

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

O come, let us worship God
and bow low before the God who made us,
for he is the Lord our God.

Ps 94:6-7

THE COLLECT

Keep your family safe, O Lord, with unfailing care,
that, relying solely on the hope of heavenly grace,
they may be defended always by your protection.
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

Job 7:1-4.6-7

Job began to speak:
Is not man's life on earth nothing more than pressed service,
his time no better than hired drudgery?
Like the slave, sighing for the shade,
or the workman with no thought but his wages,
months of delusion I have assigned to me,
nothing for my own but nights of grief.
Lying in bed I wonder, 'When will it be day?'
Risen I think, 'How slowly evening comes!'
Restlessly I fret till twilight falls.
Swifter than a weaver's shuttle my days have passed,
and vanished, leaving no hope behind.
Remember that my life is but a breath,
and that my eyes will never again see joy.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

PSALM

Ps 146:1-6.R.v3

R) Praise the Lord who heals the broken-hearted.

Praise the Lord for he is good;
sing to our God for he is loving:
to him our praise is due. (R)

The Lord builds up Jerusalem
and bring back Israel's exiles,
he heals the broken-hearted,
he binds up all their wounds.
He fixes the number of the stars;
he calls each one by its name. (R)

Our Lord is great and almighty;
his wisdom can never be measured.
The Lord raises the lowly;
he humbles the wicked to the dust. (R)

SECOND READING

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians
9:16-19. 22-23

I do not boast of preaching the gospel, since it is a duty which
has been laid on me; I should be punished if I did not preach
it! If I had chosen this work myself, I might have been paid for
it, but as I have not, it is a responsibility which has been put into
my hands. Do you know what my reward is? It is this: in my
preaching, to be able to offer the Good News free, and not
insist on the rights which the gospel gives me.
So though I am not a slave of any man I have made myself
the slave of everyone so as to win as many as I could. For the
weak I made myself weak. I made myself all things to all men
in order to save some at any cost; and I still do this, for the
sake of the gospel, to have a share in its blessings.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!
He took our sicknesses away,
and carried our diseases for us.
Alleluia!

Mt 8:17

GOSPEL

Mark 1:29-39

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

On leaving the synagogue, Jesus went with James and John
straight to the house of Simon and Andrew. Now Simon's
mother-in-law had gone to bed with fever, and they told him
about her straightaway. He went to her, took her by the hand
and helped her up. And the fever left her and she began to wait
on them.

That evening, after sunset, they brought to him all who were
sick and those who were possessed by devils. The whole town
came crowding round the door, and he cured many who were
suffering from diseases of one kind or another; he also cast out
many devils, but he would not allow them to speak, because
they knew who he was.

In the morning, long before dawn, he got up and left the
house, and went off to a lonely place and prayed there. Simon
and his companions set out in search of him, and when they
found him they said, 'Everybody is looking for you.' He
answered, 'Let us go elsewhere, to the neighbouring country
towns, so that I can preach there too, because that is why I
came.' And he went all through Galilee, preaching in their
synagogues and casting out devils.

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

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

O Lord our God,
who once established these created things
to sustain us in our frailty,
grant, we pray,
that they may become for us now
the Sacrament of eternal life.
Through Christ our Lord.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Mt 5:5-6

Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be
consoled.
Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for
righteousness,
for they shall have their fill.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

O God, who have willed that we be partakers
in the one Bread and the one Chalice,
grant us, we pray, so to live
that, made one in Christ,
we may joyfully bear fruit
for the salvation of the world.
Through Christ our Lord.

Our Faith on Sunday

GOSPEL REFLECTION



Today's Gospel sees Jesus carrying
healing on a grand scale, starting
with Simon's mother-in-law. We
are told that the fever left her and
she 'began to wait on them'. This

may seem like a strange
observation and even an unfair
one. The poor woman has just
recovered from a fever and she
immediately sets to work
serving the men! But perhaps
it also is saying that she had
recovered so fully that she was
able to do some physical work
straightaway without the need
to convalesce.

Another interesting thing
about this Gospel is that Jesus cast
out many devils 'but he would
not allow them to speak, because
they knew who he was.' So, it was
the devils who knew who Jesus

was, not the good people! But
why did Jesus not want them to
let others know who he was? Jesus
was healing people because he has
genuine compassion for them,
not so that they would follow
him. As we see in other parts of
the Gospels, Jesus wants people
who will follow him by taking up
their cross and by becoming
'camp-followers' of a faith healer.



POPE FRANCIS' ENCYCLICAL
FRATELLI TUTTI
BROTHERS AND SISTERS ALL



THE BENEFITS AND LIMITS OF LIBERAL APPROACHES

167. Education and upbringing, concern
for others, a well-integrated view of life
and spiritual growth: all these are
essential for quality human relationships
and for enabling society itself to react
against injustices, aberrations and abuses
of economic, technological, political and
media power. Some liberal approaches
ignore this factor of human weakness;
they envisage a world that follows a
determined order and is capable by itself
of ensuring a bright future and providing
solutions for every problem.

The Fire of Love* THE QUALITIES OF THOSE WHO LOVE GOD

The Song of Solomon says that 'Love is as strong as death,
jealousy as cruel as the grave' (Song 8: 6). So too, when
the love of God takes hold of us, a complete change
happens in our way of life. We are not just ready to love
God but to bear any hardship or tribulation for God's
sake. The mind is set only on the beloved, not passing
things.

Those who are wanting to love God must study as best
they can (and with the help of God's grace) not be
ensnared by boredom or laziness. If we cannot raise our
mind to joyful and holy contemplation, nor sing as we
once did, we must not on that account give up reading,
praying or other worthwhile things, and just sink into
laziness. Boredom leads people into laziness and laziness
leads into carelessness and sin. So we must always try to
be as fervent as possible in loving God, no matter what we
feel like.

Be careful not just to affect a holy exterior in dress and
devotion. People can be outwardly pious but inwardly
they are lovers of money and an easy prey to temptation.
God looks at the heart, and no one can hide their heart
from others for ever. Truth will out as they say.

*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

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

(Collection for Leprosy Today)

Sat	3rd		St Wilfrid's—	
Sun	4th	9am	St George's —	Gretta Loughnane RIP Anniversary
		10.30am	St Wilfrid's —	Parish Communities' Intention
Mon	5th	2.30pm	St George's —	Rosary Group - All Welcome
Tues	6th	10am	St George's—	
Wed	7th	10am	St Wilfrid's—	
Thur	8th	10am	St George's —	Liturgy of the Word
Fri	9th	10am	St Wilfrid's —	Margaret Madams RIP

Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

(Collection for the Lourdes Pilgrimage Today)

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 —	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 & Richard 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:

I suspect that many of you do not see an item that our Bishop writes every week on the Diocesan internet site. I have, therefore, included some of it in our newsletter this week as Fr Rory has asked me to write for a couple of weeks.

Last week Bishop Richard wrote in his weekly E-bulletin on the Internet that Pope Francis inaugurated a *Year of Prayer* last Sunday calling on the faithful "to pray more fervently... and to experience the power of hope in God." The Year of Prayer aims to help Catholics prepare for the 2025 Jubilee - which has the theme "*Pilgrims of Hope*" - and is dedicated to rediscovering the great value and absolute need for prayer in our personal lives, in the life of the Church, and throughout the world.

The Jubilee Year in 2025 will be a special time to pause and reflect; a time to re-establish a proper relationship with God, with one another, and with all of creation. People across our community of faith can learn more about the upcoming Jubilee Year at the Jubilee website: www.iubilaeum2025.va.

Deacon John

Ash Wednesday: Please return last years psalms by Sunday 11th February 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.

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!

Lourdes Diocese one week pilgrimage 25th July to 2nd Aug 2024 - The 50th anniversary of the Diocese led pilgrimage. All our Parish youth school years 10-13 are encouraged to consider attending. We would also like all other parishioners to consider joining as either helpers or supported pilgrims. We will have a launch meeting in February to form a parish group of attendees and consider our Lent Fundraising which we plan to undertake to help paying towards our parish attendees costs. To have our own Redshirts/youth group in advance of going this year will be amazing so please do consider it, we have four signed up already. Families with younger children also have options for going.

Further details of the pilgrimage can be found on the Diocese website at www.abdiocese.org.uk/lourdes/home. To find out more or to discuss fundraising options email sandraforte40@gmail.com or text/call 07791627368.

Dates for your Diary:

Sun 11th Feb, 11.30am - Parish Meeting, St W's Church.
Fri 16th Feb, 7pm - Fundraising Race Night, St W's Hall.
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.
Tue 12th March, 6pm - 1st Communion Lesson, St W's Hall.
Fri 12th April, 7pm - Parish Quiz Night, St G's Hall.

A RACE NIGHT on the 16th February at St Wilfrid's is our next parish social/fund raising event. The race cards will go on sale at £5 each which be your entry ticket from today at St Wilfrid's and on Sunday 4th February at St George's. This is a fun evening so please put the date in your diaries.

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 10.00am Mass 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 Charity Breakfast: We had a fabulous turnout last Sunday including the wider Polegate community. We raised a total of £200 for the Children's Respite Trust. Our next date will be Sun 25th Feb after St G's 9am mass - fundraising for our young parishioners who sign up for the Lourdes Pilgrimage. All Welcome invite friends and family, they are welcome just to attend breakfast or join for mass also.

Parish Over 50's Club: Our next afternoon tea will be Thursday 29th Feb at 2pm. Our theme is "Chinese New Year", year of the Dragon.

Parish Quiz Night Friday April 12th 7pm - get your teams ready and the date in your diary for the second of our bi-annual quiz nights this time held at St Georges. Teams of 6 with children under 12 not included in team numbers. More details to follow.

Sunday 28th January - Mass Attendance:
St Wilfrid's 119 St George's 77