

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

**Cry out with joy to God, all the earth;
O sing to the glory of his name.
O render him glorious praise, alleluia.**

Cf. Ps 65:1-2

But when anyone does obey what he has said,
God's love comes to perfection in him.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

THE COLLECT

May your people exult for ever, O God,
in renewed youthfulness of spirit,
so that, rejoicing now in the restored glory of our adoption,
we may look forward in confident hope
to the rejoicing of the day of resurrection.
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

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles 3:13-15. 17-19

Peter said to the people: 'You are Israelites, and it is the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, the God of our ancestors, who has glorified his servant Jesus, the same Jesus you handed over and then disowned in the presence of Pilate, after Pilate had decided to release him. It was you who accused the Holy One, the Just One, you who demanded the reprieve of a murderer while you killed the prince of life. God, however, raised him from the dead, and to that fact we are the witnesses.

'Now I know, brothers, that neither you nor your leaders had any idea what you were really doing; this was the way God carried out what he had foretold, when he said through all his prophets that his Christ would suffer. Now you must repent and turn to God, so that your sins may be wiped out.'

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

PSALM

Ps 4:2. 4.7.9. R.v7

R) Lift up the light of your face on us, O Lord.

When I call, answer me, O God of justice;
from anguish you released me, have
mercy and hear me! **(R)**

It is the Lord who grants favours to those whom he loves;
the Lord hears me whenever I call him. **(R)**

'What can bring us happiness?' many say.
Lift up the light of your face on us, O Lord. **(R)**

I will lie down in peace and sleep comes at once,
for you alone, Lord, make me dwell in safety. **(R)**

SECOND READING

A reading from the first letter of St John

2:1-5

I am writing this, my children,
to stop you sinning;
but if anyone should sin,
we have our advocate with the Father,
Jesus Christ, who is just;
he is the sacrifice that takes our sins away,
and not only ours,
but the whole world's.
We can be sure that we know God
only by keeping his commandments.
Anyone who says, 'I know him',
and does not keep his commandments,
is a liar,
refusing to admit the truth.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**Alleluia, alleluia!**

Cf. Lk 24:32

**Lord Jesus, explain the scriptures to us.
Make our hearts burn within us as you talk to us.
Alleluia!**

GOSPEL

Luke 24:35-48

The Lord be with you.
And with your spirit.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.
Glory to you, O Lord.

The disciples told their story of what had happened on the road and how they had recognised Jesus at the breaking of bread.

They were still talking about this when Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, 'Peace be with you!' In a state of alarm and fright, they thought they were seeing a ghost. But he said, 'Why are you so agitated, and why are these doubts rising in your hearts? Look at my hands and feet; yes, it is I indeed. Touch me and see for yourselves; a ghost has no flesh and bones as you can see I have.' And as he said this he showed them his hands and feet. Their joy was so great that they could not believe it, and they stood dumbfounded; so he said to them, 'Have you anything here to eat?' And they offered him a piece of grilled fish, which he took and ate before their eyes.

Then he told them, 'This is what I meant when I said, while I was still with you, that everything written about me in the Law of Moses, in the Prophets and in the Psalms, has to be fulfilled.' He then opened their minds to understand the scriptures, and he said to them, 'So you see how it is written that the Christ would suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, and that, in his name, repentance for the forgiveness of sins would be preached to all the nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses to this.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS**

Receive, O Lord, we pray,
these offerings of your exultant Church,
and, as you have given her cause for such great gladness,
grant also that the gifts we bring
may bear fruit in perpetual happiness.
Through Christ our Lord.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Lk 24:46-47

**The Christ had to suffer and on the third day rise from the dead;
in his name repentance and remission of sins
must be preached to all the nations, alleluia.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Look with kindness upon your people, O Lord,
and grant, we pray,
that those you were pleased to renew by eternal mysteries
may attain in their flesh
the incorruptible glory of the resurrection.
Through Christ our Lord.

Our Faith on Sunday

GOSPEL REFLECTION



Last week we read the account of Jesus appearing to the Apostles, who were filled with joy. This Sunday's reading when Jesus appears they react with 'alarm and

fright', thinking they were seeing a ghost. As Jesus did with doubting Thomas, he showed them his hands and feet and they were filled with joy. He even eats some fish which they offer him to show he is not a ghost. Finally, he reminds them what is written in Scripture about the Christ dying and rising from the dead. It is remarkable how, after all the time these men, specially chosen by Jesus, had spent with him, they still needed reminding and reassuring of all he had told them. We too, in our journey of faith to the glory of the

Father, need plenty of reminders and reassurances. We need to ask the Lord to keep us on the right track whenever we stray from it. The best way to think of our relationship with God, is that of a child to a father. Children cannot manage their lives by themselves. They need to be held by the hand and picked up and hugged every time they fall.



EVANGELII GAUDIUM (JOY OF THE GOSPEL)



INTERNATIONAL POWER

175. Providentially, many groups and organizations within civil society help to compensate for the shortcomings of the international community, its lack of coordination in complex situations, its lack of attention to fundamental human rights and to the critical needs of certain groups. Here we can see a concrete application of the principle of subsidiarity, which justifies the participation and activity of communities and organizations on lower levels as a means of integrating and complementing the activity of the state. These groups and organizations often carry out commendable efforts in the service of the common good and their members at times show true heroism, revealing something of the grandeur of which our humanity is still capable.

The Fire of Love*

HOW LOVE IS THE QUEEN OF THE VIRTUES



Love is what counts and what gives us a true inner beauty. Love wounds us and makes us long for God, beautifying us, gladdening us, and kindling a fire within us. Every virtue must be rooted in love if it is to count for anything. Doing lots of good things without the motivation of love is like throwing precious stones down a bottomless pit. Acting well outwardly when we have no love for God or others is useless for eternity. Holding on to riches or looking for worldly comfort, without making a total renunciation of all that is opposed to God, cannot help us attain perfection. Real love takes real work, not the approach of a dilettante.

We are told in Scripture that 'the way to life is narrow' (Mt. 7: 14), and yet we expect the way to be easy. Remember Christ himself 'had to suffer and so enter into glory' (Lk. 24: 26). If we want to love and follow Christ, we must become like him who 'though he was rich became poor for our sakes' (2 Cor. 8: 9). Christ was a servant to all and yet here we are wanting to lord it over other people!

It is obvious that our love, compared with the love and service of Christ, is weak and imperfect. In fact, some even become slaves of the devil rather than servants of God; for God wishes to be served in the person of our neighbour.

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



PARISH COMMUNITIES OF



ST GEORGE

Eastbourne Road
Polegate



Parish Priest: Fr. Rory Kelly
South Road, Hailsham, East Sussex BN27 3JG

Tel: (01323) 841504

(Answerphone service available)

Email: ssgeorge.wilfrid@btinternet.com

Website: www.saintsgeorgeandwilfrid.co.uk

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

ST WILFRID

South Road
Hailsham



WEEKLY SERVICES

Third Sunday of Easter (Collection next week for the Education of Future Priests)

Sat	13th	10am	St Wilfrid's —	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Adoration and Reconciliation
Sun	14th	9am	St George's —	Parish Communities' Intention
		10.30am	St Wilfrid's —	Creta O'Neil RIP
Mon	15th	2.30pm	St George's —	Rosary Group - All Welcome
Tues	16th	10am	St George's—	Funeral Mass for Barry Megan RIP
Wed	17th	10am	St Wilfrid's—	Jim Ayres RIP
Thurs	18th	10am	St George's —	Holy Souls' Intention
Fri	19th	10am	St Wilfrid's —	Holy Souls' (MM) Intention

Fourth 'Good Shepherd' Sunday of Easter

(Collection Today for the Education of Future Priests)

Sat	20th	10am	St Wilfrid's—	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Adoration and Reconciliation
Sun	21st	9am	St George's —	Mr Bernard Dobson 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.

Fr Rory Writes:

**Hail Mary full of grace, The Lord is with thee.
Blessed art thou among women, Blessed is the fruit of thy womb.**

We represent last weeks window because it is so fit for purpose. Why the Hail Mary? Because it is absolutely important to realise that salvation has come down from heaven, that the Kingdom of darkness has a prevailing effect in our world. So the Son of God, Jesus, came down from heaven to restore fallen mankind, that is why Deacon John's presentation last week is so helpful, so important. Nourishment, that is so important for our bodies; is vitally important for our spiritual life.

Let us have the courage of our Christian convictions to share our Faith as St Thomas did, and to recognize the "nail marks." We are not to keep the gift of Faith locked in our hearts, but to share it with our children, our families and our neighbours, always remembering the words,; *"Every believer in this world must become a spark of Christ's light,"* spoken by Pope St. John XXIII. *"We all have scars from our own Good Fridays that remain, long after our own experiences of resurrection. Our 'nail marks' remind us that all pain and grief, all ridicule and suffering, are transformed into healing and peace in the love of God that we receive from, and extend to others. The "nail marks" of Jesus are all around us in the lives of those living out their own Calvary's. Jesus calls us to be willing to place ourselves in the pain and struggle of others and bring the joy and peace of Easter into hearts, entombed in winter cold and darkness."*

Fr Rory

Race Night, 26th April at 7pm: The race night leaflets already bought will be accepted as your entry on the night. More are on sale now and on the door on the night. 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.

Parish Over 50's Club: Our next afternoon tea will be Thursday 25th April at 2pm. Theme is St George.

Parish Charity Breakfast: Our next date will be Sunday 28th April after St George's 9am mass - All welcome invite friends and family, they are welcome just to attend breakfast or join for mass also.

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!

Youth Ministry Training - 20 April and 18 May at The St Philip Howard Centre, Crawley: Do you want to see more young people in your Parish? Sign up for the Diocesan two-day Youth Ministry Training course. Be inspired, encouraged and equipped for the new era of mission that we find ourselves in. E: lizzie.wakeling@abdiocese.org.uk

Dates for your Diary:

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.
Sat 27th April, 3.30pm - South Downs Singers Concert, St G's
Sun 28th April, 10am - Community Charity Breakfast, St G's.

Walk for young people (Age 16+), Saturday 25th May, 9.30am to 4.30pm, commencing from St Wilfrid's Church, Hailsham. Please wear suitable clothing and shoes. For more information email garyobrien4@yahoo.co.uk

St Wilfrid's:

As mentioned in last week's newsletter, we would like more of you to help us in our hall on the various social occasions. Many of us are too old to help as we did in the past. This was brought home to us last Sunday after mass when Anne had to rush off and Lulu was offered a lift home after mass because she was in a lot of pain. Many of you went into the meeting in the church following mass and so it was left to the "oldies" to do the best they could. If anyone would like to help us in the hall after mass on a Sunday and Wednesday, please get in touch with Joan 07873390944. Thank you. Having enjoyed our "Easter Bag Sale", if you have any bags to spare ready for the next one, please pop them in the box provided in the church porch. Thank you.

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.

Sunday 7th April - Mass Attendance:

St Wilfrid's 125 St George's 73