

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Cf. Ps 42:1-2

Give me justice, O God,
and plead my cause against a nation that is faithless.
From the deceitful and cunning rescue me,
for you, O God, are my strength.

THE COLLECT

By your help, we beseech you, Lord our God,
may we walk eagerly in that same charity
with which, out of love for the world,
your Son handed himself over to death.
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

A reading from the prophet Jeremiah 31: 31-34

See, the days are coming - it is the Lord who speaks - when I will make a new covenant with the House of Israel and the House of Judah, but not a covenant like the one I made with their ancestors on the day I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt. They broke that covenant of mine, so I had to show them who was master. It is the Lord who speaks. No, this is the covenant I will make with the House of Israel when those days arrive - it is the Lord who speaks. Deep within them I will plant my Law, writing it on their hearts. Then I will be their God and they shall be my people. There will be no further need for neighbour to try to teach neighbour, or brother to say to brother, 'Learn to know the Lord!' No, they will all know me, the least no less than the greatest - it is the Lord who speaks - since I will forgive their iniquity and never call their sin to mind.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

PSALM

Ps 50: 3-4. 12-15 R. v12

R) A pure heart create for me, O God.

Have mercy on me, God, in your kindness.
In your compassion blot out my offence.
O wash me more and more from my guilt
and cleanse me from my sin. (R)

A pure heart create for me, O God,
put a steadfast spirit within me.
Do not cast me away from your presence,
nor deprive me of your holy spirit. (R)

Give me again the joy of your help;
with a spirit of fervour sustain me,
that I may teach transgressors your ways
and sinners may return to you. (R)

SECOND READING

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews 5:7-9

During his life on earth, Christ offered up prayer and entreaty, aloud and in silent tears, to the one who had the power to save him out of death, and he submitted so humbly that his prayer was heard. Although he was Son, he learnt to obey through suffering; but having been made perfect, he became for all who obey him the source of eternal salvation.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Jn 12:26

Glory to you, O Christ, you are the Word of God!
If a man serves me, says the Lord, he must follow me;
wherever I am, my servant will be there too.
Glory to you, O Christ, you are the Word of God!

GOSPEL

John 12:20-33

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

Among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. These approached Philip, who came from Bethsaida in Galilee, and put this request to him, 'Sir, we should like to see Jesus.' Philip went to tell Andrew, and Andrew and Philip together went to tell Jesus. Jesus replied to them:

'Now the hour has come
for the Son of Man to be glorified.
I tell you, most solemnly,
unless a wheat grain falls on the ground and dies,
it remains only a single grain;
but if it dies,
it yields a rich harvest.
Anyone who loves his life loses it;
anyone who hates his life in this world
will keep it for the eternal life.
If a man serves me, he must follow me,
wherever I am, my servant will be there too.
If anyone serves me,
my Father will honour him.
Now my soul is troubled.
What shall I say:
Father, save me from this hour?
But it was for this very reason
that I have come to this hour.
Father, glorify your name!'

A voice came from heaven, 'I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again.'

People standing by, who heard this, said it was a clap of thunder; others said, 'It was an angel speaking to him.' Jesus answered, 'It was not for my sake that this voice came, but for yours.

'Now sentence is being passed on this world;
now the prince of this world is to be overthrown.
And when I am lifted up from the earth,
I shall draw all men to myself.'

By these words he indicated the kind of death he would die.

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

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

Hear us, almighty God,
and, having instilled in your servants
the teachings of the Christian faith,
graciously purify them
by the working of this sacrifice.
Through Christ our Lord.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Jn 12:24

Amen, Amen I say to you: Unless a grain of wheat
falls to the ground and dies, it remains a single grain.
But if it dies, it bears much fruit.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

We pray, almighty God,
that we may always be counted among the members of
Christ,
in whose Body and Blood we have communion.
Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

Our Faith on Sunday

GOSPEL REFLECTION



In this passage from John's Gospel Jesus speaks more clearly than ever of his impending death. He asks if he should ask the Father to save him from 'this hour' and then says that it was for this very reason that he came on earth: to give his life for us and

thereby also glorify the Father's name. The image Jesus uses, of the grain of wheat, is a powerful one. The grain of wheat is buried in the darkness of the earth and has to die, in order to come out into the light and produce a rich harvest. He also makes it clear that whoever wishes to follow him must, in some way, lose his or her life, in order to produce a rich harvest. Our natural reaction to any suffering, whether physical or spiritual, is to want to be rid of it as quickly as possible. But for the Christian, every suffering is also an opportunity to carry the cross and to let Jesus transform it into love and make a contribution towards the building of the kingdom of heaven.

The most extreme examples of this way of living one's faith are the martyrs, but very few of are asked literally to give our lives in that way. All of us, however, experience illness, or disappointment, failure or tragedy during our earthly lives. Each of these can be an opportunity to grow in our love for God and be partakers with him in the building of his Kingdom.



EVANGELII GAUDIUM (JOY OF THE GOSPEL)



INTERNATIONAL POWER

171. I would also insist that "to give to each his own – to cite the classic definition of justice – means that no human individual or group can consider itself absolute, entitled to bypass the dignity and the rights of other individuals or their social groupings. The effective distribution of power (especially political, economic, defence-related and technological power) among a plurality of subjects, and the creation of a juridical system for regulating claims and interests, are one concrete way of limiting power. Yet today's world presents us with many false rights and – at the same time – broad sectors which are vulnerable, victims of power badly exercised". 148

[148] Address to the Members of the General Assembly of the United Nations Organization, New York (25 September 2015): AAS 107 (2015), 1037.

The Fire of Love* HOW RICHARD CAME TO THE FIRE OF LOVE (1)

My life was that of a usual boy until God's grace curbed my youthful passions and transformed my earthly longings into a longing for God, who wanted me to follow the solitary life. Rejecting all flattery from others, I gave myself completely to Christ with all my powers.

From then on I continually sought quiet, going from one place to another in my search, even though others criticised me for moving around. Yet I never gave up on the things that helped my soul, such as study. And in the course of time I was granted true spiritual joy.

It took four years before I really began to feel in my heart the warmth of eternal love. It came about like this: One day I was sitting in a certain chapel delighting in the sweetness of prayer and meditation when I suddenly felt an unusually pleasant heat. Not knowing where the heat came from, I soon realised that it came from the Creator himself and was something more fervent and pleasant than I had ever known.

*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 of Lent (Second Collection for Church Maintenance Fund)			
Sat 16th	10am	St Wilfrid's—	Confessions & Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
Sun 17th	9am	St George's —	Mary Jenner RIP
	10.30am	St Wilfrid's —	Encinas Family Intention
	3pm	St George's -	Stations of the Cross
Mon 18th	2.30pm	St George's —	Rosary Group - All Welcome
Tues 19th	10am	St George's—	Anthony Kilgranon
Wed 20th	10am	St Wilfrid's—	Mary O'Donoghue RIP
Thur 21st	10am	St George's —	Parish Communities' Intention
Fri 22nd	10am	St Wilfrid's —	Private Intention
Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord			
Sat 23rd	10am	St Wilfrid's—	Confessions & Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
Sun 24th	9am	St George's —	Barry Megan RIP
	10.30am	St Wilfrid's —	Parish Communities' Intention
	3pm	St George's -	Stations of the Cross

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, Sue Nye, 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.

Fr Rory Writes:

**“Though He was in the form of God, Jesus did not cling to that equality,
but emptied Himself to become as we are.”**

He did this for a great purpose. To bring to us the salvation of God. He became as we are, the best way to say it to “share our journey”. At the heart of that journey was the forty days Jesus spent in the wilderness, hence we have this important season of Lent. As Moses lifted up the serpent in the desert, “so the son of man would be lifted high upon the cross”.

So prayer is at the heart of our response. The best preparation I had when I was going into the seminary; a six year sentence, was the conviction established in the early years of my life. Pray and pray constantly and never lose heart. Aspirations are the key building blocks. Father, Son and Holy Spirit are Jesus, Mary and Joseph, are Jesus mercy, Mary help me, no cross no crown. These are the trails through which we triumph, by the power of Him who loves us.

Fr Rory

Scripture Reading for Lent: Thus says the Lord: ‘is not this the sort of fast that pleases me - it is the Lord who speaks - to break unjust fetters and undo the thongs of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free and break every yoke, to share your bread with the hungry, to shelter the homeless poor, to clothe those you see to be naked and not turn from your own kin. Then will your light shine like the dawn and your wound be quickly healed over. Your integrity will go before you and the glory of the Lord behind you. Cry, and the Lord will answer; call and he will say. ‘I am here.’”
[Isaiah 58:6-9]

Parish Quiz Night Fri April 12th 7pm - Tickets now on sale. Get your teams ready for the second of our bi-annual quiz nights this time held at St Georges Hall. Teams of 6 with children under 12 not included in team numbers.

Race Night Date Confirmed as 26th April at 7pm: The race night leaflets already bought will be accepted as your entry on the night. More will be on sale over the next few weeks. You will need to bring your own alcoholic drinks and nibbles. Tea ,Coffee & soft drinks will be available. The tote will be at £1 a ticket. This is a fun night for all, hope to see you on the night.

St Wilfrid's: It was lovely to see our Altar Servers receive their certificates last Sunday having witnessed them receiving Bronze and 1 Silver Medal for 10 years of altar serving. How blessed we are in having so many good servers on a Sunday, trained under the watchful eye of David Hoad. Also so many children going into the hall for their special service and activities, lets pray that they continue to practice their faith. Also children attending the lessons in preparation for their First Holy communion. Thank you to the ladies teaching them, they do a good job for us.

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

Dates for your Diary:

Fri 22nd March, 11-12pm - Parish Bereavement Gp, St W's Hall.
Sun 24th March, 10am - Community Charity Breakfast, St G's.
Sun 24th March, 3pm - Stations of the Cross, St G's Church.
Thur 28th March, 2-4pm - Parish Over 50's Club, St W's Hall.
Thur 28th March, 7pm - Maundy Thursday Service, St G's.
Fri 29th March, 10am - Family Stations + Hot Cross Buns, St W's
Fri 29th March, 3pm - Good Friday Liturgy, St W's Church.
Fri 29th March, 3pm - Good Friday Liturgy, St G's Church.
Sat 30th March, 7pm - Holy Saturday Easter Vigil, St W's Church
Sun 31st March, 9am - Easter Sunday Mass, St G's Church.
Sun 31st March, 10.30am- Easter Sunday Mass, St W's Church.
Fri 12th April, 7pm - Parish Quiz Night, St G's Hall.

Easter Sunday after Mass in St Wilfrid's Hall, we shall have our “surprise bag sale”, choose a bag for £2 (£1 for children) prize every time. This year we have more bags to fill. If you have any bags to contribute, please put them in the box in the porch, empty or full. Thank you. The proceeds will go towards items for children's liturgy.

St George's Church - 7th to 30th March: Tea/Coffee after Mass every Tuesday during Lent. Join us in Lenten Mass and social time afterwards in St G's Hall

2nd Collection: Please note this Sundays 2nd Collection will be for the upkeep of our church which like everything is going up in price, so please be generous. Thank you.

A belated thank you to all those who contributed provisions for the recent Lenten lunch. This allowed us to give 100% of donations to CAFOD. Thank you all so much for your generosity, kindness, your time spent cooking, and your culinary skills.

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

Please support Lynne Phair's September Bike Ride from Eastbourne to Amsterdam in Aid of St Wilfrid's Hospice. Lynne will be selling raffle tickets after Mass in St G's Hall on Sun 17 March & Sun 7 April. The prizes are: 1st prize Electric Bike, 2nd prize Food Hamper, 3rd prize A Wine Hamper. Tickets will be £2 each. Or donate to www.justgiving.com/page/lynne-phair-1690041574167 Thank you.

Sunday 10th March - Mass Attendance:

St Wilfrid's 118

St George's 68