22ND OCTOBER 2023 29TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (A)

# **ENTRANCE ANTIPHON**

Cf. Ps 16: 6, 8

45:1.4-6

To you I call for you will surely heed me, O God; turn your ear to me; hear my words. Guard me as the apple of your eye; in the shadow of your wings protect me.

### THE COLLECT

Almighty ever-living God. grant that we may always conform our will to yours and serve your majesty in sincerity of heart. 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 Isaiah

that their gates be closed no more:

Thus says the Lord to his anointed, to Cyrus, whom he has taken by his right hand to subdue nations before him and strip the loins of kings. to force gateways before him

It is for the sake of my servant Jacob. of Israel my chosen one. that I have called you by your name. conferring a title though you do not know me. I am the Lord, unrivalled; there is no other God besides me. Though you do not know me, I arm you that men may know from the rising to the setting of the sun that, apart from me, there is nothing.

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

# **PSALM**

95:1.3-5.7-10. R.v7

# R) Give the Lord glory and power.

O sing a new song to the Lord, sing to the Lord all the earth. Tell among the nations his glory and his wonders among all the peoples. (R)

The Lord is great and worthy of praise, to be feared above all gods; the gods of the heathens are naught. It was the Lord who made the heavens. (R)

Give the Lord, you families of peoples, give the Lord glory and power, give the Lord the glory of his name. Bring an offering and enter his courts. (R)

Worship the Lord in his temple. O earth, tremble before him. Proclaim to the nations: 'God is king.' He will judge the people in fairness. (R)

# **I SECOND READING**

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Thessalonians

From Paul, Silvanus and Timothy, to the Church in Thessalonika which is in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ; wishing you grace and peace from God the Father and the Lord Jesus

We always mention you in our prayers and thank God for you all, and constantly remember before God our Father how you have shown your faith in action, worked for love and persevered through hope, in our Lord Jesus Christ.

We know, brothers, that God loves you and that you have been chosen, because when we brought the Good News to you, it came to you not only as words, but as power and as the Holy Spirit and as utter conviction.

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

# **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

Alleluia. alleluia! You will shine in the world like bright stars because you are offering it the word of life. Alleluia!

**GOSPEL** Matthew 22:15-21

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

The Pharisees went away to work out between them how to trap Jesus in what he said. And they sent their disciples to him, together with the Herodians, to say, 'Master, we know that you are an honest man and teach the way of God in an honest way, and that you are not afraid of anyone, because a man's rank means nothing to you. Tell us your opinion, then. Is it permissible to pay taxes to Caesar or not?' But Jesus was aware of their malice and replied, 'You hypocrites! Why do you set this trap for me? Let me see the money you pay the tax with.' They handed him a denarius and he said, 'Whose head is this? Whose name?' 'Caesar's' they replied. He then he said to them, 'Very well, give back to Caesar what belongs to Caesar - and to God what belongs to God.'

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

# PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

Grant us. Lord, we pray. a sincere respect for your gifts, that, through the purifying action of your grace, we may be cleansed by the very mysteries we serve. Through Christ our Lord.

# **COMMUNION ANTIPHON**

Cf. Ps 32: 18-19

Phil 2:15-16

Behold, the eyes of the Lord are on those who fear him, who hope in his merciful love. to rescue their souls from death, to keep them alive in famine.

# PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Grant, O Lord, we pray, that, benefiting from participation in heavenly things, we may be helped by what you give in this present age and prepared for the gifts that are eternal. Through Christ our Lord.

22ND OCTOBER 2023 29TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (A) DIVINE OFFICE: WEEK 1/PROPER

# Our Faith on Sunday

# GOSPEL REFLECTION



Once again the Pharisees are us hate and to which most of us something so that they can accuse him of blasphemy and thus turn the authorities against him. They pretend they are asking him to

into enable them to have him arrested. Jesus immediately recognises the hypocrisy in their question. Hypocrisy is something which all of Jesus Christ.

trying to trick Jesus into saying are very sensitive. We are very quick to react when one of our politicians says one thing and then does quite the opposite. Jesus' immediate reaction is to call resolve a problem. So they ask out their hypocrisy and then give him a question which will force an answer which even they cannot

saying interpret in a negative way. This something which will Gospel also challenges us to be sure that we live an authentic Christian life and avoid becoming like the Pharisees of this Gospel. We must try more and more to conform our lives to the Gospel of



# EVANGELII GAUDIUM (JOY OF THE GOSPEL)



152. In some areas of our cities, there is still a lively sense of neighbourhood. Each person quite spontaneously perceives a duty to accompany and help his or her neighbour. In places where these community values are maintained, people experience a closeness marked by gratitude, solidarity and reciprocity. The neighbourhood gives them a sense of shared identity.<sup>131</sup> Would that neighbouring countries were able to encourage a similar neighbourly spirit between their peoples! Yet the spirit of individualism also affects relations between countries. The danger of thinking that we have to protect ourselves from one another, of viewing others as competitors or dangerous enemies, also affects relations between peoples in the same region. Perhaps we were trained in this kind of fear and mistrust.

131. Cf. JAIME HOYOS-VÁSQUEZ, S.J., "Lógica de las relaciones sociales. Reflexión onto-lógica", Revista Universitas Philosophica, 15-16 (December 1990-June 1991), Bogotá, 95-106.



# Promise Of Good Things A PRAYER



I am quite sure that you are thoroughly versed in the scriptures and nothing is hidden from you. Unfortunately, I cannot say the same for myself. Only, as scripture has it: 'Be angry but do not sin' and 'Do not let the sun set while you are still angry'.

Happy the person who keeps this message in mind, which I believe to be true in your case. May God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the great eternal High Priest himself, Jesus Christ the Son of God, make you strong in faith and truth and in all gentleness, without wrath, in patience and long-suffering, tolerance and chastity.

May he give to you a part and a share in the lot of the saints and to us with you and to all under heaven who shall believe in our Lord and God, Jesus Christ, and in his Father who raised him from the dead.

Pray for all God's people. Pray also for emperors, princes and others in authority, for those who persecute you and hold you in contempt, and for those who are the enemies of the cross, so that your fruit may be seen by everyone and that you may be perfected in him.

The Letter of Polycarp to the Philippians

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# PARISH COMMUNITIES OF

ST WILFRID

# **ST GEORGE**

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# WEEKLY \$ERVICE\$

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

			Twenty-Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time	
		(Collection Today for World Missions)		
Sat	21st	10am	St Wilfrid's—	Church Open for Prayers & Confessions
Sun	22nd	9am	St George's —	Giovanni Aiello RIP
		10.30am	St Wilfrid's —	Parish Communities' Intention
Mon	23rd	2.30pm	St George's —	Rosary Group —All welcome
Tues	24th	10am	St George's—	Eliza D'Souza RIP
Wed	25th	10am	St Wilfrid's—	Eamon Grace RIP
Thur	26th	10am	St George's —	Felix Herbert Chetwyn RIP
Fri	27th	10am	St Wilfrid's —	Joan Emerton RIP
Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time				
(Collection next week for Retired Priests' Fund)				
Sat	28th	10am	St Wilfrid's—	Church Open for Prayers & Confessions
Sun	29th	9am	St George's —	Parish Communities' Intention
		10.30am	St Wilfrid's —	Norman & Angela Wright 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 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, Holly Leone and Deborah Osbourne Walker.

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:

# "Our Homeland is in Heaven" St Paul to the Philippians 3:20-21

Last Sunday we had a special celebration here at St Wilfrid's in remembrance of all our treasured memories, the souls of our departed who contributed so much to our parish. **Now they leave us with important challenges to continue to develop and to grow in our lives of faith.** Like each parish we have particular riches of memories to be treasured from the many who had contributed to our parish community.

On Sunday 5th November it will be the turn of St George's. They have also lost some very special people recently and please God, we will do justice to the occasion with a commemoration that reflects their achievements and underpins our work to build upon this, so that our church has a definite future.

As we commence this years preparation for the Sacrament of Reconciliation, Holy Communion and Confirmation, this needs to reflect upon the sure foundations of our faith. After the resurrection, Jesus gave a mandate to His disciples to go out to proclaim good news; Gods salvation. In our time at the seminary we received two most important emphasises. Life is a journey, it has a beginning and an end, whether we like it or not. The second is story telling. To tell our story, but above all to listen to God's story as He intervened through the ages. The old Testament prepared us for this when Jesus highlighted special moments on that journey. He referred to "as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of man be lifted up " John 3:14-16. Prefiguring when Christ would be raised up upon the cross and all who would call upon Him would receive Gods salvation beginning with the forgiveness of sin.

Jx Kory

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. Helpers needed please, volunteer with CL teams if you can help.

Knights of St Columba: The KSC is an Order of Catholic men who try to serve God by serving others. The Knights have been supporting our Parish for over 70 years as well as carrying out duties for the Diocese and are also involved in National events. We also distribute our Holy Week posters and also the Christmas posters (part of our campaign to keep Christ in Christmas).

There are now only 2 members left in our Parish so we do need more men to join us, please. If you would like more information please contact Bob Waters on 07752043009.

WANTED at HMP Lewes for 9am Mass on Saturday mornings: Volunteers to join the Chaplaincy team and provide support to the Catholic community – 20-30 prisoners, two Chaplaincy team members, a rota of three priests and three musicians. The commitment – that you can attend the Saturday Mass on an approximate monthly basis or more frequently as you wish; you will be collected at the gate at 8:20am and escorted back at 10:30. If you are interested please let Fr Rory know and he will put you in touch with one of the Chaplaincy team for an informal and no-obligation conversation. Parking available.

**Christmas Cards:** On sale at the back of St George's Church.

# **Dates for your Diary:**

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.
Sun 5th Nov, 3pm - Service of Remembrance, St G's Church.
Tue 7th Nov, 6pm - Holy Communion Session, St W'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.
Tue 28th Nov, 6pm - Holy Communion Session, St W's Hall.
Sat 2nd Dec, 5pm - 1st Reconciliation Service, St W's Church.

A huge thank you to those who supported and helped arrange the Quiz on Friday. A special thank you to Gerry and David for putting together the questions and categories. Everyone seemed to enjoy the evening and the result of £451.20 will be split between both churches. We look forward to the next quiz in April which will be held at St George`s.

# **Blessing of the Graves:**

Deacon John expects to bless the graves at St George's Memorial Garden and Willingdon Cemetery after Mass on Thursday November 2nd.

Fr Rory will bless the graves at St Wilfrid's after Mass on Wednesday November 1st.

St Thomas a Becket Catholic Primary School Open Day: On Thursday 16th November, we are running 3 sessions, 9.00am, 2.00pm and 6.30pm, please can prospective parents contact the office to book onto one of these sessions. the Sessions will be a "Taste of what the school offers" Please can they book by phone 01323 737221 or email office@stthomasbecket.e-sussex.sch.uk

SAINTS & SINNERS CONCERT Our Lady of Ransom Church (Grange Road, BN21 4EU) – SATURDAY 4<sup>TH-</sup> NOVEMBER 7.30pm with refreshments interval midway. An evening of secular and sacred music and storytelling, exploring and celebrating the journey of faith as saints and sinners on the road. John Holstrom (keyboard) and Dominic Dring (saxophone, flute and vocals), Elisha Dring (singer) and special guests. Donation (suggest £5 to £10) on the night, with money raised going towards a local charity.

# Sunday 15th October - Mass Attendance:

St Wilfrid's 90 St George's 59