully, the food was very special and the hand decorated cake was large enough for us all to have a piece. Thank you once again to all helpers making this a very special occasion, especially Angie, who was left out when thanking the other first communion helpers.

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.

Please remember in your prayers: all our students who are taking exams during the coming weeks; and our confirmation candidates who will receive the Sacrament of confirmation on Sunday 18th June at 3pm in Arundel Cathedral.

Sunday 21st May - Mass Attendance:

St Wilfrid's 111 St George's 84

Dates for your Diary:

Sun 28th May, 10am - Charity B/fast - Kipling Ward, St G's Hall.
Sun 4th June, 11.30am, St W's Parish Meeting, St W's Church.
Sun 11th June, 3pm, Sponsored Walk, St G's to St W's Hall.
Sun 18th June, 3pm, Confirmation, Arundel Cathedral.
Sun 25th June, 10am - Charity B/fast - Foodbank/Parish, St G's

Charity Breakfast: Today, 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 29th June, 2-4pm, St W's Hall. £5. We will have a French theme, as Annette & Joan will be back from their holiday in France. See you there! Our next outing is a trip to Staverton Nursery, Mon 26th June, £10 each. Leaves St Wilfrid's 10am return 4pm. contact Joan on 07873390944.

Hailsham Foodbank are asking if we can help with some donations for local asylum seekers as follows:- Clothes; sizes S x 30, M x 15, L x 10, Indoor games, Shoe/Flipflops; sizes 40 x 18, 41 x 20, 42 x 20, 43 x 12, 44 x 12 and 45 x 5. Thank you.

Opportunity for our Youth: The Bursary Fund was formed by The Catenian Association, a Catholic organisation which promotes Catholic life. The Fund makes 2 types of awards: Lourdes Awards - every year many young Catholics travel to Lourdes to work as a helper to an assisted pilgrim. Individual Project Awards - a grant to assist a young Catholic to volunteer in the UK or overseas. Contact www.catenianbursary.com or Eastbourne Catenians : ebc186@outlook.com.