

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

All the earth shall bow down before you, O God,
and shall sing to you,
shall sing to your name, O Most High!

THE COLLECT

Almighty ever-living God,
who govern all things,
both in heaven and on earth,
mercifully hear the pleading of your people
and bestow your peace on our times.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.

FIRST READING

Samuel 3:3-10. 19

Samuel was lying in the sanctuary of the Lord where the ark of God was, when the Lord called, 'Samuel! Samuel!' He answered, 'Here I am.' Then he ran to Eli and said, 'Here I am, since you called me.' Eli said, 'I did not call. Go back and lie down.' So he went and lay down. Once again the Lord called, 'Samuel! Samuel!' Samuel got up and went to Eli and said, 'Here I am, since you called me.' He replied, 'I did not call you, my son; go back and lie down.' Samuel had as yet no knowledge of the Lord and the word of the Lord had not yet been revealed to him. Once again the Lord called, the third time. He got up and went to Eli and said, 'Here I am, since you called me.' Eli then understood that it was the Lord who was calling the boy, and he said to Samuel, 'Go and lie down, and if someone calls say, "Speak, Lord, your servant is listening." So Samuel went and lay down in his place.

The Lord then came and stood by, calling as he had done before, 'Samuel! Samuel!' Samuel answered, 'Speak, Lord, your servant is listening.'

Samuel grew up and the Lord was with him and let no word of his fall to the ground.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

PSALM

Ps 39:2.4.7-10.R.vv8.9

**R) Here I am, Lord!
I come to do your will.**

I waited, I waited for the Lord
and he stooped down to me;
he heard my cry.
He put a new song into my mouth,
praise of our God. **(R)**

You do not ask for sacrifice and offerings,
but an open ear.
You do not ask for holocaust and victim.
Instead, here am I. **(R)**

In the scroll of the book it stands written
that I should do your will.
My God, I delight in your law
in the depth of my heart. **(R)**

Your justice I have proclaimed
in the great assembly.
My lips I have not sealed;
you know it, O Lord. **(R)**

Ps 65:4

SECOND READING

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians
6:13-15. 17-20

The body is not meant for fornication; it is for the Lord, and the Lord for the body. God who raised the Lord from the dead, will by his power raise us up too.

You know, surely, that your bodies are members making up the body of Christ; anyone who is joined to the Lord is one spirit with him.

Keep away from fornication. All the other sins are committed outside the body; but to fornicate is to sin against your own body. Your body, you know, is the temple of the Holy Spirit, who is in you since you received him from God. You are not your own property; you have been bought and paid for. That is why you should use your body for the glory of God.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia! Jn 1:41.17
**We have found the Messiah – which means the Christ –
grace and truth have come through him.
Alleluia!**

GOSPEL

John 1:35-42

The Lord be with you.
And with your spirit.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.
Glory to you, O Lord.

As John stood with two of his disciples, Jesus passed, and John stared hard at him and said, 'Look, there is the lamb of God.' Hearing this, the two disciples followed Jesus. Jesus turned round, saw them following and said, 'What do you want?' They answered, 'Rabbi,' - which means Teacher - 'where do you live?' 'Come and see' he replied; so they went and saw where he lived, and stayed with him the rest of that day. It was about the tenth hour.

One of these two who became followers of Jesus after hearing what John had said was Andrew, the brother of Simon Peter. Early next morning, Andrew met his brother and said to him, 'We have found the Messiah' - which means the Christ - and he took Simon to Jesus. Jesus looked hard at him and said, 'You are Simon son of John; you are to be called Cephas' - meaning Rock.

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

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

Grant us, O Lord, we pray,
that we may participate worthily in these mysteries,
for whenever the memorial of this sacrifice is celebrated
the work of our redemption is accomplished.
Through Christ our Lord.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

1 Jn 4:16

**We have come to know and to believe
in the love that God has for us.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Pour on us, O Lord, the Spirit of your love,
and in your kindness
make those you have nourished
by this one heavenly Bread
one in mind and heart.
Through Christ our Lord.

Our Faith on Sunday

GOSPEL REFLECTION



In today's Gospel we here about how Andrew and his brother Peter come to follow Jesus. It all seems to happen in a very brief period of time. They are somehow captivated by Jesus and decide to follow him.

Andrew says to his brother: "We have found the Messiah." There is obviously a special inspiration of the Holy Spirit which reveals to them who Jesus really is and they 'sign up' immediately, though they don't have a clue what following Jesus entails. Also, in that very first meeting, Jesus gives Simon a new name, Cephas, which means rock. It wasn't until nearly three has passed that the significance of this new name was explained. Clearly God had a plan for Peter, long before he even knew anything about him. We know that Peter

was impulsive and spontaneous, and also that he denied Jesus in the hours before the crucifixion. But Jesus held on to that plan for Peter, even when Pater had strayed from it. God has plan for the life of each one of us. He wants us to be faithful to that divine plan and he doesn't lose sight of it when ourselves do.



POPE FRANCIS' ENCYCLICAL
FRATELLI TUTTI
BROTHERS AND SISTERS ALL



THE BENEFITS AND LIMITS OF LIBERAL APPROACHES

164. Charity, on the other hand, unites both dimensions – the abstract and the institutional – since it calls for an effective process of historical change that embraces everything: institutions, law, technology, experience, professional expertise, scientific analysis, administrative procedures, and so forth. For that matter, "private life cannot exist unless it is protected by public order. A domestic hearth has no real warmth unless it is safeguarded by law, by a state of tranquillity founded on law, and enjoys a minimum of wellbeing ensured by the division of labour, commercial exchange, social justice and political citizenship".¹³⁹

139. PAUL RICOEUR, *Histoire et Verité*, ed. Le Seuil Paris, 1967, 122.



The Fire of Love*
ABOUT COMMITTING SIN



From the fire of love, such virtue and beauty are developed in us that the righteous person would rather face torment than offend God for even a moment. Nothing is more pleasing to God than innocence. Wanting to please him is everything. Better to endure hardships than be enticed away from doing what is right, for God chastises those who do good and those who do evil alike.

If we notice how grain is threshed, we understand something of God's ways. When grain is being threshed, chaff is also flailed. But when the grain is winnowed, the chaff is thrown out while the grain is carefully collected for human consumption. If everyone lived a good life there would surely be peace and quiet and no war; but evil people are many and good people few. This means that evil easily comes into its own and touches the good as well as the bad because we are all living together and affect one another.

If we are righteous, it is for us to accept discipline, for we live on earth which is a valley of tears, not a pleasure garden. Remember Christ and his apostles. They suffered – so why should we expect to move easily from one joy to another in this life? It just cannot be done! Let the fire of love burn up the dross in us during our life on earth, then we will be fit to fly straight to heaven after we die. Don't be led astray by the temptations inherent in soft living.

*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

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sat 13th	10am	St Wilfrid's—	Church Open for Prayers & Confessions
Sun 14th	9am	St George's —	Parish Communities' Intention
	10.30am	St Wilfrid's —	Private Intention
Mon 15th	2.30pm	St Wilfrid's —	Rosary Group - All Welcome
Tues 16th	10am	St George's—	Mrs Doreen Malangone RIP
Wed 17th	10am	St Wilfrid's—	Mrs Valerie Wells RIP
Thur 18th	10am	St George's —	John Bree RIP
Fri 19th	10am	St Wilfrid's —	Grace Verrill RIP

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

(Collection for Racial Justice Day next Sunday)

Sat 20th	10am	St Wilfrid's—	Church Open for Prayers & Confessions
Sun 21st	9am	St George's —	Parish Communities' Intention
	10.30am	St Wilfrid's —	John Barnes 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, 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, Richard Streeter and Patricia Delaney.

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:

“For our future, our first focus is God’s Providence”

which is His willingness to provide and given the opportunity, he provides with abundance. As I was reading the prepared handout for our parish training, I became aware that it is like a skeleton for the structure that will have so much responsibility. As that structure comes to life and carries on the flow of life in our parish it will come to fruition. A constant criteria established by Jesus “I have come so that you may have life and have it to the full.

Soon Lent (Lent means Spring), a most important season. As in the beginning of Spring, new shoots, new plants and new flowers coming to life. The development of ministries will be the reward for the fruits of labour. Please God, this time they will continue to develop and grow.

Fr Rory

Bishop Richard has written a new Pastoral Plan for the Diocese ‘The Word Who is Life: The Call to Mission’. As society becomes more secular our parishes must be ever-clearer beacons of light guiding people to Christ. The new Plan highlights how our community of faith can embrace this important time of renewal, forging diocesan parishes into communities of saints and strong, lively, and welcoming schools of discipleship. The Pastoral Plan can be found on the diocesan website:

www.abdiocese.org.uk/diocese/pastoral-plan

People living on their own, especially the elderly: Please make sure you have given a friend/close relative your mobile as well as your landline number. We never know when we might have a fall etc, taken to hospital, but no one knows. This has happened to one of our parishioners, Agnes, no one knew and we were desperate to find out where and how she was. Now we know, please say a prayer for her that she is back among us soon.

Wheelchairs: There is a wheelchair available in both St Wilfrid’s and St George’s. We have noticed that our elderly people could do with a little help getting from car to church or hall. Please take advantage of this service, it will help you.

Day of Reflection for Ministers of the Word – Saturday 20th January 2024

Bishop Richard will lead a day of reflection and formation for Ministers of the Word at Sacred Heart Church, Cobham, 11-4pm. Including Lectio Divina and Mass, plus talks on Sacred Scripture, the Liturgy of the Word, the Lectionary, and practical aspects of the ministry. Please register using the link W: [Day of Reflection for Ministers of the Word \(20-Jan-2024\)](#) · [ChurchSuite Events](#)

Dates for your Diary:

Sun 14th Jan, 11.30am - St W’s Parish Mtg, St W’s Church.
Tue 16th Jan, 6pm, - 1st Communion Lesson, St W’s Hall.
Sun 21st Jan, 2-4pm - Parish Meeting, St W’s Church.
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.
Fri 16th Feb, 7pm - Fundraising Race Night, St W’s Hall.
Tue 20th Feb, 6pm - 1st Communion Lesson, St W’s Hall.
Tue 12th March, 6pm - 1st Communion Lesson, St W’s Hall.

Save Sunday 21st January all Catechists, Acolytes, Altar Servers, Ministers of the Word, Eucharist, Welcome, Music and any parishioners who wish to explore being involved in any of these ministries.

A RACE NIGHT on the 16th February at St Wilfrid’s is our next parish social/fund raising event. Sale of horses will start this weekend at £2 each. If you have a business you can sponsor a race for £10 as can any one else. Once the horses are all sold the race cards will go on sale at £5 each which be your entry ticket. This is a fun evening so please put the date in your diaries.

Parish Over 50’s Club: Our next afternoon tea will be Thursday 25th January 2024 at 2pm. As this is “Burns Night” we shall have a Scottish theme plus Haggis! Of course. See you there. As Annette and Joan are out of pocket on these occasions, we have decided that we will charge £10 each month per person. This will cover the ever rising cost of food and prizes, plus two valuable raffle tickets free!

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.

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.

St George’s Table Sale items: new and nearly new items suitable for sale are urgently needed if anyone has anything please place at the back of church or under the table, or feel free to add to table display.

Sunday 7th January - Mass Attendance:

St Wilfrid’s 116 St George’s 70