

## ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Rm 5:5; cf. 8:11

The love of God has been poured into our hearts through the Spirit of God dwelling within us, alleluia.

## THE COLLECT

O God, who by the mystery of today's great feast sanctify your whole Church in every people and nation, pour out, we pray, the gifts of the Holy Spirit across the face of the earth and, with the divine grace that was at work when the Gospel was first proclaimed, fill now once more the hearts of believers. 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

2:1-11

When Pentecost day came round, the apostles had all met in one room, when suddenly they heard what sounded like a powerful wind from heaven, the noise of which filled the entire house in which they were sitting; and something appeared to them that seemed like tongues of fire; these separated and came to rest on the head of each of them. They were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and began to speak foreign languages as the Spirit gave them the gift of speech.

Now there were devout men living in Jerusalem from every nation under heaven, and at this sound they all assembled, each one bewildered to hear these men speaking his own language. They were amazed and astonished. 'Surely' they said 'all these men speaking are Galileans? How does it happen that each of us hears them in his own native language? Parthians, Medes and Elamites; people from Mesopotamia, Judaea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya round Cyrene; as well as visitors from Rome - Jews and proselytes alike - Cretans and Arabs; we hear them preaching in our own language about the marvels of God.'

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

## PSALM

Ps 103:1.24. 29-31. 34. R.cf v30

**R) Send forth your Spirit, O Lord, and renew the face of the earth.**

Bless the Lord, my soul!

Lord God, how great you are.

How many are your works, O Lord!

The earth is full of your riches. **(R)**

You take back your spirit, they die, returning to the dust from which they came.

You send forth your spirit, they are created; and you renew the face of the earth. **(R)**

May the glory of the Lord last for ever!

May the Lord rejoice in his works!

May my thoughts be pleasing to him.

I find my joy in the Lord. **(R)**

## SECOND READING

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Galatians 5:16-25

If you are guided by the Spirit you will be in no danger of yielding to self-indulgence, since self-indulgence is the opposite of the Spirit, the Spirit is totally against such a thing, and it is precisely because the two are so opposed that you do not always carry out your good intentions. If you are led by the Spirit, no law can touch you. When self-indulgence is at work the results are obvious: fornication, gross indecency and sexual irresponsibility; idolatry and sorcery; feuds and wrangling, jealousy, bad temper and quarrels; disagreements, factions, envy; drunkenness, orgies and similar things. I warn you now, as I warned you before: those who behave like this will not inherit the kingdom of God. What the Spirit brings is very different: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, trustfulness, gentleness and self-control. There can be no law against things like that, of course. You cannot belong to Christ Jesus unless you crucify all self-indulgent passions and desire.

Since the Spirit is our life, let us be directed by the Spirit.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

## SEQUENCE

Holy Spirit, Lord of light,  
From the clear celestial height  
Thy pure beaming radiance give.

Come, thou Father of the poor,  
Come with treasurers which endure;  
Come, thou light of all that live!

Thou, of all consolers best,  
Thou, the soul's delightful guest,  
Dost refreshing peace bestow;  
Thou in toil art comfort sweet;  
Pleasant coolness in the heat;  
Solace in the midst of woe.

Light immortal, light divine,  
Visit thou these hearts of thine,  
And our inmost being fill:

If thou take thy grace away,  
Nothing pure in man will stay;  
All his good is turned to ill.

Heal our wounds, our strength  
renew;  
On our dryness pour thy dew;  
Wash the stains of guilt away:  
Bend the stubborn heart and will;  
Melt the frozen, warm the chill;  
Guide the steps that go astray.

Thou, on us who evermore  
Thee confess and thee adore,  
With thy sevenfold gifts descend:  
Give us comfort when we die;  
Give us life with thee on high;  
Give us joys that never end.

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

**Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful, and kindle in them the fire of your love.**

Alleluia!

## GOSPEL

John 15:26-27;16:12-15

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 to his disciples:

'When the Advocate comes,  
whom I shall send to you from the Father,  
the Spirit of truth who issues from the Father,  
he will be my witness.

And you too will be witnesses,  
because you have been with me from the outset.

I still have many things to say to you  
but they would be too much for you now.  
But when the Spirit of truth comes  
he will lead you to the complete truth,  
since he will not be speaking as from himself  
but will say only what he has learnt;  
and he will tell you of the things to come.

He will glorify me,  
since all he tells you  
will be taken from what is mine.  
Everything the Father has is mine;  
that is why I said:  
All he tells you  
will be taken from what is mine.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

## PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

Grant, we pray, O Lord,  
that, as promised by your Son,  
the Holy Spirit may reveal to us more abundantly  
the hidden mystery of this sacrifice  
and graciously lead us into all truth.  
Through Christ our Lord.

## COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Acts 2:4,11

**They were all filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke of the marvels of God, alleluia.**

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

O God, who bestow heavenly gifts upon your Church,  
safeguard, we pray, the grace you have given,  
that the gift of the Holy Spirit poured out upon her  
may retain all its force  
and that this spiritual food  
may gain her abundance of eternal redemption.  
Through Christ our Lord.

## Our Faith on Sunday

## GOSPEL REFLECTION



With the announcement of the coming of the Holy Spirit, Jesus completes the revelation of the Holy Trinity. He has already spoken of his

relationship with the Father, but now he is telling the Apostles that the Spirit of Truth, 'who issues from the Father' is coming as his witness. While on earth, Jesus lived the will of the Father and shared his relationship with the Father with the Apostles. Now, as he prepares to leave this earth he promises that the Spirit will communicate the will of the Father. And what do we have to do to receive the Holy Spirit – just ask! Jesus promises us that all we need do is ask the Father and he will give us the Spirit. Our task is to ask for the Spirit and then be attentive to his voice. This is often more difficult

than it may seem as the noises of the 'world' often drown out the voice of the Spirit. Or sometimes we take something as coming from the Spirit when it is just our idea. If we want to be certain that it comes from the Spirit, then we need to put our 'inspiration' in common with others who are trying to live the Christian life. In this way we can more easily discern the inspirations of the Spirit.

EVANGELII GAUDIUM  
(JOY OF THE GOSPEL)

## POLITICAL LOVE

180. Recognizing that all people are our brothers and sisters, and seeking forms of social friendship that include everyone, is not merely utopian. It demands a decisive commitment to devising effective means to this end. Any effort along these lines becomes a noble exercise of charity. For whereas individuals can help others in need, when they join together in initiating social processes of fraternity and justice for all, they enter the "field of charity at its most vast, namely political charity".<sup>165</sup> This entails working for a social and political order whose soul is social charity.<sup>166</sup> Once more, I appeal for a renewed appreciation of politics as "a lofty vocation and one of the highest forms of charity, inasmuch as it seeks the common good".<sup>167</sup>

165. PIUS XI, Address to the Italian Catholic Federation of University Students (18 December 1927): *L'Osservatore Romano*, 23 December 1927, p. 3.

166. Cf. ID., Encyclical Letter *Quadragesimo Anno* (15 May 1931): AAS 23 (1931), 206-207.

167. Apostolic Exhortation *Evangelii Gaudium* (24 November 2013), 205: AAS 105 (2013), 1106

The Fire of Love\*  
CHRIST IS FOUND  
IN THE HUMBLE HEART

The longer we live, the more fervently we want you.

For the soul that truly loves you, Jesus, would rather die the most awful death than consent to even the smallest sin.

A person with a true love of Christ is not afraid of anyone else and sees themselves as beneath others, who seem to them more gifted and virtuous. In this state, we long for the kiss of love from the mouth of the beloved (Song 1: 1). We long only for Jesus, and keep in our minds a picture of his wounds and his cross as we sigh for the vision of his most glorious purity.

Christ is found in the humble heart that gives up all for his sake and refuses to pass judgement on others.

'Go forth, daughters of Sion,' says the Scripture, meaning, 'you souls who are new born', and 'see King Solomon crowned' (Song 3: 11). This means: understand that Christ is truly our peace, that he suffered for our salvation. Gaze at him, and you will see the divine head crowned with thorns, his face covered in spittle, those clear eyes languid and overcast, his back scarred from the flogging, his breast bare and bleeding, his hands nailed to the cross, his dear side pierced with a spear, his feet nailed and all his tender flesh marked with wounds. See what Christ suffered for you, so that your sins could be forgiven and your heart burn with love.

\*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

#### Pentecost (Collection next week for Missionary Endeavour of the Diocese)

Sat 18th	10am	St Wilfrid's —	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Adoration and Reconciliation
Sun 19th	9am	St George's —	Filomena Forte RIP (1st Anniversary)
	10.30am	St Wilfrid's —	Encinas Family Intention
Mon 20th	2.30pm	St George's —	Rosary Group - All Welcome
Tues 21st	10am	St George's—	Parish Communities' Intention
Wed 22nd	10am	St Wilfrid's—	Jessie Lissenburg RIP
Thurs 23rd	10am	St George's —	Dudley & Dolly Rudd RIP
Fri 24th	10am	St Wilfrid's —	Angelina RIP

#### The Most Holy Trinity

#### (Collection Today for Missionary Endeavour of the Diocese)

Sat 25th	10am	St Wilfrid's—	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Adoration and Reconciliation
Sun 26th	9am	St George's —	Parish Communities' Intention
	10.30am	St Wilfrid's —	Filomena 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:

## Then, "The Day of Pentecost came".

My heart and my soul belong to this event. So I consistently return to the lighting of the first candle of each new year in Christ ..... the candle of Hope. This is so well focused in the prayer "Come down, O Love Divine, seek thou this soul of mine, and visit it with thine own ardour glowing".

As I become more aware of the reality that the church is now facing, so I acknowledge a deep sadness in me. I quickly return to that first candle, the candle that will never go out "the candle of Hope". With so much focus upon the great lack of priests and the consequences to the decisions that are made i.e. the effects upon the borders of the diocese in Ireland. Its effects upon all the parishes of our diocese are now very real and are in place.

We had the first meeting in the new order of things, and it highlights the challenge of life that is to come. For more courage I go back to the home that I grew up in, and the words that come to my mind from there "isn't that providence Maura", so underpinning it with more hope. Among my many weaknesses is cowardice; always aware that I am very bad at dealing with conflict. Now we will have to get on with it, and with the help of God, it will come to fruition. I am truly grateful for all the work that is being done. It is great credit to our parish; hidden irony. So the weeks and months to come are so important that we bear fruit and please God much fruit. So let us send out with as much confidence as we can and a big, big thank you for all the work that is going into "my" I hoped "our" Jubilee Event.

*Fr Rory*

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

All Parishioners will receive an invite to Father Rory's Jubilee celebration at mass today. Please ensure you RSVP via the sheets at the back of church to help us with planning and catering arrangements. If you can help with the days events please let us know, we especially need some physical help with set up and clear up as this will be heavier work. Contact Sandra on 07791627368 for more information.

**Table Sale St George's** - We urgently need quality items for our table sale, new and nearly new. Please leave bags marked "table sale" at back of church.

Please keep all our deanery First Holy Communion candidates and Confirmands in your prayers as they finalise their preparations during May/June to then receive the sacraments in June.

### Womble Day (The Parish big help out) Sat June 1st, 10-4pm.

Both St Wilfrid's and St George's desperately need your help to garden, clean, tidy etc. There are also several maintenance tasks for those who are good with tools and paint brushes. We are currently creating a list of jobs: some small, some a little bigger, but enough for us all to have something to volunteer for on the day. More details to follow but please save the date and ask your family to join us if they can- even if only for half an hour. Many hands make light work - don't assume others will do it. Refreshments will be provided.

**St Wilfrid's Garden Maintenance:** We are looking for some extra volunteers to help maintain our beautiful gardens here at St Wilfrid's. Various tasks; mowing, pruning back bushes, weeding, tidying up the car park areas. This is especially important this year, so we look spick and span for our jubilee celebrations in July. Speak to Jackie on 841504

**Parish Over 50's Club:** Our next afternoon tea will be Thursday 30th May at 2-4pm. Theme is flowers.

**Parish Charity Breakfast:** Our next date will be Sun 26th May after St George's 9am mass - All welcome. This months charity will be RNLI.

**The Parish Rosary Group** meets every Monday at 2pm in St George's Hall (not bank holidays). Everyone is welcome to join as a regular or occasional member to Pray the Rosary a most wonderful devotion together. May is the Month of Our Lady so a good time to start.

**Gift Aid Donor Statements:** All Gift Aid statements for the tax year 2023/24 will be sent out by the end of May. In order to reduce the costs of stationery and postage we are requesting that all donors (envelope and standing order) opt to have their letter issued by email. In order to do this could you please send your email details through to the Parish Secretary so that our records can be updated. Please state in the title of the email "Gift Aid Donor Contact Details" for either St George's or St Wilfrid's and send to [ssgeorge.wilfrid@btinternet.com](mailto:ssgeorge.wilfrid@btinternet.com)

### Dates for your Diary:

Tue 21st May, 6pm - Holy Communion Session, St W's Hall.  
Sun 26th May, 10am - Community Charity Breakfast, St G's.  
Thur 30th May, 2-4pm - Parish Over 50's Club, St W's Hall.  
Fri 31st May, 11-12pm - Parish Bereavement Gp, St W's Hall.  
Sat 1st June, 10am-4pm - Womble Day, St W's & St G's  
Sun 9th June, 9am - 1st Holy Communion, St G's Church.  
Sat 15th June, 11am - Confirmation, OLR  
Sun 16th June, 10.30am - 1st Holy Communion, St W's Church.  
Sun 14th July, Golden Jubilee Celebration/Sponsored Walk.

### Sunday 12th May - Mass Attendance:

St Wilfrid's 97                      St George's 66