

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON Cf. Ps 138: 18, 5-6
I have risen, and I am with you still, alleluia.
You have laid your hand upon me, alleluia.
Too wonderful for me, this knowledge, alleluia, alleluia.

THE COLLECT
O God, who on this day,
through your Only Begotten Son,
have conquered death
and unlocked for us the path to eternity,
grant, we pray, that we who keep
the solemnity of the Lord's Resurrection
may, through the renewal brought by your Spirit,
rise up in the light of life.
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 10:34. 37-43
A reading from the Acts of the Apostles
Peter addressed Cornelius and his household: 'You must have heard about the recent happenings in Judaea; about Jesus of Nazareth and how he began in Galilee, after John had been preaching baptism. God had anointed him with the Holy Spirit and with power, and because God was with him, Jesus went about doing good and curing all who had fallen into the power of the devil. Now I, and those with me, can witness to everything he did throughout the countryside of Judaea and in Jerusalem itself: and also to the fact that they killed him by hanging him on a tree, yet three days afterwards God raised him to life and allowed him to be seen, not by the whole people but only by certain witnesses God had chosen beforehand. Now we are those witnesses - we have eaten and drunk with him after his resurrection from the dead - and he has ordered us to proclaim this to his people and to tell them that God has appointed him to judge everyone, alive or dead. It is to him that all the prophets bear this witness: that all who believe in Jesus will have their sins forgiven through his name.'

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

PSALM Ps 117:1-2.16-17.22-23. Rv.24
**R) This day was made by the Lord;
we rejoice and are glad.**

Give thanks to the Lord for he is good,
for his love has no end.
Let the sons of Israel say:
'His love has no end.' (R)

The Lord's right hand has triumphed;
his right hand raised me up.
I shall not die, I shall live
and recount his deeds. (R)

The stone which the builders rejected
has become the corner stone.
This is the work of the Lord,
a marvel in our eyes. (R)

SECOND READING (an alternative may be read) 3:1-4
A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Colossians
Since you have been brought back to true life with Christ, you must look for the things that are in heaven, where Christ is, sitting at God's right hand. Let your thoughts be on heavenly things, not on the things that are on the earth, because you have died, and now the life you have is hidden with Christ in God. But when Christ is revealed - and he is your life - you too will be revealed in all your glory with him.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

SEQUENCE
Christians, to the Paschal Victim
offer sacrifice and praise.
The sheep are ransomed by the Lamb;
and Christ, the undefiled,
hath sinners to his Father reconciled.
Death with life contended: combat strangely ended!
Life's own Champion, slain, yet lives to reign.
Tell us, Mary: say what thou didst see upon the way.
The tomb the Living did enclose;
I saw Christ's glory as he rose!
The angels there attesting;
shroud with grave-clothes resting.
Christ, my hope, has risen:
he goes before you into Galilee.
That Christ is truly risen from the dead we know.
Victorious king, thy mercy show!
The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION Cor 5:7-8
Alleluia, alleluia!
Christ, our passover, has been sacrificed;
let us celebrate the feast then, in the Lord.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL (an alternative may be read) John 20:1-9
The Lord be with you.
And with your spirit.
A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.
Glory to you, O Lord.

It was very early on the first day of the week and still dark, when Mary of Magdala came to the tomb. She saw that the stone had been moved away from the tomb and came running to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one Jesus loved. 'They have taken the Lord out of the tomb' she said 'and we don't know where they have put him.'

So Peter set out with the other disciple to go to the tomb. They ran together, but the other disciple, running faster than Peter, reached the tomb first; he bent down and saw the linen cloths lying on the ground, but did not go in. Simon Peter who was following now came up, went right into the tomb, saw the linen cloths on the ground, and also the cloth that had been over his head; this was not with the linen cloths but rolled up in a place by itself. Then the other disciple who had reached the tomb first also went in; he saw and he believed. Till this moment they had failed to understand the teaching of scripture, that he must rise from the dead.

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

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS
Exultant with the paschal gladness, O Lord,
we offer the sacrifice
by which your church
is wondrously reborn and nourished.
Through Christ our Lord.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON 1 Cor 5:7-8
Christ our Passover has been sacrificed, alleluia;
therefore let us keep the feast with the unleavened bread
of purity and truth, alleluia, alleluia.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION
Look upon your Church, O God,
with unfailing love and favour,
so that, renewed by the paschal mysteries,
she may come to the glory of the resurrection.
Through Christ our Lord.

Our Faith on Sunday

GOSPEL REFLECTION



The first thing that strikes us from today's Gospel is that the very first person to go the tomb is Mary of Magdala. We would have expected the apostles to be the first there, but no, it is a woman

who is the first one there. However, Mary's reaction is that "they have taken the Lord out of the tomb." She tells Peter and John who rush to the tomb, and only when John enters the empty tomb does he realise what has happened and that Jesus, as he had promised, had risen from the dead.

There are times in our own lives when we have the impression that Jesus is not with us, that we can't pray, or we feel no-one is listening to us. But we have to careful that we are not doing what Mary, Peter and John did and

look for Jesus in an empty tomb. If we can't find him where we normally do, we need to look for him elsewhere – in the poor, in the sick, in the marginalised, in the abandoned ones in our society. It may simply be in doing a small act of love for someone when we least feel like doing it, that risen Lord makes himself felt in our hearts.



EVANGELII GAUDIUM (JOY OF THE GOSPEL)



INTERNATIONAL POWER

173. In this regard, I would also note the need for a reform of "the United Nations Organization, and likewise of economic institutions and international finance, so that the concept of the family of nations can acquire real teeth".¹⁵¹ Needless to say, this calls for clear legal limits to avoid power being co-opted only by a few countries and to prevent cultural impositions or a restriction of the basic freedoms of weaker nations on the basis of ideological differences. For "the international community is a juridical community founded on the sovereignty of each member state, without bonds of subordination that deny or limit its independence".¹⁵² At the same time, "the work of the United Nations, according to the principles set forth in the Preamble and the first Articles of its founding Charter, can be seen as the development and promotion of the rule of law, based on the realization that justice is an essential condition for achieving the ideal of universal fraternity... There is a need to ensure the uncontested rule of law and tireless recourse to negotiation, mediation and arbitration, as proposed by the Charter of the United Nations, which constitutes truly a fundamental juridical norm".¹⁵³ There is need to prevent this Organization from being delegitimized, since its problems and shortcomings are capable of being jointly addressed and resolved.

151. Ibid.: AAS 101 (2009), 700.
152. PONTIFICAL COUNCIL FOR JUSTICE AND PEACE, Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church, 434.
153. Address to the Members of the General Assembly of the United Nations Organization, New York (25 September 2015): AAS 107 (2015), 1037, 1041.

The Fire of Love* HOW TO ACQUIRE PERFECT LOVE

In a truly loving mind, there is always a song of glory and an inner flame of love. It springs from a clear conscience and real spiritual joy. It delights in Jesus day and night. The world, the flesh and the devil have no power when the mind and heart are turned wholly to Christ. Doing great things is not what counts. What counts is love – loving and being loved by Christ.

I ask you, Lord Jesus, to develop your love in me. Give me an immeasurable urge towards you, an unbounded affection, an unrestrained longing, a fervour that throws discretion to the winds. The more we love you, the more pressing love becomes. Reason cannot hold this kind of love in check. Fear does not make it tremble; wise judgement does not temper it.

While doing good things to excess can turn to evil, this does not happen when we love God, because God cannot be loved too much. If we love, we long to have the one we love near us; as Scripture says: 'Tell my beloved that I languish for love' (Song 5: 8).

When we begin to turn to Christ, we are first moved with a real sorrow for sin. This makes us give up all that leads to self-glorification. Everything else is forgotten in order to gain Christ and have him set as a seal upon our heart (cf Song 8: 6).

*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

Easter Vigil		Easter Sunday	
Easter Sunday		7pm	St Wilfrid's —
		9am	St George's — Parish Communities' Intention
		10.30am	St Wilfrid's — Brian Winter RIP
Mon	1st	2.30pm	St George's — Rosary Group - All Welcome
Tues	2nd	10am	St George's — Margaret & Jeff Boots Intention
Wed	3rd	10am	St Wilfrid's — Elsa Flint Intention
Thurs	4th	10am	St George's — Sheila Campbell & Christopher Moroney RIP
Fri	5th	10am	St Wilfrid's — Grace Fenn
Second, 'Low', Sunday of Easter (Divine Mercy Sunday)			
Sat	6th	10am	St Wilfrid's — Church Open for Prayers & Confessions
Sun	7th	9am	St George's — Mr Joseph Santos 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, 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.

The Son of God Jesus laid down His life to establish God's salvation, and restore His Kingdom here on earth. After over two thousand years it is very apparent that it is not a work of magic, but is completely reliant upon our response. Being open to His grace and mercy and dependant upon the Holy Spirit to guide our responses and support our actions; the corner stone of this is to become communities of faith. It presents us with an overwhelming challenge as we focus upon the future guidelines that were provided by the diocese with the expression, "we have a plan". We will keep this before us as we build upon the good work that is taking place at this time in our parish.

I am confident that great efforts have been made, and please God, then greater support will be provided during the coming weeks, months, and because time passes so quickly, years. The parish council, particularly the children's liturgy and the growing number of activities that with the help of God, lead us faithfully through the coming years. Alongside this; **bodies like the bereavement support group**, also focused upon the ministries of the church and the ongoing worship of Him who loves us will bear fruit fruit that will last. Most of all, and this could not possibly have a more appropriate time than now, **when we focus upon the Resurrection and Ascension of our Divine Lord into heaven (our destination)**. Above all, we prepare for Pentecost so that we may become more and more open to the Holy Spirit, God's greatest gift to us while on earth.



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, 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.

THE GIFT:

An Eastertide series of 6 inspiring sessions on the role and gifts of the Holy Spirit. A great way to prepare together for all the important changes as the Deanery becomes a single new Parish in the coming months. Rooted in Scripture, Church Teaching and reflections from Pope Francis. Weekly on Thursdays from 11 April - 16 May, in Our Lady of Ransom Parish Hall (Eastbourne) from 11.45am – 1.15 pm, with refreshments, after the 11.00 am Mass. Everyone is welcome, bring a friend!

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 7th 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.

Dates for your Diary:

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.
 Tue 16th April, 6pm - Holy Communion Session, St W's Hall.
 Thur 25th April, 2-4pm - Parish Over 50's Club, St W's Hall.
 Fri 26th April, 11-12pm - Parish Bereavement Gp, St W's Hall.
 Fri 26th April, 7pm - Race Night, St W's Hall.
 Sun 28th April, 10am - Community Charity Breakfast, St G's.

Sunday 24th March - Mass Attendance:

St Wilfrid's 122 St George's 80

Easter 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, QR Code or via the donations website link (<https://donate.mydona.com/st-wilfrids-church-hailsham>) using the "Easter Collections" tab.



Friends of St Thomas A Becket Primary School:

Celebrating the school's 50th Anniversary, **Sat 11th May, 7pm**, carriages at 11pm, Charity Disco. Tickets £15pp, limited availability. Ticket includes glass of bubbly (or orange) & canapes on arrival. Buy yours from www.pta-events.co.uk/stab. All ex-pupils & staff/current & previous parents & staff welcome.

The South Downs Singers Spring Concert on Saturday 27th April at 3.30pm. St George's Church. Tickets £10 on the door or by calling 01323 832767.

St Wilfrid's Palm Sunday: Began in our hall where Fr Rory blessed our palms, then we proceeded back to our church for Mass. After mass we celebrated two birthdays, Maeve and little Rosemary, who gave up chocolate for Lent, but informed us that you are allowed to eat it on Sundays, so two very chocolatey cakes were devoured! It was great to see so many people joining in and talking to other parishioners. Great celebrations this week, **Easter Sunday**. Easter egg hunt after mass for the children, whilst they are hunting we will be having the "bag sale" in the hall whilst we celebrate in our usual way! Happy Easter to everyone and a big thank you to all who helped make all the celebrations very special, including Fr Rory. More volunteers are always welcome.