

## ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Jer 29:11,12,14

The Lord said: I think thoughts of peace and not of affliction.  
You will call upon me, and I will answer you,  
and I will lead back your captives from every place.

## THE COLLECT

Grant us, we pray, O Lord our God,  
the constant gladness of being devoted to you,  
for it is full and lasting happiness  
to serve with constancy  
the author of all that is good.  
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 Proverbs 31:10-13. 19-20. 30-31

A perfect wife – who can find her?  
She is far beyond the price of pearls.  
Her husband's heart has confidence in her,  
from her he will derive no little profit.  
Advantage and not hurt she brings him  
all the days of her life.  
She is always busy with wool and with flax,  
she does her work with eager hands.  
She sets her hands to the distaff,  
her fingers grasp the spindle.  
She holds out her hands to the poor,  
she opens her arms to the needy.  
Charm is deceitful, and beauty empty;  
the woman who is wise is the one to praise.  
Give her a share in what her hands have worked for,  
and let her works tell her praises at the city gates.

The word of the Lord.  
Thanks be to God.

## PSALM

Ps.127:1-5.R.v1

**R) O blessed are those who fear the Lord.**

O blessed are those who fear the Lord  
and walk in his ways!  
By the labour of your hands you shall eat.  
You will be happy and prosper. **(R)**

Your wife like a fruitful vine  
in the heart of your house;  
your children like shoots of the olive,  
around the your table. **(R)**

Indeed thus shall be blessed  
the man who fears the Lord.  
May the Lord bless you from Zion  
in a happy Jerusalem  
all the days of your life! **(R)**

## SECOND READING

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

5:1-6

You will not be expecting us to write anything to you, brothers,  
about 'times and seasons', since you know very well that the  
Day of the Lord is going to come like a thief in the night. It is  
when people are saying, 'How quiet and peaceful it is' that the  
worst suddenly happens, as suddenly as labour pains come on a  
pregnant woman; and there will be no way for anybody to  
evade it.

But it is not as if you live in the dark, my brothers, for that the  
Day to overtake you like a thief. No, you are all sons of light and  
sons of the day: we do not belong to the night or to darkness,  
so we should not go on sleeping, as everyone else does, but  
stay wide awake and sober.

The word of the Lord.  
Thanks be to God.

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

Apoc 2:10

Even if you have to die, says the Lord,  
keep faithful, and I will give you  
the crown of life.  
Alleluia!

## GOSPEL

Matthew 25:14-30

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

*For shorter form, 25:14-15. 19-20, read between [ ]*

[Jesus spoke this parable to his disciples: 'The kingdom of heaven is like a man on his way abroad who summoned his servants and entrusted his property to them. To one he gave five talents, to another two, to a third one; each in proportion to his ability. Then he set out.] The man who had received the five talents promptly went and traded with them and made five more. The man who had received two made two more in the same way. But the man who had received one went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. [Now a long time after, the master of those servants came back and went through his accounts with them. The man who had received the five talents came forward bringing five more. "Sir," he said, "you entrusted me with five talents; here are five more that I have made." His master said to him, "Well done, good and faithful servant; you have shown you can be faithful in small things, I will trust you with greater; come and join in your master's happiness."] Next the man with the two talents came forward. "Sir," he said, "you entrusted me with two talents; here are two more that I have made." His master said to him, "Well done, good and faithful servant; you have shown you can be faithful in small things, I will trust you with greater; come and join in your master's happiness." Last came forward the man who had one talent. "Sir," said he, "I had heard you were a hard man, reaping where you have not sown and gathering where you have not scattered; so I was afraid, and I went off and hid your talent in the ground. Here it is; it was yours, you have it back." But his master answered him, "You wicked and lazy servant! So you knew that I reap where I have not sown and gather where I have not scattered? Well then, you should have deposited my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have got my money back with interest. So now, take the talent from him and give it to the man who has the five talents. For to everyone who has will be given more, and he will have more than enough; but from the man who has not, even what he has will be taken away. As for this good-for-nothing servant, throw him out into the dark, where there will be weeping and grinding of teeth." ']

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

## PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

Grant, O Lord, we pray,  
that what we offer in the sight of your majesty  
may obtain for us the grace of being devoted to you  
and gain us the prize of everlasting happiness.  
Through Christ our Lord.

## COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Mk 11:23-24

**Amen, I say to you: whatever you ask in prayer,  
believe that you will receive,  
and it shall be given to you, says the Lord.**

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

We have partaken of the gifts of this sacred mystery,  
humbly imploring, O Lord,  
that what your Son commanded us to do  
in memory of him  
may bring us growth in charity.  
Through Christ our Lord.

## Our Faith on Sunday

## GOSPEL REFLECTION



At first glance this Gospel seems very harsh. The person who buries the talent is given a sharp rebuke, but it is a warning to all of us that whatever talents we are given are not just our personal property to have and to keep and to do whatever we want with. Everything

we have, our intelligence, our health, our children, are given to us by God so that we may serve him and love him and serve and love our fellow humans. We are living in times when we are told we have lots of 'rights', including the right to do whatever we want with our bodies, our talents, our possessions. But if we listen carefully to what Jesus tells us, the only 'right' we have is to love. This gives us a completely different view of life: we are not here simply to fulfil our worldly ambitions; we are here to build the Kingdom of God among us. And at the end of our lives we will be judged on how we have

contributed to the building of this Kingdom. However, we can't do this if all our efforts are concentrated on building a 'better' life for ourselves. If, on the other hand, we put our talents and our capabilities at the service of humanity, we will both fulfil ourselves and help bring about God's Kingdom on earth.

EVANGELII GAUDIUM  
(JOY OF THE GOSPEL)POPULAR VS.  
POPULIST

156. In recent years, the words "populism" and "populist" have invaded the communications media and everyday conversation. As a result, they have lost whatever value they might have had, and have become another source of polarization in an already divided society. Efforts are made to classify entire peoples, groups, societies and governments as "populist" or not. Nowadays it has become impossible for someone to express a view on any subject without being categorized one way or the other, either to be unfairly discredited or to be praised to the skies.

## The Fire of Love\*

DISCERNING THE RIGHT KIND  
OF LOVE

We all know that we can never be filled with a love of eternity or anointed with the sweet oil of heaven unless we are genuinely converted to God. We have to turn from worldly things, even if only in our minds. This means loving what we ought to love, and not loving what we ought to hate.

We must love God first and foremost, and then other heavenly things. Only necessary love should be given to what is earthly. We must desire nothing but Christ and eschew all that is false and would pervert our steps into the paths of wickedness. It is possible to find people like this who have no taste for earthly things and deal with worldly matters no more than is strictly necessary, but they are few. Those who get rich find comfort in what they have (at least for now) so they are not necessarily entitled to enjoy even a little of this heavenly love. They think they should be given future bliss because they have a surface kind of devotion. But as their love for earthly treasures is unlimited, the fire of love in them will come to nothing. Moreover, they will lack the sweetness that God gives to his true lovers. They enjoy only a counterfeit 'love' which brings them no good in the long run.

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



# PARISH COMMUNITIES OF



## ST GEORGE



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

## ST WILFRID

South Road  
Hailsham



### WEEKLY SERVICES

#### 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
Mon 20th	2.30pm	St George's —	Rosary Group —All welcome
Tues 21st	10am	St George's—	Holy Souls of the Brown & Quinlan Family
Wed 22nd	10am	St Wilfrid's—	Victor Pereira Vargas RIP
Thur 23rd	10am	St George's —	Deceased Members of the Lodrick Family
Fri 24th	10am	St Wilfrid's —	Frederick & Philomena Southam

#### Our Lord Jesus Christ, Universal King

Sat 25th	10am	St Wilfrid's—	Church Open for Prayers & Confessions
Sun 26th	9am	St George's —	Rose & Joseph Falkner 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#\\_=\\_](https://m.facebook.com/gary.westcar#_=_)

**Newsletter items:** Please send to Jackie at [ssgeorge.wilfrid@btinternet.com](mailto: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](mailto: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:

**When God's Glory is revealed our joy will be full.  
It is the Glory of the Father the Son and the Holy Spirit.**

As we celebrate this Great Feast, we will have a celebration of baptisms at St George's Church. This is very appropriate for them, as it bears fruit from their children's liturgy. A corresponding amount of work has provided us with our parish council. Embedded in its foundation are the goals that are established to develop our ministries, our liturgies, our maintenance, and fundraising and social activities.

Early memories of this Feast Day in my time in the diocese was "Youth Gather". Memories of the weather favourable for a youth ramble and social activities, and made for a very successful event. Memories of meeting people, and plans for the future.

It now leaves me on the eve of my Golden Jubilee as a priest. Tempus Fugit. So please God, as the new year unfolds we will lay out our plans for the future, focused upon the lighting of our advent candles, as expression of our plan for developing ministries. So please God, our new year will present opportunities and challenges just as new formed plants do.

*Fr Rory*

Sign No 3. If you are successful, you win false friends and true enemies.  
SUCCEED ANYWAY.

**South Downs Singers** will be holding their Christmas concert at St George's on Saturday 9th December at 3.00 pm. A fabulous selection of carols and festive songs will be sung with an opportunity to join in well loved favourites. Tickets £10 available on the door or beforehand from Anne Bowe.

**Social Committee Meeting** on Wednesday 29th November in St Wilfrid's Hall at 7.30pm.

Gary's beloved Dad's 16th RIP Anniversary, James Leslie Westcar is on Wed 13th December 2023.

**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 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:**

Fri 24th Nov, 11-12pm - Parish Bereavement Gp, St W's Hall.  
Sun 26th Nov, 10am - Parish Charity Breakfast, St G's Hall.  
Tue 21st Nov, 7pm - Rehearsal for Carols, St W's Church.  
Tue 28th Nov, 6pm - 1st Communion Lesson, St W's Hall.  
Wed 29th Nov, 7.30pm - Social Committee Mtg, 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 9th Dec, 3pm - South Downs Singers Xmas Concert, St G's.  
Sat 16th Dec, 3pm - Nine Lessons & Carols, St W's Church.  
Tue 16th Jan, 6pm, - 1st Communion Lesson, St W's Hall.

**On Saturday, 16th December** at 3.00 pm there will be a parish Nine Lessons and Carols at St Wilfrid's, with refreshments afterwards. We would love singers from both churches to come along to a rehearsal on Tuesday 21st November, 7.00 pm at St Wilfrid's Church.

**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.

**Love In A Box:** Last Sunday for Love In A Box is November 26th.

**The Diocese of Arundel & Brighton** are delighted to be hosting a series of short films to help you prepare this Advent. Each episode will take you on a journey through the themes of the Advent readings, and there are a great selection of guest speakers. They are also offering the opportunity for you to join an online small group where you can watch and then discuss the films with others, growing in fellowship and praying with like-minded people. Simply visit [W: www.abdiocese.org.uk](http://www.abdiocese.org.uk) to find out more.

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

**Sunday 12th November - Mass Attendance:**

St Wilfrid's 91      St George's 50