THE COLLECT

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

God of everlasting mercy,

God, for ever and ever.

Receive the joy of your glory, giving thanks to God,

kindle the faith of the people you have made your own,

who, in the very recurrence of the paschal feast

increase, we pray, the grace you have bestowed,

that all may grasp and rightly understand

by whose Blood they have been redeemed.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,

in what font they have been washed,

by whose Spirit they have been reborn,

who has called you into the heavenly kingdom, alleluia.

7TH APRIL 2024 2ND SUNDAY OF EASTER (OR OF DIVINE MERCY) (B) DIVINE OFFICE: WEEK 1/PROPER Our Faith on Sunda

GOSPEL REFLECTION



Today we read the story of the Apostle Thomas's refusal to believe that the Lord had appeared to the others. Often we find it difficult to believe something 'unusual' has

other people. There is something may start to wonder if everyone is light will return. just a myth, a story to comfort us, but not something real. As long as we are on this earth we will be prone to moments of doubt; we have moments when we seek reassurance. We need to

INTERNATIONAL POWER

174. Courage and generosity are needed in order freely to establish shared goals and to ensure the worldwide observance of certain essential norms. For this to be truly useful, it is essential to uphold "the need to be faithful to agreements undertaken (pacta sunt servanda)", ¹⁵⁴ and to avoid the "temptation to appeal to the law of force rather than to the force of law". 155 This means reinforcing the "normative instruments for the peaceful resolution of controversies... so as to strengthen their scope and binding force". ¹⁵⁶ Among these normative instruments, preference should be given to multilateral agreements between states, because, more than bilateral agreements, they guarantee the promotion of a truly universal common

154. Pontifical Council for Justice and Peace, Compendium of the

of Peace, 5: AAS 96 (2004), 117. 156. Pontifical Council for Justice and Peace, Compendium of the

EVANGELII GAUDIUM (JOY OF THE GOSPEL)

good and the protection of weaker states.

Social Doctrine of the Church, 437. 155. SAINT JOHN PAUL II, Message for the 2004 World Day

Social Doctrine of the Church, 439.

not with water only, but with water and blood; with the Spirit as another witness since the Spirit is the truth. The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia! Jesus said: 'You believe because you can see me. Happy are those who have not seen and yet believe.' Alleluia!

GOSPEL

4 Esdr 2:36-37

4:32-35

John 20:19-31

Jn 20:29

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

In the evening of that same day, the first day of the week, the doors were closed in the room where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews. Jesus came and stood among them. He said to them, 'Peace be with you,' and showed them his hands and his side. The disciples were filled with joy when they saw the Lord, and he said to them again, 'Peace be with you.'

'As the Father sent me, so am I sending you,'

After saying this he breathed on them and said:

'Receive the Holy Spirit.

For those whose sins you forgive,

they are forgiven:

for those whose sins you retain,

they are retained.'

Thomas, called the Twin, who was one of the Twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. When the disciples said, 'We have seen the Lord,' he answered, 'Unless I see the holes that the nails made in his hands and can put my finger into the holes they made, and unless I can put my hand into his side, I refuse to believe.' Eight days later the disciples were in the house again and Thomas was with them. The doors were closed, but Jesus came in and stood among them. 'Peace be with you,' he said. Then he spoke to Thomas, 'Put your finger here; look, here are my hands. Give me your hand; put it into my side. Doubt no longer but believe.' Thomas replied, 'My Lord and my God!' Jesus said to him:

'You believe because you can see me.

Happy are those who have not seen and yet believe." There were many other signs that Jesus worked and the disciples saw, but they are not recorded in this book. These are recorded so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing this you may have life through his name.

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

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

Accept, O Lord, we pray, the oblations of your people (and of those you have brought to new birth), that, renewed by confession of your name and by Baptism, they may attain unending happiness. Through Christ our Lord.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Bring your hand and feel the place of the nails, and do not be unbelieving but believing, alleluia.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Grant, we pray, almighty God, that our reception of this paschal Sacrament may have a continuing effect in our minds and hearts. Through Christ our Lord.

FIRST READING A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

The whole group of believers was united, heart and soul; no one claimed for his own use anything that he had, as everything they owned was held in common.

who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,

The apostles continued to testify to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus with great power, and they were all given great respect.

None of their members was ever in want, as all those who owned land or houses would sell them, and bring the money from them, to present it to the apostles; it was then distributed to any members who might be in need.

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

PSALM

Ps 117:2-4. 15-18. 22-24. R.v1

R) 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.' Let the sons of Aaron say: 'His love has no end.' Let those who fear the Lord 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. I was punished, I was punished by the Lord, but not doomed to die. (R) The stone which the builders rejected

has become the corner stone. This is the work of the Lord, a marvel in our eyes. This day was made by the Lord; we rejoice and are glad. (R)

SECOND READING

A reading from the first letter of St John 5:1-6 Whoever believes that Jesus is the Christ has been begotten by God; and whoever loves the Father that begot him loves the child whom he begets. We can be sure that we love God's children if we love God himself and do what he has commanded us; this is what loving God is keeping his commandments; and his commandments are not difficult, because anyone who has been begotten by God has already overcome the world; this is the victory over the world our faith. Who can overcome the world? Only the man who believes that Jesus is the Son of God;

Jesus Christ who came by water and blood,

Love longs for all that is good, beautiful and lovely. The thoughts reach out to these things and transform us into the beloved. Of course, love can sometimes go wrong but the intention, even if not wholly fixed upon Christ, is to love and be loved and that is worth something, even when love is shared with created things. True love diffuses itself, not just shining on family and friends but shining too upon enemies and strangers. Even if we do not have much to give those we love, in Christ we are made rich. He does not stint in giving even though we are poor and needy in ourselves. Generosity to the poor is a sign of loving God. Too many rich people will give food but not other necessities of life. They keep the best of everything for their own children and ignore the needs of others, in fact they consider the poor to be nothing but a nuisance. Those who behave in this way show how little love of God they have. They show the proverb to be true, that 'the sea will be dry before the poor person has a friend'. *The Fire of Love by Richard Rolle Published by Aeterna Press

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Cf. Jn 20:27

happened just on the say so of remember that Jesus himself had a huge crisis of faith when he was in our nature which makes us hanging on the cross and cried want to be first-hand witnesses to out "My God, my God, why have be really convinced. With you forsaken me?" Those doubts questions of faith many of we experience are like tiny struggle with the fact that it is experiences of Jesus' own moment something invisible and cannot be of doubt. If we are able to accept proven in the normal way. When these moments as faces of the we have moments of doubt we suffering Jesus, sooner or later the



The Fire of Love* LOVE LONGS FOR ALL THAT IS GOOD





PARISH COMMUNITIES OF

Parish Priest: Fr. Rory Kelly

ST GEORGE

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and (Land Co

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ST WILFRID



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

WEEKLY \$ERVICE\$

Second, 'Low', Sunday of Easter (Divine Mercy Sunday)							
Sat	6th	10am	St Wilfrid's —	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Adoration and			
				Reconciliation			
Sun	7th	9am	St George's —	Mr Joseph Santos RIP			
		10.30am	St Wilfrid's —	Parish Communities' Intention			
Mon	8th	2.30pm	St George's —	Rosary Group - All Welcome			
Tues	9th	10am	St George's—	Private Intention			
Wed	10th	10am	St Wilfrid's—	Helena Intention			
Thurs	11th	10am	St George's —	In Thanksgiving			
Fri	12th	10am	St Wilfrid's —	James Lissenburg RIP			
		Third Sund	ay 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			
	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#_=_							
Nousletter items. Please cand to lackie at scenerge wilfrid@htinternet.com.tol 9/150/							

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 Jesus.

Having celebrated the event of Easter we look forward to experiencing the fruits of the Holy Spirit when we celebrate Pentecost.

Deacon John has provided a focus for our preparations:-

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."

Deacon John Fr Rocky

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.	A most beautiful start to Holy Week with the Mass of the Last Supper at St George's. Our EM's from both communities renewing their commitment to this vital role. Good Friday poignant and respectful.	
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	Easter Sunday renewing our baptismal vows together. Thank you to everyone who put time and effort into supporting Fr Rory and producing meaningful, prayerful and well attended services.	
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.	Easter Celebrations at St Wilfrid's: We started at 10am, Good Friday "Stations of the Cross" led by Teresa and our children, a very simple version enjoyed by us all. Then into our hall for hot cross buns and tables of activities for the children. 3pm "Veneration of the Cross" led by Deacon John, well attended and moving. Next our Easter Vigil, Sat at 7pm, starting in the hall then outside, lighting of new fire and decorating the two Easter Candles for both churches. Then into the darken church, each one holding a lighted candle to begin the lovely service we always look forward to and enjoy. Easter Sunday Mass absolutely packed out. Thank Goodness the sun didn't shine until later, so the "Egg Hunt" got away without melting. The bag sale was very successful and many of you came in for tea and refreshments, especially the 2 large cakes decorated by Anne. A BIG THANK YOU to everyone who helped in anyway towards making our Easter Celebrations so successful. It is the many willing helpers we have that make these occasions so special. If you would like to join us, please do let us know, we need you. Last, but by no means least, Fr Rory, who is the one	
Parish Over 50's Club: Our next afternoon tea will be Thursday 25th April at 2pm. Theme is St George.		
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 <u>www.justgiving.com/page/lynne-phair- 1690041574167</u> Thank you.		
Dates for your Diary: Fri 12th April,7pm - Parish Quiz Night, St G's Hall.	person who gives meaning to all our services and celebrations, thank you Father.	
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.	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.	
Sat 27th April, 3.30pm - South Downs Singers Concert, St G's Sun 28th April, 10am - Community Charity Breakfast, St G's.	Sunday 31st March - Mass Attendance: St Wilfrid's 240 St George's 109	