

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Cf. Ps 30:3-4

Be my protector, O God,
a mighty stronghold to save me.
For you are my rock, my stronghold!
Lead me, guide me, for the sake of your name.

THE COLLECT

O God, who teach us that you abide
in hearts that are just and true,
grant that we may be so fashioned by your grace
as to become a dwelling pleasing to you.
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

Leviticus 13:1-2. 44-46

The Lord said to Moses and Aaron, ‘If a swelling or scab or shiny spot appears on a man’s skin, a case of leprosy of the skin is to be suspected. The man must be taken to Aaron, the priest, or to one of the priests who are his sons.

‘The man is leprous: he is unclean. The priest must declare him unclean; he is suffering from leprosy of the head. A man infected with leprosy must wear his clothing torn and his hair disordered; he must shield his upper lip and cry, “Unclean, unclean.” As long as the disease lasts he must be unclean; and therefore he must live apart; he must live outside the camp.’

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

PSALM

Ps 31:1-2.5.11.R.v7

**R) You are my refuge, O Lord;
you fill me with the joy of salvation.**

Happy the man whose offence is forgiven,
whose sin is remitted.
O happy the man to whom the Lord
imputes no guilt,
in whose spirit is no guile. **(R)**

But now I have acknowledged my sins;
my guilt I did not hide.
I said: ‘I will confess
my offence to the Lord.’
And you, Lord, have forgiven
the guilt of my sin. **(R)**

Rejoice, rejoice in the Lord,
exult, you just!
O come, ring out your joy,
all you upright of heart. **(R)**

SECOND READING

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians
10:31-11:1

Whatever you eat, whatever you drink, whatever you do at all, do it for the glory of God. Never do anything offensive to anyone - to Jews or Greeks or to the Church of God; just as I try to be helpful to everyone at all times, not anxious for my own advantage but for the advantage of everybody else, so that they may be saved.

Take me for your model, as I take Christ.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!
**A great prophet has appeared among us;
God has visited his people.**
Alleluia! Lk 7:16

GOSPEL

Mark 1:40-45

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

A leper came to Jesus and pleaded on his knees: ‘If you want to’ he said ‘you can cure me.’ Feeling sorry for him, Jesus stretched out his hand and touched him. ‘Of course I want to!’ he said, ‘Be cured!’ And the leprosy left him at once and he was cured. Jesus immediately sent him away and sternly ordered him, ‘Mind you say nothing to anyone, but go and show yourself to the priest, and make the offering for your healing prescribed by Moses as evidence of your recovery.’ The man went away, but then started talking about it freely and telling the story everywhere, so that Jesus could no longer go openly into any town, but had to stay outside in places where nobody lived. Even so, people from all around would come to him.

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

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

May this oblation, O Lord, we pray,
cleanse and renew us
and may it become for those who do your will
the source of eternal reward.
Through Christ our Lord.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Jn 3:16

**God so loved the world
that he gave his Only Begotten Son,
so that all who believe in him may not perish,
but may have eternal life.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Having fed upon these heavenly delights,
we pray, O Lord,
that we may always long
for that food by which we truly live.
Through Christ our Lord.

Our Faith on Sunday

GOSPEL REFLECTION



The leper having been cured by Jesus obviously wants to share his joy with everyone, just as we all do when we have some really good news. And yet Jesus had ‘sternly ordered him’ not to say

anything to anyone. In fact, Jesus often tells those he cured not to tell others. So why would Jesus have said this? Surely he wanted people to follow him? I think the most likely reason is that Jesus wanted people to follow him, certainly, but for the right reasons. Everywhere he went large crowds followed him, but were they following him for the ‘right reasons’? He didn’t want some kind of fan club, he wanted people to recognise him as the Messiah and then follow him through the ‘narrow gate’.

Jesus made it clear to his disciples that following him was not an easy option, in fact, it was a way paved with suffering and death. It is the same today. Jesus calls us today, as he did his followers 2,000 years ago, to take up our cross and follow him.



POPE FRANCIS’ ENCYCLICAL
FRATELLI TUTTI
BROTHERS AND SISTERS ALL



THE BENEFITS AND LIMITS OF LIBERAL APPROACHES

168. The marketplace, by itself, cannot resolve every problem, however much we are asked to believe this dogma of neoliberal faith. Whatever the challenge, this impoverished and repetitive school of thought always offers the same recipes. Neoliberalism simply reproduces itself by resorting to the magic theories of “spillover” or “trickle” – without using the name – as the only solution to societal problems. There is little appreciation of the fact that the alleged “spillover” does not resolve the inequality that gives rise to new forms of violence threatening the fabric of society. It is imperative to have a proactive economic policy directed at “promoting an economy that favours productive diversity and business creativity”¹⁴⁰ and makes it possible for jobs to be created and not cut.

140. Encyclical Letter Laudato Si’ (24 May 2015), 129: AAS 107 (2015), 899.

The Fire of Love* GOD ALONE IS WORTH ALL WE HAVE AND ARE

The human heart is made for God, and God alone can satisfy it. If we desire peace it will come to us with the gift of song. Music gives way to praise as our hearts burn with heavenly fire. Some song of sweetness will remain with us, so we will sing in solitude and do everything for the love of Christ. Once we have burned with the magic of this music, we are never the same again.

Live and act outwardly just like those among whom you dwell. Do not try to outdo others in prayer, fasting and exterior piety. Self-discipline gives self-control in a modest and humble way. As Christ lives in us so we can sing:

Come down, Lord.

Come beloved and ease my longing.

See how I love, I sing, I glow, I burn.

Spare a thought for this poor one;

let me be brought into your presence.

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



PARISH COMMUNITIES OF



ST GEORGE

Eastbourne Road
Polegate



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

ST WILFRID

South Road
Hailsham



WEEKLY SERVICES

Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sat 10th	10am	St Wilfrid's—	Church Open for Prayers & Confessions
Sun 11th	9am	St George's —	Mr K P Mathew
	10.30am	St Wilfrid's —	Hannah Hoad RIP
Mon 12th	2.30pm	St George's —	Rosary Group - All Welcome
Tues 13th	10am	St George's—	Betty Elliott RIP
Ash Wednesday	10am	St Wilfrid's—	Parish Communities' Intention
	12pm	St George's -	Con Ryan RIP
Thur 15th	10am	St George's —	James Lissenburg Intention
Fri 16th	10am	St Wilfrid's —	Mathew & Anna RIP

First Sunday of Lent

(Collection for CAFOD next Sunday)

Sat 17th	10am	St Wilfrid's—	Church Open for Prayers & Confessions
Sun 18th	9am	St George's —	Len Brotherwood 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#_=_

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

Churches Together in Polegate/Willingdon/Hampden Park/Hydneye 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 Stimpson, Nicole McCutchan, Nellie Oakshott, Jean Molloy, Alan Smith, Julie Martin, Holly Leone, Deborah Osbourne Walker, Gill Standen, Richard Streeter, Patricia Delaney and Peter Andrews.

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.

Deacon John Writes:

Next Wednesday is 'Ash Wednesday'. It is a day of Fasting and Abstinence. It is a day when we have ashes marking a sign of the Cross on our forehead. These ashes say we will not settle for what we are but live in hope for what we can be. And what we want to be is more humble, more holy, more patient, more loving. These ashes mean we are mortal. In a time when we like to not face the reality of death, we announce this very clearly: We will die. They say to all who see them, "I don't have forever. I am dust. And one day, I will be dust again." That is the bottom line for every one of us, our common denominator. It makes the ash mark matter even more. Recently I read an article on the Internet that offers 40 ideas of suggestions for what we might do as extras for Lent. They included the following suggestions:

- 1) Pray for one person every day of Lent. It might be someone you know. It might be a stranger. Sacrifice something for them.
- 2) Pray a rosary every day for someone who has hurt you.
- 3) Write a letter to a different person each day, telling them what they mean to you.
- 4) Volunteer at a shelter, soup kitchen or retirement home.
- 5) If you have a long car journey as a passenger spend some of it in silent prayer.

Those can act as starters for you. I am sure we can all think of many other 'extras' we could do during Lent so why not do some of them! There is no compulsion and you should not tell anyone what you are doing. They are to be secret between you and God.

Deacon John

St George's: St Patrick's Day and Easter Cards are on sale at the back of St George's Church.

CAFOD Fast Day is on Friday, February 23rd. Envelopes for your donations are available at the back of the church or why not join us for a simple lunch of soup and bread at St Wilfrid's Hall after mass on Sun Feb 25th, 11.30-1.00pm. Food is free but we encourage generous donations to CAFOD. This is an event for all ages. There will be fellowship and Lenten themed activities for all. We look forward to seeing many of you there. Could you volunteer to help make or serve the soup? If you are able to help please contact Lesley Crowe or Teresa Palmer on 07951 082592. Eat simply to help others simply eat!

Lent Devotions & Charity Fundraising:

Lent starts this Wed 14th with mass being said at 10am in St W and 12noon in St G. During this most important part of our year with Christ we are encouraged to do even more: more prayer and devotions; more fundraising (our lent charity is Lourdes youth attendees); more for our community and others. There are several things already planned All Welcome:

Sunday 25th February: St G - Charity breakfast after mass for those attending Lourdes from our parish

St W - Family lent activities and CAFOD Soup lunch after mass

Saturday 9th March at St Georges from 10.30am

- Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 10.30 - 11.30 Holy Hour

- Family Stations 11.30am followed by Soup lunch

Please all make a special effort to attend this together as a Parish.

Stations of the Cross Sundays at St George's 3pm.

(Not Mothering Sunday 10th or St Patrick's Day Sunday 17th)

Good Friday 29th March

- Family Stations 10am St Wilfrid's followed by refreshments/hot cross buns

- 3pm Good Friday Liturgy in both churches

Holy Week services and times will be listed next week.

Dates for your Diary:

Sun 11th Feb, 11.30am - Parish Meeting, St W's Church.

Tue 20th Feb, 6pm - 1st Communion Lesson, St W's Hall.

Fri 23rd Feb, 11-12pm - Parish Bereavement Gp, St W's Hall.

Sun 25th Feb, 10am - Parish Charity Breakfast, St G's Hall.

Sun 25th Feb, 11.30am-1pm - Lenten Lunch, St W's Hall.

Thur 29th Feb, 2-4pm - Parish Over 50's Club, St W's Hall.

Sat 9th March, 10.30am - Sacrament & Family Stations, St G's

St George's Children's Liturgy: To prepare for Lent the Children's Liturgy leaders & children are inviting you all to enjoy homemade pancakes after mass this morning. Please join us if you can. They will be very yummy!

Race Night 16th February POSTPONED: Due to unforeseen circumstances we have had to postpone the race night. Please hold onto your leaflets for after Easter when we will hold the event. Date TBC.

Ash Wednesday: Please return last years psalms by **Today** so that they may be prepared for Ash Wednesdays' Mass on the 14th February, the beginning of the Lenten Season. Please return your psalms to the sacristy. Many thanks.

March 17th, St Patrick's Feast Day this year is on a Sunday. The 10.30am Mass at St Wilfrid's will be a celebration of this feast day, followed by a light lunch of sandwiches and cake in the hall after, along with Irish music etc. There will be a nominal charge to cover the food costs of £2 per adult.

INVITED: Everyone is invited to be part of our Lenten Programme. Whether you take part in our five "Invited" mission sessions that will take place after the 10am Mass on Wednesdays at St Wilfrid's or online as part of the diocesan group, everyone watches the same episodes and explores the same material each week. The material explores "Discipleship" as we continue to conform our lives to The Lord. If anyone would like to join an evening session, we could hold these on either a Monday or Friday evening if enough people are interested. Please talk to David Hoad or Maria Hills if you would like to explore this further.

The five parish sessions will be held on Wednesday 21st and 28th February and 6th, 13th and 20th March. For online sessions please see the "Invited" section on the Diocesan website.

Parish Over 50's Club: Our next afternoon tea will be Thursday 29th Feb at 2pm. "Chinese New Year"

Sunday 4th February - Mass Attendance:

St Wilfrid's 100

St George's 70