12TH NOVEMBER 2023 32ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (A)

## **ENTRANCE ANTIPHON**

Almighty and merciful God,

Cf. Ps 87: 3

Let my prayer come into your presence. Incline your ear to my cry for help, O Lord.

#### THE COLLECT

graciously keep from us all adversity, so that, unhindered in mind and body alike, we may pursue in freedom of heart the things that are yours. 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 book of Wisdom 6:12-16

Wisdom is bright, and does not grow dim. By those who love her she is readily seen, and found by those who look for her.

Quick to anticipate those who desire her, she makes herself known to them.

Watch for her early and you will have no trouble; you will find her sitting at your gates.

Even to think about her is understanding fully grown; be on the alert for her and anxiety will quickly leave you.

She herself walks about looking for those who are worthy of her and graciously shows herself to them as they go, in every thought of theirs coming to meet them.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

**PSALM** Ps 62:2-8. R.v2

#### R) For you my soul is thirsting, O God, my God.

O God, you are my God, for you I long; for you my soul is thirsting. My body pines for you like a dry, weary land without water. (R)

So I gaze on you in the sanctuary to see your strength and your glory. For your love is better than life, my lips will speak your praise. (R)

So I will bless you all my life. in your name I will lift up my hands. My soul shall be filled as with a banquet. my mouth shall praise you with joy. (R)

On my bed I remember you. On you I muse through the night for you have been my help; in the shadow of your wings I rejoice. (R)

## **SECOND READING**

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the 4:13-18 Thessalonians

For shorter form (4:13-14) read between []

We want you to be quite certain, brothers, about those who have died, to make sure that you do not grieve about them, like the other people who have no hope. We believe that Jesus died and rose again, and that it will be the same for those who have died in Jesus: God will bring them with him.] We can tell you this from the Lord's own teaching, that any of us who are left alive until the Lord's coming will not have any advantage over those who have died. At the trumpet of God, the voice of the archangel will call out the command and the Lord himself will come down

from heaven; those who have died in Christ will be the first to rise, and then those of us who are still alive will be taken up in the clouds, together with them; to meet the Lord in the air. So we shall stay with the Lord for ever. With such thoughts as these you should comfort one another.

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

## **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

Alleluia, alleluia! Mt24:42 44 Stay awake and stand ready, because you do not know the hour when the Son of Man is coming. Alleluia!

**GOSPEL** Matthew 25:1-13

The Lord be with you.

And with your spirit.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus told this parable to his disciples: 'The kingdom of heaven will be like this: Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish and five were sensible: the foolish ones did take their lamps, but they brought no oil, whereas the sensible ones took flasks of oil as well as their lamps. The bridegroom was late, and they all grew drowsy and fell asleep. But at midnight there was a cry, "The bridegroom is here! Go out and meet him." At this, all those bridesmaids woke up and trimmed their lamps, and the foolish ones said to the sensible ones, "Give us some of your oil: our lamps are going out." But they replied, "There may not be enough for us and for you; you had better go to those who sell it and buy some for yourselves." They had gone off to buy it when the bridegroom arrived. Those who were ready went in with him to the wedding hall and the door was closed. The other bridesmaids arrived later. "Lord, Lord," they said "open the door for us." But he replied, "I tell you solemnly, I do not know you." So stay awake, because you do not know either the day or the hour.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

## PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

Look with favour, we pray, O Lord, upon the sacrificial gifts offered here, that, celebrating in mystery the Passion of your Son, we may honour it with loving devotion. Through Christ our Lord.

## **COMMUNION ANTIPHON**

Cf. Ps 22: 1-2

The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want. Fresh and green are the pastures where he gives me repose.

near restful waters he leads me.

Cf. Lk 24: 35

The disciples recognized the Lord Jesus in the breaking of bread.

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Nourished by this sacred gift, O Lord, we give you thanks and beseech your mercy, that, by the pouring forth of your Spirit, the grace of integrity may endure in those your heavenly power has entered. Through Christ our Lord.

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# Our Faith on Sunday

## GOSPEL REFLECTION



The theme of today's Gospel is a common one. Once again Jesus is reminding us that some day we will be leaving this earth behind and where will be going afterwards depends on us being ready when he calls us. Although the only certainty in life is death, 3 months, some 3 years, some 30

death, but an admission of its day and that hour will come. reality. One of the mysteries that will be revealed to us when we arrive in heaven, will perhaps be an answer to a question which, here on earth, we cannot answer. It is this: why do some people live

most of us live years and some 3 times 30 years? our lives as if we We don't know when our time were going to will come, but it would be good live forever. The to be reminded now and again saints all had the that we won't live forever. The fact of their death of a young person, or the mortality very sudden death of a close friend or much in their relative, can be a sharp reminder heart and soul. of our own mortality. We can't This was not a say we haven't been warned. We morbid way of do not know either the day or the thinking about hour – but we do know that that

DIVINE OFFICE: WEEK 4/PROPER



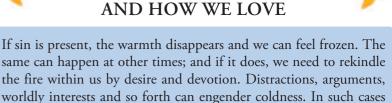
## **EVANGELII GAUDIUM** (JOY OF THE GOSPEL)

# FORMS OF POPULISM AND LIBERALISM

155. Lack of concern for the vulnerable can hide behind a populism that exploits them demagogically for its own purposes, or a liberalism that serves the economic interests of the powerful. In both cases, it becomes difficult to envisage an open world that makes room for everyone, including the most vulnerable, and shows respect for different cultures.



# The Fire of Love\* OD IS KNOWN BY WHAT WE D



stand in the presence of the Saviour once more. So I offer this book to all those ordinary people who are simple and unlearned in theology but want to love God. For God is not known by arguing; God is known by what we do and how we love. This book has not been written for experts unless they are people who want to leave their learning aside for a time and concentrate on

we need to make a real effort to regain our closeness to God and

To achieve this means fleeing from such things as worldly honours and, through prayer, poverty and meditation, being devoted to loving God. This will prepare our hearts for the fire that consumes all that is dark and sinful, raising us to all that is beautiful and bringing peace in its train.

\*The Fire of Love by Richard Rolle Published by Aeterna Press



longing for God instead.

# PARISH COMMUNITIES OF

ST WILFRID

## 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 South Road

Hailsham



## WEEKLY \$ERVICE\$

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

Thirty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time (Collection Today for Christmas Flowers)						
Sat	11th	10am	St Wilfrid's—	Church Open for Prayers & Confessions		
Sun	12th	9am	St George's —	Parish Communities' Intention		
		10.30am	St Wilfrid's —	Wladiswava & Jan Zylowicz RIP		
Mon	13th	2.30pm	St George's —	Rosary Group —All welcome		
Tues	14th	10am	St George's—	K M Philip RIP		
Wed	15th	10am	St Wilfrid's—	Jim Ayres RIP		
Thur	16th	10am	St George's —	Liturgy of the Word		
Fri	17th	10am	St Wilfrid's —	Rosary		
	Thirty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time					

# (Collection Today for the Arundel Cathedral Maintenance Fund)

Sat	18th	10am	St Wilfrid's—	Church Open for Prayers & Confessions
Sun	19th	9am	St George's —	Manyamma Mathew RIP
		10.30am	St Wilfrid's —	For the Life of Lyam Gallagher

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, Letty Booth, Tom Woodrow-Spencer, Chris Neyenhuizen, Laurey & Richard Stimpson, Nicole McCutchan, Len Brotherwood, 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:

## Remembrance Sunday - Yes we will remember them.

**Help**, I need help. It is a constant need. In the wider wilder story of life it is easy to acknowledge. A good example for me is when coming to England, my first introduction to Remembrance Sunday. The Sunday liturgy was well prepared for this event. The question always remains, "how to do what is best". A body made up of many parts working together is most helpful, since I have come here Deacon John has always been a big help.

A parish community working together is a most important criteria. The Synod as it takes place has a great importance. How we address the future life of our church is critical. Our present situation, with the dire shortage of priests in our diocese, brings to my mind what is most critical. The failure of our response to the 2nd Vatican Council. As part of our seminary training, we were greatly inspired by the council. It remains a source of great inspiration. The Holy Spirit at work in the laity.

This week we had a very welcome visitor from our diocese, her name is Cathy Bergin. She looks forward to helping us, as we had a very fruitful meeting with her and members of the parish council and children's liturgy. Soon we will be beginning a new year with the lighting of the first Advent Candle - the candle of hope. I have real hope that the first shoots of our work are beginning to emerge and with God's help will develop and grow.

2. If you do good, people will accuse you of selfish ulterior motives. DO GOOD ANYWAY. Mother Teresa taught her young charges to love and respect for one another.

Thank you to all those who prepared the church and hall for our Memorial Service last weekend and the Rosary Group who provided prayers incorporated into the Mass. It was disappointing that more people did not attend and missed out on a beautiful Mass and a lovely social gathering afterwards. Please, do try to support these events if you possibly can. A special thank you to Lesley Crowe from St Wilfrid's who came to our rescue when several of us were struck down with Covid and needed help getting the order of service together in time. It was so appreciated Lesley and demonstrates how well we can work together as one parish.

## Las Posadas - A Journey towards Christmas

The tradition of having figures of Mary, Joseph and a donkey travelling from home to home during Advent originated in Mexico where it is known as posada. During Advent our nativity figures take a journey around the Hailsham area. Would you be willing to welcome them into your home for the night? It's a great way to prepare for Christmas and fun for the whole family! Two families meet every day in December as part of our preparation to celebrate the birth of Jesus, with one family handing the nativity over to another. It comes complete with suggested readings, prayers and Christmas hymns. If you would like to be part, all you have to do is put your name on the list is in the narthex. The travelling nativity will be brought to you on this day. The following day you will deliver it to the next family on the list. You can agree the arrangements and the time to meet with the families yourself.

## **Dates for your Diary:**

Sat 18th Nov, 3.30pm - Preparing for Advent W/Shop, St W's Fri 24th Nov, 11-12pm - Parish Bereavement Gp, St W's Hall. Sun 26th Nov, 10am - Parish Charity Breakfast, St G's Hall. Tue 28th Nov, 6pm - 1st Communion Lesson, St W's Hall. Thur 30th Nov, 2-4pm - Parish Over 50's Club, St W's Hall. Sat 2nd Dec, 5pm - 1st Reconciliation Service, St W's Church. Sat 16th Dec, Time TBC - Nine Lessons & Carols, St W's Church. Tue 16th Jan, 6pm, - 1st Communion Lesson, St W's Hall.

Preparing for Advent Family Workshop: Sat Nov 18th, 3.30pm–6.00pm, St Wilfrid's Hall. Following the success of last years event we are going to hold another Parish Advent Workshop and look forward to seeing many of our families there. This is an opportunity for families to come together and have fun, be creative and prepare for Advent. There will be variety of Christmas related activities, relevant to all ages, followed by a short time of worship and a shared meal. Children under 11 must be accompanied by an adult. To book your place please complete the form available at the back of church and collect a tear off slip for your small contribution to bring to the shared meal.

The 2nd Collection Today will be for Christmas Flowers. To claim Gift Aid on this donation, please use a special second collection envelope or a one off Gift Aid envelope which can be found in the church porch. Many thanks for your continued support.

Parish Charity Breakfast: When the idea of the breakfast developed over a year ago, it was always hoped it would be a full community event, not just for our Catholic parishioners. We want to open our doors to all and so far it is proving to be just that. If anyone has friends or family that may wish to attend future breakfasts do invite them along, it is open to all and a great way to socialise together and meet new people on a Sunday morning. The next breakfast will be held on Sunday November 26th at 10am in aid of Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal.

**St Richard's Christmas Fayre:** Saturday 18th Nov 12-3pm. Come and enjoy a flavour of Christmas.

**Parish Over 50's Club:** Our next tea will be on Thursday 30th November, 2-4pm.

**Sunday 5th November - Mass Attendance:** St Wilfrid's 108 St George's 50