

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Cf. Ez 36: 23-26

When I prove my holiness among you,
I will gather you from all the foreign lands;
and I will pour clean water upon you
and cleanse you from all your impurities,
and I will give you a new spirit, says the Lord.

THE COLLECT

O God, author of every mercy and of all goodness,
who in fasting, prayer and almsgiving
have shown us a remedy for sin,
look graciously on this confession of our lowliness,
that we, who are bowed down by our conscience,
may always be lifted up by your mercy.
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 *Shorter form*

A reading from the book of Exodus 20:1-3. 7-8. 12-17

God spoke all these words. He said, 'I am the Lord your God who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery.
'You shall have no gods except me.
'You shall not utter the name of the Lord your God to misuse it, for the Lord will not leave unpunished the man who utters his name to misuse it.
'Remember the sabbath day and keep it holy.
'Honour your father and your mother so that you may have a long life in the land that the Lord your God has given to you.
'You shall not kill.
'You shall not commit adultery.
'You shall not steal.
'You shall not bear false witness against your neighbour.
'You shall not covet your neighbour's house. 'You shall not covet your neighbour's wife, or his servant, man or woman, or his ox, or his donkey, or anything that is his.'

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

PSALM

Ps 18:8-11. R. Jn 6:68

R) You, Lord, have the message of eternal life.

The law of the Lord is perfect,
it revives the soul.
The rule of the Lord is to be trusted,
it gives wisdom to the simple. **(R)**

The precepts of the Lord are right,
they gladden the heart.
The command of the Lord is clear,
it gives light to the eyes. **(R)**

The fear of the Lord is holy,
abiding for ever.
The decrees of the Lord are truth
and all of them just. **(R)**
They are more to be desired than gold,
than the purest of gold
and sweeter are they than honey,
than honey from the comb. **(R)**

SECOND READING

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians. 1:22-25

While the Jews demand miracles and the Greeks look for wisdom, here are we preaching a crucified Christ; to the Jews an

obstacle that they cannot get over, to the pagans madness, but to those who have been called, whether they are Jews or Greeks, a Christ who is the power and the wisdom of God. For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Praise to you, O Christ, king of eternal glory! Jn 3:16
God loved the world so much that he his only Son;
everyone who believes in him has eternal life.
Praise to you, O Christ, king of eternal glory!

GOSPEL

John 2:13-25

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

Just before the Jewish Passover Jesus went up to Jerusalem, and in the Temple he found people selling cattle and sheep and pigeons, and the money changers sitting at their counters there. Making a whip out of some cord, he drove them all out of the Temple, cattle and sheep as well, scattered the money changers' coins, knocked their tables over and said to the pigeon-sellers, 'Take all this out of here and stop turning my Father's house into a market.' Then his disciples remembered the words of scripture: Zeal for your house will devour me. The Jews intervened and said, 'What sign can you show us to justify what you have done?' Jesus answered, 'Destroy this sanctuary, and in three days I will raise it up.' The Jews replied, 'It has taken forty-six years to build this sanctuary: are you going to raise it up in three days?' But he was speaking of the sanctuary that was his body, and when Jesus rose from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this, and they believed the scripture and the words he had said.

During his stay in Jerusalem for the Passover many believed in his name when they saw the signs that he gave, but Jesus knew them all and did not trust himself to them; he never needed evidence about any man; he could tell what a man had in him.

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

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

Be pleased, O Lord, with these sacrificial offerings,
and grant that we who beseech pardon for our own sins,
may take care to forgive our neighbour.
Through Christ our Lord.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Cf. Ps 83: 4-5

**The sparrow finds a home,
and the swallow a nest for her young:
by your altars, O Lord of hosts, my King and my God.
Blessed are they who dwell in your house,
for ever singing your praise.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

As we receive the pledge
of things yet hidden in heaven
and are nourished while still on earth
with the Bread that comes from on high,
we humbly entreat you, O Lord,
that what is being brought about in us in mystery
may come to true completion.
Through Christ our Lord.

Our Faith on Sunday

GOSPEL REFLECTION



The image we normally have of Jesus is one of a peaceful, loving and compassionate person. He was such a person, but the Gospels also recount a number of times when he became angry with those around

him. His anger was reserved almost exclusively for religious people, the Scribes and the Pharisees, and in this case, people who had come to the temple. If Jesus were to come on earth today he would probably still have problems with those people who practise their religion by observing every detail of the 'law', but who miss the point of Christianity, which is

essentially to love God and neighbour.

As in last week's Gospel, Jesus speaks about the destruction of 'this sanctuary', which he will then raise up in three days. Not surprisingly,

the Jews take literally what Jesus says and dismiss it as ridiculous. This time, however, it seems that the disciples did understand what he meant. As 21st century disciples of Jesus, we too must be careful to understand what Jesus is saying to us, otherwise we run the risk of being the Scribes and the Pharisees of today.



The Fire of Love* THE REWARDS OF SOLITUDE

Loving Christ above all involves three things – warmth, song and sweetness. And from my own experience I know that these three gifts require great inner and outer quiet. I found that if I walked or stood or even prostrated myself when engaged in contemplation, I seemed to be left in dryness. What really helped me was sitting. I understood that by standing or walking the body gets tired, and so the soul gets tired too. But sitting establishes us in inner and outer quiet.

I cannot equate myself with the great saints, but I want to press forward with greater fervour, so that my song becomes more fluent and my experience of love's sweetness fuller. Fervour means that the mind is truly ablaze with love, and the heart feels that it is burning with a love that is real and not imaginary. Song means that there is within us a sweet feeling of heavenly praise. Thought then turns into song and the song into sweetest harmony. These are not attained except through utmost devotion. And from fervour and song spring ineffable sweetness.

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

POPE FRANCIS' ENCYCLICAL
FRATELLI TUTTI
BROTHERS AND SISTERS ALL

THE BENEFITS AND LIMITS OF LIBERAL APPROACHES

169 (Cont.). This, however, must happen in a way that will not betray their distinctive way of acting as “sowers of change, promoters of a process involving millions of actions, great and small, creatively intertwined like words in a poem”.¹⁴⁴ In that sense, such movements are “social poets” that, in their own way, work, propose, promote and liberate. They help make possible an integral human development that goes beyond “the idea of social policies being a policy for the poor, but never with the poor and never of the poor, much less part of a project that reunites peoples”.¹⁴⁵ They may be troublesome, and certain “theorists” may find it hard to classify them, yet we must find the courage to acknowledge that, without them, “democracy atrophies, turns into a mere word, a formality; it loses its representative character and becomes disembodied, since it leaves out the people in their daily struggle for dignity, in the building of their future”.¹⁴⁶

144. Address to Participants in the World Meeting of Popular Movements (5 November 2016): L'Osservatore Romano, 7-8 November 2016, pp. 4-5.
145. Ibid.
146. Ibid.



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

			Third Sunday of Lent (Collection for White Flower Appeal Today)	
Sat	2nd	10am	St Wilfrid's—	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Confessions
		11.30am	St George's -	Reconciliation Service
Sun	3rd	9am	St George's —	Parish Communities' Intention
		10.30am	St Wilfrid's —	Danny & Celia Sheehan RIP
		3pm	St George's -	Stations of the Cross
Mon	4th	2.30pm	St George's —	Rosary Group - All Welcome
Tues	5th	10am	St George's—	Special Intention
Wed	6th	10am	St Wilfrid's—	David McMeekin RIP
Thur	7th	10am	St George's —	P J Kelly RIP
Fri	8th	10am	St Wilfrid's —	Holy Souls' Intention
			Fourth 'Laetare' Sunday of Lent (Collection for Easter Flowers)	
Sat	9th	10am	St Wilfrid's—	Church Open for Prayers and Confessions
		10.30am	St George's -	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
		11.30am	St George's -	Family Stations Whole Parish
Sun	10th	9am	St George's —	Margaret Madam 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/>

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:

“Please God, Spring is started and new life is beginning”

Thanks be to God, we have signs of renewal. Now the most important aspect is to avail of the opportunity. We started on Saturday morning to make some fresh steps. At St Wilfrid's alongside the sacrament of reconciliation we had veneration of the blessed sacrament and the divine office. At St George's from 11.30am we had the service of reconciliation, all a very good start in the right direction. Speaking to my Sister Mary, in Ireland, due to age profile of the priests and shortage, there is now a greater urgency among the people to strengthen and nourish their faith. Life in the spirit seminars, veneration of the blessed sacrament and liturgies of the word and holy communion are a growing part of their response. Some years ago there was a great response to services of reconciliation and at times churches were packed for them.

Now please God, one day and one step at a time, we will develop and grow the ministries, with other devotions as important windows. These take time and years to develop and grow. The RCIA provide a great structure for guidance, but must become and will help us to sustain structures throughout the year, the year of life which our faith my provide.

Fr Rory

Family Stations - St George's 11.30am Saturday 9th March - please make a special effort to bring your children, family and friends to this special devotion that will be followed by homemade soup lunch. Holy Hour with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament will take place prior at 10.30am.

Scripture Reading for Lent: The Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. He was in the wilderness forty days, being tempted by Satan. And he was with the wild animals, and the angels were ministering to him. Now after John was arrested, Jesus came into Galilee, proclaiming the Good News from God, saying, “The time has come, and the kingdom of God is at hand. Repent and believe in the Good News.” [Mark 1:12-15]

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.

Lourdes Lent fundraising as a parish we are fundraising this Lent to help pay towards the cost of Maria, Claudia and Laura, three of our youth parishioners, to be able to attend and help on the Lourdes pilgrimage. We have so far raised nearly £120 towards each ticket. The actual cost is £750 for each attendee and we are therefore hoping to raise more if we can. Both churches will have a pound cross. Also, our soup lunch next Saturday and the Palm Sunday breakfast donations will go towards this fundraiser. All are very welcome, invite family and friends. A big thank you to all who have supported us so far.

Dates for your Diary:

Sat 2nd March, 11.30am - Reconciliation Service, St G' Church.
Sun 3rd March, 3pm - Stations of the Cross, St G's Church.
Sat 9th March, 10.30am - Exposition/Fam Stations/Soup St G's
Tue 12th March, 6pm - 1st Communion Lesson, St W's Hall.
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.

The Way of the Cross - As a thank you for fundraising this Lent, Maria will join her friend Lilia (a parishioner at St Joachim's & fundraising separately) on a 14 mile Holy Saturday Walk of Witness across the South Downs. They will start with prayers at St Joachim's and finish at St George's (time TBC). Pausing every mile to reflect and pray a Station. Maria is not requesting sponsorship as this is her thank you. Maria does ask that you keep them in your prayers and any other youth/pilgrims going to Lourdes in July. Thank you.

Thank you for supporting CAFOD's Family Fast Day Lunch and Lenten Workshop. A big thank you to all who supported our Soup Lunch and Lenten workshop. We had a wonderful time tasting a variety of wholesome soups and everyone enjoyed taking part in a range of activities. Thank you to all who made this such a successful event. As a result of your generous donations, given in love, you have raised an amazing 363.50! This will be enough to buy 3 GPS trackers for families like James the fishermen. You are keeping the fishermen safe and helping them to feed their families for good. You can still give online at cafod.org.uk

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.

Parish Over 50's Club: Our next afternoon tea will be Thursday 28th March at 2pm.

Sunday 25th February - Mass Attendance:
St Wilfrid's 112 St George's 87