

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

Fourth Sunday of Advent, Christmas Eve

Sat 23rd	10am	St Wilfrid's—	Church Open for Prayers & Confessions
Christmas Eve	9am	St George's —	Parish Communities' Intention
	10.30am	St Wilfrid's —	Families Intention
	5.30pm	St Wilfrid's -	Family Mass with Nativity Mime
Christmas Day	9.30am	St George's —	The Nativity of the Lord
Tues 26th	10am	St George's—	St Stephen - Edna Andrews RIP (2nd Anniversary)
Wed 27th	10am	St Wilfrid's—	St John the Apostle - Marie Kelly RIP
Thur 28th	10am	St George's —	Holy Innocents
Fri 29th	10am	St Wilfrid's —	Philomena's Deceased Family Members

The Holy Family

Sat 30th	10am	St Wilfrid's—	Church Open for Prayers & Confessions
Sun 31st	9am	St George's —	Family Intention
	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 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, Holly Leone, Deborah Osbourne Walker, Gill Standen and Richard Streeter.

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:

"A saviour is born unto us, He is Christ Jesus our Lord"

As the psalm expresses; **"Though we walk through a valley of darkness, no evil should I fear. You are there with your crook, your staff, with these you give me comfort"**. And we need that comfort. We were fortunate in our seminary as I left full of hope that a new life of faith was possible. My first introduction to parish life and the deanery meetings revealed how much of a challenge that was in store. **Yes, I could see signs that the writing was on the wall.** A sharp fall off in the numbers entering the seminary continued to take place. A need to ask questions and to address the situation was required.

The focus of our celebration at Christmas is because our saviour Jesus has come into our world. This brings light to our world, and we have been constantly blessed by the work that the children's liturgy provides. This work is displayed in our windows and will hopefully find a good home on our website to provide the background to growth and development of the good news that they continue to present. The parish carol service was a joyful experience, a quality occasion. The choir was remarkable and we were blessed by the quality of their performance. The readings were very well presented by our younger generation and made for a memorable and special experience. The hospitality in the hall is a continuing reflection of the efforts that are being made for us to grow together as communities.

Next year St George's Church will be providing the hospitality for this event. They will also facilitate our parish sponsored walk which has become very enjoyable and raises funds for good causes. We hope to continue to support foodbank and the service that they provide, which is so important to many. As we celebrate Christmas the essential is the news that has come into our world, and with the help of God it will bless our world and bless your Christmas, your home and your families this Christmas.

I continue with my favourite focus; grace and peace, and please God, you may all have a peaceful and enjoyable Christmas.

Fr Rory

8. Give the world the best you have and you'll get kicked in the teeth.
GIVE THE WORLD THE BEST YOU'VE GOT ANYWAY.

Christmas Collection: As I am sure many of you are aware, Catholic Priests do not receive a salary and rely on your generosity at Christmas and Easter as a thank you for all they do for us. It is also possible to claim gift aid on your donation if you are a UK taxpayer and that extra 25% will go directly to Father Rory. If you aren't part of a planned giving scheme then please use the "one off" gift aid envelopes located in the porch. You can also contribute via the digital collection plate at St Wilfrid's or via the donations website link (<https://donate.mydona.com/st-wilfrids-church-hailsham>) using the "Christmas Collections" tab.

Parish Charity Breakfast: Next Breakfast 28th Jan after St G's 9am mass - fundraising for Children's Respite Trust. All Welcome invite friends and family, they are welcome just to attend breakfast or join for mass also.

Deacon John and Tessa wish to thank everyone for their cards, gifts and greetings for Christmas and the new year." Greetings and best wishes to you both for Christmas and the new year John and Tessa.

Dates for your Diary:

Sun 24th Dec, 5.30pm - Nativity Mime, St W's Church.
Thur 28th Dec, 2-4pm - Parish Over 50's Club, St W's Hall.
Fri 29th Dec, 2-4pm - Parish Christmas Party, St W's Hall.
Tue 16th Jan, 6pm, - 1st Communion Lesson, St W's Hall.
Thur 25th Jan, 2-4pm - Parish Over 50's Club, St W's Hall.
Fri 26th Jan, 11-12pm - Parish Bereavement Gp, St W's Hall.
Sun 28th Jan, 10am - Parish Charity Breakfast, St G's Hall.

St Wilfrid's Nativity Mime: Today Sunday 24th December, 5.30pm in St Wilfrid's Church. All welcome.

Parish Christmas Party: 29th December, 2-4pm. Tickets - Adults £5, Children Free (still require a ticket).

Parish Over 50's Club: Thurs 28th Dec, 2-4pm. Party Time; crackers, homemade Christmas cake, plus all the usual bingo and quizzes. If you are able to put a little extra than the £5, that will help towards expenses. Christmas Jumpers can be worn!

Your church needs cleaning; at St Wilfrid's we are looking for volunteers to be part of a rota to clean the church and hall. Ideally this would be for a couple of hours every 4-6 weeks. There will be an opportunity to sign up for this in the New Year, but in the meantime please speak to Maria Hills if you are able to put yourself forward to be part of this important team.

Parish Bereavement Gp: There will be no bereavement group in December, we will recommence in January.

Sunday 10th December - Mass Attendance:
St Wilfrid's 119 St George's 70
Sunday 17th December - Mass Attendance:
St Wilfrid's 89 St George's 70