

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Cf. Ps 67: 6-7, 36

**God is in his holy place,
God who unites those who dwell in his house;
he himself gives might and strength to his people.**

THE COLLECT

O God, protector of those who hope in you,
without whom nothing has firm foundation, nothing is holy,
bestow in abundance your mercy upon us
and grant that, with you as our ruler and guide,
we may use the good things that pass
in such a way as to hold fast even now
to those that ever endure.
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 first book of the Kings

3:5. 7-12

The Lord appeared to Solomon in a dream and said, 'Ask what you would like me to give you.' Solomon replied, 'Lord, my God, you have made your servant king in succession to David my father. But I am a very young man, unskilled in leadership. Your servant finds himself in the midst of this people of yours that you have chosen, a people so many its numbers cannot be counted or reckoned. Give your servant a heart to understand how to discern between good and evil, for who could govern this people of yours that is so great?' It pleased the Lord that Solomon should have asked for this. 'Since you have asked for this' the Lord said 'and not asked for long life for yourself or riches or the lives of your enemies, but have asked for a discerning judgement for yourself, here and now I do what you ask. I give you a heart wise and shrewd as none before you has had and none will have after you.'

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

PSALM

Ps 118:57.72.76-77.127-130. R.v97

R) Lord how I love your law!

My part, I have resolved, O Lord,
is to obey your word.
The law from your mouth means more to me
than silver and gold. **(R)**

Let your love be ready to console me
by your promise to your servant.
Let your love come to me and I shall live
for your law is my delight. **(R)**

That is why I love your commands
more than finest gold.
That is why I rule my life by your precepts:
I hate false ways. **(R)**

Your will is wonderful indeed;
therefore I obey it.
The unfolding of your word gives light
and teaches the simple. **(R)**

SECOND READING

A reading from the letter of St. Paul to the Romans 8:28-30

We know that by turning everything to their good God co-operates with all those who love him, with all those that he has called according to his purpose. They are the ones he chose

specially long ago and intended to become true images of his Son, so that his Son might be the eldest of many brothers. He called those he intended for this; those he called he justified, and with those he justified he shared his glory.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

Jn 15:15

**I call you friends, says the Lord,
because I have made known to you
everything I have learnt from my Father.
Alleluia!**

GOSPEL

Matthew 13:44-52

The Lord be with you.
And with your spirit.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.
Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus said to the crowds, 'The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field which someone has found; he hides it again, goes off happy, sells everything he owns and buys the field.

'Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant looking for fine pearls; when he finds one of great value he goes and sells everything he owns and buys it.

'Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a dragnet cast into the sea that brings in a haul of all kinds. When it is full, the fishermen haul it ashore; then, sitting down, they collect the good ones in a basket and throw away those that are no use. This is how it will be at the end of time: the angels will appear and separate the wicked from the just to throw them into the blazing furnace where there will be weeping and grinding of teeth.

'Have you understood all this?' They said 'Yes.' And he said to them, 'Well then, every scribe who becomes a disciple of the kingdom of heaven is like a householder who brings out from his storeroom things both new and old.'

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

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

Accept, O Lord, we pray, the offerings
which we bring from the abundance of your gifts,
that through the powerful working of your grace
these most sacred mysteries may sanctify our present way of life
and lead us to eternal gladness.
Through Christ our Lord.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Ps 102: 2

**Bless the Lord, O my soul,
and never forget all his benefits.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

We have consumed, O Lord, this divine Sacrament,
the perpetual memorial of the Passion of your Son;
grant, we pray, that this gift,
which he himself gave us with love beyond all telling,
may profit us for salvation.
Through Christ our Lord.

Our Faith on Sunday

GOSPEL REFLECTION



The 'Kingdom of Heaven' is 'treasure', a 'pearl of great price', a huge 'haul of fish' (very important to the people to whom Christ was speaking). The Kingdom of Heaven is something well worth

living for, working for, even, as the martyrs have shown us, of dying for. In fact, when thought about seriously, we realize that it is more than 'well worth', it is a prize, a dream, exceeding our wildest hopes and expectations: eternal life, eternal joy and happiness with God and the companionship of the angels and of those we love. The Kingdom of Heaven is the fruit of God's Love for us; a Love so great that we struggle to realize it. It is that blazing fire or furnace of Love

inviting us to respond, to become 'fired up' as children of our Father; to be the "good fish collected in a basket"; "fish" that will become disciples, even apostles or missionaries, and the 'food' of others. bringing them too to be children of the Father; protecting them from becoming fish "of no use" who, after death, can only shrivel up and weep in the 'furnace' of God's Love.



POPE FRANCIS' ENCYCLICAL
FRATELLI TUTTI
BROTHERS AND SISTERS ALL



A GRATUITOUSNESS OPEN TO OTHERS

139. Even so, I do not wish to limit this presentation to a kind of utilitarian approach. There is always the factor of "gratuitousness": the ability to do some things simply because they are good in themselves, without concern for personal gain or recompense. Gratuitousness makes it possible for us to welcome the stranger, even though this brings us no immediate tangible benefit. Some countries, though, presume to accept only scientists or investors.



Promise Of Good Things
ENCOURAGING ONE ANOTHER



Let us repent whole-heartedly, that none of us may be lost by the wayside. If we are commanded to go even further than this and rescue souls from idols and give them a proper formation, how much more is it our duty to ensure that a soul that already knows God is not lost? Let us then help one another and bring those who are weak back to a good life. In this way, we shall all come to salvation and bring one another back to the right path through mutual help and advice. More than that, we should not only seem to believe correctly and seem to take these things seriously while we are being exhorted by our elders, but, even when we have gone home, we should bring to mind the Lord's commandments and not be dragged off course by worldly desires.

On the contrary, let us gather here more often and try to make progress in the commandments the Lord has left us. Thus we shall 'all be of one mind' and shall be gathered together into Life.

Clement's Second Letter to the Corinthians



PARISH COMMUNITIES OF



ST GEORGE



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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

South Road
Hailsham



WEEKLY SERVICES

Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sat	29th	3pm	St Wilfrid's—	Celebration Mass in Memory of Josephine Denning
Sun	30th	9am	St George's —	Parish Communities' Intention
		10.30am	St Wilfrid's —	Margaret Westcar RIP (3rd Anniversary)
Mon	31st	2.30pm	St George's —	Rosary Group —All welcome
Tues	1st	10am	St George's—	Morning Service
Wed	2nd	10am	St Wilfrid's—	Morning Service
Thur	3rd	10am	St George's —	Morning Service
Fri	4th	10am	St Wilfrid's —	No Service

The Transfiguration of the Lord

Sat	5th		St Wilfrid's—	
Sun	6th	9am	St George's —	Pat Burke RIP
		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, 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, Jean Molloy, Alan Smith and Julie Martin.

PLEASE ALSO REMEMBER THOSE NAMED IN THE BOOKS IN OUR CHURCHES

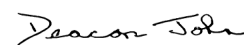
A WARM WELCOME: to all who join us for Mass, especially to any visitors.

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.

Deacon John Writes:

This Sunday we listen to a reading from the 1st Book of Kings. In this reading Solomon is told by God to ask for a gift from God. If you were asked that question what would you ask for? Some possibilities might be: for more patience; for so and so to change his/her attitude to me; for a change in my circumstances such as more money or less stress; or perhaps on a more positive note for the ability to love someone we do not get on with, or for me to respond better to others or for the strength to cope with the stresses of daily living. I am sure that you have lots more suggestions. However what about Solomon's response? God was pleased when Solomon asked for "an understanding heart". I think that God would be equally pleased with us if we asked for a more understanding and loving heart. My suggestion this week is that each day you pray for "a more loving and understanding heart". Be like Solomon next week and then I am sure you will notice it happening to you!

All my love to each and every one.



The Parish BBQ raised £382 for St Wilfrid's church funds. Thank you to all who helped, supported and cleared up.

The Charity Breakfast (Today): The July breakfast will be held this Sunday 30th and will be raising money to help pay for Stations of the Cross in St Richards Catholic College Chapel which has recently been built to help with spiritual growth of the pupils. **Please Note:** There will be no charity breakfast after mass at St George's at the end of August. We will resume on the last Sunday in September when we will be raising money for Love in a Box at Christmas.

Notice for all our Families with children or grandchildren under 18 and their friends - Children's Liturgy in both our churches will resume during the masses on Sunday 10th September, we would love to see even more children joining us so spread the word to any other families you know who may not currently regularly attend.

Our Parish Children's liturgy runs weekly during both St George's and St Wilfrid's Sunday services during term time. We welcome everyone with our friendly smiles, child friendly teaching of God's Word, creative opportunities to demonstrate understanding and lots of chances to have fun celebrating our faith with our friends. For more information on Children's Liturgy speak directly to any of the catechists or email Father Rory at the Parish Office for your details to be passed on to the team.

And there's more...as well as the weekly Children's Liturgy we run a First Communion Programme for all year 3 or above children, a confirmation programme for our older children and plan activities outside of mass several times a year, see our Newsletter for more details of what we will be doing next. Details of all will follow.

Harmonics Family Singing Group Music Recital Saturday 5th August at 3pm St George's Hall. Led by Marylou St George's organist and with some children from our parish and others locally this charity Music Recital is a chance to enjoy wonderful music/singing with delicious tea and cake. Free Entry, fundraising by donations for Linking Lives and Let's Talk Loneliness. For more information speak to Marylou or Merce.

Dates for your Diary:

Sun 30th July, 10am - Charity B/fast, St G's Hall.
Wed 2nd Aug, 7.30pm - Social Fundraising Com, St W's Hall.
Sun 3rd Sept, 4pm - Mass for Confirmation Candidates, St G's
Sun 10th Sept, Children's Liturgy Returns, St G's & St W's
Sun 17th Sept, 4pm - Songs of Praise, St G's Church

Social Fund Raising Committee: There will be a meeting on Wednesday 2nd August at 7.30pm in St Wilfrid's Church Hall. All are welcome to attend this meeting.

St George's needs more help for social activities - we are trying hard to keep running activities alongside St Wilfrid's but our current team is formed of the CL team mainly and those who already do a lot in our Parish. If you can help us organise social events we would love your support. Please consider joining us and the St Wilfrid's parishioners at the committee meeting above so we can start working towards putting together a joint programme of events for 2022/23. Speak to Sandra if you want to find out more in advance of the meeting 07791627368.

Blackberry Picking - we hope to enjoy some blackberry picking on the weekend of 9th/10th Sept. This is something members of our parish have enjoyed doing together for several years and we want to extend the opportunity to everyone to enjoy some fun foraging and walking in nature. If you are interested in and want more details please contact Sandra by email sandraforte40@gmail.com or text/call on 07791 627368. This is an event for all ages particularly our children accompanied by parent/guardian.

Tea & Coffee at St George's - Sandra would like to step down from overseeing this if possible, it is a simple role only requiring stock checks and replenishment and if one of the weekly volunteers can't do their allocated slot helping to find a replacement. Each week of the month has two volunteers allocated and the last week is always the breakfast team.

St George's Table Sale - please keep being generous with your donations of books, jigsaws, small nearly new or new bric-a-brac or unwanted gifts. We are running low on items to display. Leave at back of church or under table in the hall - or display them if you have time!

Sunday 23rd July - Mass Attendance:

St Wilfrid's 99

St George's 71