

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Dn 3: 31, 29, 30, 43, 42

**All that you have done to us, O Lord,
you have done with true judgement,
for we have sinned against you
and not obeyed your commandments.
But give glory to your name
and deal with us according to the
bounty of your mercy.**

THE COLLECT

O God, who manifest your almighty power
above all by pardoning and showing mercy,
bestow, we pray, your grace abundantly upon us
and make those hastening to attain your promises
heirs to the treasures of heaven.
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 prophet Ezekiel

18:25-28

The word of the Lord was addressed to me as follows: 'You object, "What the Lord does is unjust." Listen, you House of Israel: is what I do unjust? Is it not what you do that is unjust? When the upright man renounces his integrity to commit sin and dies because of this, he dies because of the evil that he himself has committed. When the sinner renounces sin to become law-abiding and honest, he deserves to live. He has chosen to renounce all his previous sins; he shall certainly live; he shall not die.'

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM

Ps 24:4-9. R. V6

R) Remember your mercy, Lord.

Lord, make me know your ways.
Lord, teach me your paths.
Make me walk in your truth, and teach me:
for you are God my saviour. (R)

Remember your mercy, Lord,
and the love you have shown from of old.
Do not remember the sins of my youth.
In your love remember me,
because of your goodness, O Lord. (R)

The Lord is good and upright.
He shows the path to those who stray,
he guides the humble in the right path;
he teaches his way to the poor. (R)

SECOND READING

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians 2:1-11
(For shorter form, 2:1-5, read between [])

[If our life in Christ means anything to you, if love can persuade at all, or the Spirit that we have in common, or any tenderness and sympathy, then be united in your convictions and united in your love with a common purpose and a common mind. That is the one thing which would make me completely happy. There must be no competition among you, no conceit; but everybody is to be self-effacing. Always consider the other person to be better than yourself, so that nobody thinks of his own interests first but everybody thinks of other people's interests instead. In your minds you must be the same as Christ Jesus:]

His state was divine,
yet he did not cling
to his equality with God
but emptied himself
to assume the condition of a slave,
and became as men are;
and being as all men are,
he was humbler yet,
even to accepting death,
death on a cross.
But God raised him high
and gave him the name
which is above all other names
so that all beings
in the heavens, on earth and in the underworld,
should bend the knee at the name of Jesus
and that every tongue should acclaim
Jesus Christ as Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

Jn 14:23

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

GOSPEL

Matthew 21:28-32

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 chief priests and the elders of the people, 'What is your opinion? A man had two sons. He went and said to the first, "My boy, you go and work in the vineyard today." He answered, "I will not go", but afterwards thought better of it and went. The man then went and said the same thing to the second who answered, "Certainly, sir", but did not go. Which of the two did the father's will?' 'The first' they said. Jesus said to them, 'I tell you solemnly, tax collectors and prostitutes are making their way into the kingdom of God before you. For John came to you, a pattern of true righteousness, but you did not believe him, and yet the tax collectors and prostitutes did. Even after seeing that, you refused to think better of it and believe in him.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

Grant us, O merciful God,
that this our offering may find acceptance with you
and that through it the wellspring of all blessing
may be laid open before us.
Through Christ our Lord.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

1 Jn 3: 16

**By this we came to know the love of God:
that Christ laid down his life for us;
so we ought to lay down our lives for one another.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

May this heavenly mystery, O Lord,
restore us in mind and body,
that we may be coheirs in glory with Christ,
to whose suffering we are united
whenever we proclaim his Death.
Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

Our Faith on Sunday

GOSPEL REFLECTION



Last Sunday's Gospel is a warning about judging how God chooses to reward through his mercy and forgiveness. Today's Gospel warns us about categorizing people into good and bad, acceptable or unacceptable, moral or immoral. If God does not judge them, then how can we dare to do so? Jesus, much to the disgust of the chief priests and the elders, the Scribes and the Pharisees – the respectable members of Jewish society – frequently

associates with disreputable people. And why? Because, unlike us, Jesus does not judge by outward appearances, but sees into the soul of each person. He sees in the prostitutes and the tax collectors, the lowest of the low in most people's opinion, a depth and a beauty which 'respectable' people cannot see. And because he sees their inner beauty they feel loved and not judged, and therefore they feel free to respond to his love.

It is too easy for to make superficial judgments of others. Even the way someone dresses, or has their hair, can lead us to judge their character. Jesus sincerely believed that everyone was a candidate for the kingdom of heaven and he treated them as potential residents of that kingdom. He made the effort to go

beyond appearances and reputations to get to the heart of the person, to draw out of them the 'new person', as St Paul calls it, and bring them to a relationship with him and with the Father.

As Christians, we too must avoid making superficial judgements of others, and see the everyone as a candidate for the kingdom. It might mean that we too find ourselves sometimes in the company of 'disreputable' people, but we will also discover that hidden beauty in so many of God's children.



EVANGELII GAUDIUM
(JOY OF THE GOSPEL)

A UNIVERSAL
HORIZON

149. For a healthy relationship between love of one's native land and a sound sense of belonging to our larger human family, it is helpful to keep in mind that global society is not the sum total of different countries, but rather the communion that exists among them. The mutual sense of belonging is prior to the emergence of individual groups. Each particular group becomes part of the fabric of universal communion and there discovers its own beauty. All individuals, whatever their origin, know that they are part of the greater human family, without which they will not be able to understand themselves fully.

Promise Of Good Things

CHRIST BASIS OF FAITH

Therefore I did what I could as a man set on unity. God does not dwell where there is division and anger. The Lord forgives all who repent if they turn back to the unity of God and the advice of the bishop. I have faith in Jesus Christ, who will free you from all your chains.

But I urge you not to do anything in a spirit of divisiveness, but only according to the teaching of Christ. For I heard certain persons saying: 'If I do not find it in the original documents of the Old Testament, then I do not believe it'. And when I told them that it is indeed in scripture, they answered: 'That is what we dispute'.

For me, however, the original documents are Jesus Christ, the sacred original documents are his cross, his death, his resurrection and the faith we have through him, and it is in these that I desire to be justified by your prayers.

The Letters of Ignatius



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

Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

(Collection next Sunday for CAFOD Harvest Fast Day)

Sat	30th	10am	St Wilfrid's—	Church Open for Prayers & Confessions
Sun	1st	9am	St George's —	Parish Communities' Intention
		10.30am	St Wilfrid's —	Marie Kelly RIP
Mon	2nd	2.30pm	St George's —	Rosary Group —All welcome
Tues	3rd	10am	St George's—	
Wed	4th	10am	St Wilfrid's—	
Thur	5th	10am	St George's —	
Fri	6th	10am	St Wilfrid's —	

Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time (Collection Today for CAFOD Harvest Fast Day)

(Collection next Sunday for Prisons Sunday)

Sat	7th	10am	St Wilfrid's—	Church Open for Prayers & Confessions
Sun	8th	9am	St George's —	Parish Communities' Intention
		10.30am	St Wilfrid's —	

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 Treasurer 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, Nellie Oakshott, Jean Molloy, Alan Smith, Julie Martin, Peter Andrews and Holly Leone.

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 great cruelty the war in the Ukraine continues.
We must continue to keep this constantly in our prayers.

With real hope we begin a new year in the life of our parish. So to be willing to contribute to and support all the efforts to be a vibrant living community is essential. The harvest celebration and our contribution to Cafod and Foodbank were very worthwhile. This week our parish council with plans to develop and share our responsibilities is the way ahead. Streaming and developing communication facilities are key. I saw Sophie making preparations to resource our website; the maintenance committee and the fundraising breakfast after mass at St George's, all initial steps in the right direction.

Please God, our Womble Day has been a positive experience and a great help for our future.

Fr Rory

Prisoners' Sunday - 15th October 2023

Pact, the Prison Advice and Care Trust, supports prisoners, people with convictions, and their children and families to live lives that bear good fruit. Your donations enable us to deliver our services in courts, in prisons, and in communities across England and Wales. www.prisonadvice.org.uk

Last week's Parish Charity Breakfast marked a year of breakfasts and raised a record total of £224 for Love In A Box. There was an excited buzz around us with what we think was our busiest breakfast so far, our thanks to everyone who helps and supports and donates even if not there on the day. Since September 2022 we have held 11 breakfasts and with these and half the table sale fundraising we have raised over £1500 for our worthy causes. The Sunday 29th October Breakfast will support CAFOD and 26th November the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal (these charities will remain annually). We are seeking suggestions of other local/Catholic charities, please just let us know who you might like us to support.

Red Boxes: If you have any Red Boxes to hand out, please leave them with the welcomer on Sundays, Christian will collect these and bank the funds. If you prefer to send a cheque please make cheques payable to Missio and post to: Missio, 23 Eccleston Square, London SW1V 1NU.

Sacrament of Confirmation:

The Parish of St George & St Wilfrid invites all year 9 - 13 young people who live and worship within our Deanery to consider joining its programme Faith & Fellowship with a view to prepare themselves for the Sacrament of Confirmation. An introductory meeting for parents/carers and young people about the formation programme will be held on Sunday October 15th at 4pm St George's Church Hall, 110 Eastbourne Road Polegate BN26 5DF. Please email ssgeorge.wilfrid@btinternet.com for an application form or call 07791 627368 if you would like further information.

Christmas Cards: will be on sale at the back of St George's Church.

Dates for your Diary:

Fri 13th Oct, 7pm - Family Quiz Night, St W's Hall.
Sun 15th Oct, 4pm - Confirmation Info Session, St G's Hall.
Thur 26th Oct, 2-4pm - Parish Over 50's Club, St W's Hall.
Fri 27th Oct, 11-12pm - Parish Bereavement Gp, St W's Hall.
Sun 29th Oct, 10am - Charity Breakfast, St G's Hall.
Sat 18th Nov, Time TBC - Preparing for Advent W/Shop, St W's
Sun 26th Nov, 10am - Charity Breakfast, St G's Hall.
Sat 16th Dec, Time TBC - Nine Lessons & Carols, St W's Church.

Womble Day - today we are hopeful that you walked into church to find that many of our weeds and shabby looking areas around our grounds have been cleared. If you didn't perhaps we didn't get enough support yesterday. We are thankful to those who were able to join us. Our grounds need clearing regularly and our church and hall also need some TLC once in a while. If you see something that needs doing and can help, please consider spending just half an hour or so once in a while on a task - work with someone else and make it fun.

Your parish and the deanery urgently need parishioners to help run a short Marriage Preparation Course for engaged couples. The course is one designed by the diocese that couples preparing to marry have to attend as a condition prior to marriage and all materials are provided. It is run over four 2 hour sessions on the dates and times that you would choose. You can be couples or individuals to run the course and all training would be given. It is an enjoyable course and one where you, with your experience of marriage, have a great deal to offer the couples looking to spend the rest of their lives together. If you would like to join this important ministry, please contact Fr Rory

Parish Quiz Night - Fri Oct 13th 7pm St W's Hall. This will be the first of two annual parish quiz nights, St G's will host the second next Spring. So find yourselves a team of max. six and put the date in your diary, £5 p person, there will be a coveted trophy/cash prize for the winning team - family & friends most welcome. Quiz masters are in the process of preparing the rounds at present bring your own nibbles/wine/beer, tea/coffee/juice will be on sale.

Parish Events - Save the Date: Sat 18th Nov PM (time TBC) St W's Hall - Preparing for Advent Workshop and Service - more details to follow.

Sunday 24th September - Mass Attendance:
St Wilfrid's 101 St George's 75