

## ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Cf. Ps 32:5-6

The merciful love of the Lord fills the earth;  
by the word of the Lord the heavens were made, alleluia.

## THE COLLECT

Almighty ever-living God,  
lead us to a share in the joys of heaven,  
so that the humble flock may reach  
where the brave Shepherd has gone before.  
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

4:8-12

Filled with the Holy Spirit, Peter said: 'Rulers of the people, and elders! If you are questioning us today about an act of kindness to a cripple, and asking us how he was healed, then I am glad to tell you all, and would indeed be glad to tell the whole people of Israel, that it was by the name of Jesus Christ the Nazarene, the one you crucified, whom God raised from the dead, by this name and by no other that this man is able to stand up perfectly healthy, here in your presence, today. This is the stone rejected by you the builders, but which has proved to be the keystone. For of all the names in the world given to men, this is the only one by which we can be saved.'

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

## PSALM

Ps 117:1. 8-9. 21-23. 26. 28-29. R.v22

**R) The stone which the builders rejected  
has become the corner stone.**

Give thanks to the Lord for he is good,  
for his love has no end.  
It is better to take refuge in the Lord  
than to trust in men:  
it is better to take refuge in the Lord  
than to trust in princes. **(R)**

I will thank you for you have given answer  
and you are my saviour.  
The stone which the builders rejected  
has become the corner stone.  
This is the work of the Lord,  
a marvel in our eyes. **(R)**

Blessed in the name of the Lord  
is he who comes.

We bless you from the house of the Lord;  
I will thank you for you have given answer  
and you are my saviour.  
Give thanks to the Lord for he is good;  
for his love has no end. **(R)**

## SECOND READING

A reading from the first letter of St John

3:1-2

Think of the love that the Father has lavished on us,  
by letting us be called God's children;  
and that is what we are.  
Because the world refused to acknowledge him,  
therefore it does not acknowledge us.  
My dear people, we are already the children of God  
but what we are to be in the future has not yet been revealed;  
all we know is, that when it is revealed  
we shall be like him  
because we shall see him as he really is.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

Jn 10:14

I am the good shepherd, says the Lord;  
I know my own sheep and my own know me.  
Alleluia!

## GOSPEL

John 10:11-18

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

Jesus said:  
'I am the good shepherd:  
the good shepherd is one who lays down his life for his sheep.  
The hired man, since he is not the shepherd  
and the sheep do not belong to him,  
abandons the sheep and runs away  
as soon as he sees a wolf coming,  
and then the wolf attacks and scatters the sheep;  
this is because he is only a hired man  
and has no concern for the sheep.  
I am the good shepherd;  
I know my own  
and my own know me,  
just as the Father knows me  
and I know the Father;  
and I lay down my life for my sheep.  
And there are other sheep I have  
that are not of this fold,  
and these I have to lead as well.  
They too will listen to my voice,  
and there will be only one flock  
and one shepherd.  
The Father loves me,  
because I lay down my life  
in order to take it up again.  
No one takes it from me;  
I lay it down of my own free will,  
and as it is in my power to lay it down,  
so it is my power to take it up again;  
and this is the command I have been given by my Father.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

## PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

Grant, we pray, O Lord,  
that we may always find delight in these paschal mysteries,  
so that the renewal constantly at work within us  
may be the cause of our unending joy.  
Through Christ our Lord.

## COMMUNION ANTIPHON

**The Good Shepherd has risen,  
who laid down his life for his sheep  
and willingly died for his flock, alleluia.**

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Look upon your flock, kind Shepherd,  
and be pleased to settle in eternal pastures  
the sheep you have redeemed  
by the Precious Blood of your Son.  
Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

## Our Faith on Sunday

## GOSPEL REFLECTION



Jesus makes great use of the imagery of a shepherd and his sheep. Sheep, and especially lambs, are meek and defenceless. They are easy prey to wolves and

can be picked off by them if they wonder from the flock, or if the shepherd runs away from them out of fear for his own life. A good shepherd does all in his power to look after the sheep he has been entrusted with. What Jesus is saying here is that his Father has entrusted the flock to him and he is ready to lay down his life for the sheep. On another occasion, Jesus talks about the effort a shepherd goes to in order to recover one lost sheep out of a flock of 100. All this is said to

convey to us just how much God loves each one of us. We may belong to a large flock, but each one of us, individually, is unique and important. It is essential that we really believe in God's unique and immense personal for us. We need to remind ourselves, or be reminded by others, that we are the apple of God's eye.

EVANGELII GAUDIUM  
(JOY OF THE GOSPEL)SOCIAL AND POLITICAL  
CHARITY

176. For many people today, politics is a distasteful word, often due to the mistakes, corruption and inefficiency of some politicians. There are also attempts to discredit politics, to replace it with economics or to twist it to one ideology or another. Yet can our world function without politics? Can there be an effective process of growth towards universal fraternity and social peace without a sound political life? <sup>157</sup>

157. Cf. SOCIAL COMMISSION OF THE BISHOPS OF FRANCE, Declaration Réhabiliter la Politique (17 February 1999).

The Fire of Love\*  
ABOUT LOVE AND BEAUTY

If you take delight in what is beautiful this will make you loved by the supreme beauty, God. Of course, everything here on earth is passing. Earthly beauty deceives those who love it inordinately, whereas the truth and beauty of God last forever.

If we are true Christians who love God, we will scorn vain things and hear the sweet, secret music of love, which cannot be known like the love of earthly pleasures.

If our love is pure and perfect it means that what our heart primarily loves is God. Indeed, in loving ourselves and loving others in the right way, we are loving God in ourselves and in our neighbour. When we love God with our whole mind and heart and soul, we are surely loving other people and every other lovable thing too.

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



# 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

#### 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
Mon 22nd	2.30pm	St George's —	Rosary Group - All Welcome
Tues 23rd	10am	St George's—	For Vocations
Wed 24th	10am	St Wilfrid's—	Michael Copper RIP
Thurs 25th	10am	St George's —	John & Paul Bree RIP
Fri 26th	10am	St Wilfrid's —	Holy Souls' Intention

#### Fifth Sunday of Easter

Sat 27th	10am	St Wilfrid's—	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Adoration and Reconciliation
Sun 28th	9am	St George's —	Mina Bromfield 90th Birthday
	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#\\_=\\_](https://m.facebook.com/gary.westcar#_=_)

**Newsletter items:** Please send to Jackie at [ssgeorge.wilfrid@btinternet.com](mailto: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](mailto: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:**

**Just a lovely, lovely hour on a Saturday morning with Adoration and Veneration of the Blessed Sacrament, and available to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation, a time of grace and peace.**

Time is flying by, but thanks be to God for Holy Week and Easter. It is a loss to see the Garden of Remembrance installed at the Altar sliding away. So our greatest care is the Ascension with Jesus returning to His true place in our Fathers House in Heaven. As these signs and symbols of a great season move on, it is essential that we focus upon this time; the most important time in the whole year. The words of Jesus; 'It is good for you that I should go back to the father, because when I go I will send you the Holy Spirit'. Good preparation to celebrate the coming of the Holy Spirit, must be the most important thing for all of us.

Then down the road is my Golden Jubilee year. I look forward to its celebration. The date chosen has been the second Sunday in July, which is the 14th. Most important to it will be our return to the sponsored walk which got off again to a good start last year. As we have two churches making up our parish community it is essential that both should celebrate the occasion and have a positive energetic experience. An experience of grace, good stories to tell, an achievement to remember and so the emphasis is on all that can be done together now that in the near future there will be a real shortage of priests. God willing I am hoping to soldier on for a time. *Fr Rory*

**Father Rory's Golden Jubilee Celebration - Sunday 14th July**

This year in June, Father Rory celebrates 50 years as a priest and almost a third of those have seen our parish blessed to have him with us. Father will be away in June on a celebratory cruise so we plan to postpone our celebrations with him until Sunday 14th July. In line with Father's generosity he has requested that this be a day of worship, charity and enjoying time together as a parish community. The day will start with Sunday mass in both our churches, followed by a Parish Sponsored Walk from St Wilfrid's to St George's along our much loved cuckoo trail (just three miles for those able to walk). On arrival at St George's benediction and adoration will be held in church and finally everyone will be treated to a delicious Afternoon Tea (helpers and bakers needed). Please put this date in your diary and ensure you and your family join us on the day.

**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.

**Bluebell Walk - Arlington:** If you would like to join us on this visit to the Bluebell Walk on Monday 22nd April, we will be meeting at 11am at St Wilfrid's Church. Anyone who has a car and spare seats, please could you offer a seat to someone else.

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

**Lourdes Fundraiser** - our thanks to all who have given so generously with both money and prayers for Claudia, Laura and Maria our parish youth due to attend Lourdes in July/August. The girls are all very humbled by how much has been raised, in excess of £800 to be divided equally towards their fares. They plan to produce a short video of their journey and time in Lourdes which we will arrange to show to you all in Autumn. Please do continue to pray for all Lourdes pilgrims this year.

**Parish Quiz night Success:** Last Friday's Parish Bi Annual Quiz night at St George's was a great success and our thanks go to all who made it so: quizzers; refreshments and raffle team; and especially Mary & Colin our quiz masters. The night raised over £400 (£200+ for each church) and the winning team, Paula's Angels, really were wonderful when they donated their £60 winnings to our Youth attendees at Lourdes fundraiser, a very lovely gesture - they were more keen on the coveted trophy than money it seems! Our next Parish Quiz will be in October at St Wilfrid's Date TBC.

**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 charity we are supporting this month is Mary's Meals.

**Dates for your Diary:**

Mon 22nd April, 11am - Visit to Bluebell Walk - Arlington.  
 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.  
 Tue 7th May, 6pm - Holy Communion Session, St W's Hall.  
 Tue 21st May, 6pm - Holy Communion Session, St W's Hall.  
 Sun 14th July, Golden Jubilee Celebration/Sponsored Walk.

**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

**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 14th April - Mass Attendance:**

St Wilfrid's 96                      St George's 71