

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

These are the ones who, living in the flesh, planted the Church with their blood; they drank the chalice of the Lord and became the friends of God.

THE COLLECT

O God, who on the Solemnity of the Apostles Peter and Paul give us the noble and holy joy of this day, grant, we pray, that your Church may in all things follow the teaching of those through whom she received the beginnings of right religion. 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

12:1-11

King Herod started persecuting certain members of the Church. He beheaded James the brother of John, and when he saw that this pleased the Jews he decided to arrest Peter as well. This was during the days of Unleavened Bread, and he put Peter in prison, assigning four squads of four soldiers each to guard him in turns. Herod meant to try Peter in public after the end of Passover week. All the time Peter was under guard the Church prayed to God for him unremittingly.

On the night before Herod was to try him, Peter was sleeping between two soldiers, fastened with double chains, while guards kept watch at the main entrance to the prison. Then suddenly the angel of the Lord stood there, and the cell was filled with light. He tapped Peter on the side and woke him. 'Get up!' he said 'Hurry!' - and the chains fell from his hands. The angel then said, 'Put on your belt and sandals.' After he had done this, the angel next said, 'Wrap your cloak round you and follow me.' Peter followed him, but had no idea that what the angel did was all happening in reality; he thought he was seeing a vision. They passed through two guard posts one after the other, and reached the iron gate leading to the city. This opened of its own accord; they went through it and had walked the whole length of one street when suddenly the angel left him. It was only then that Peter came to himself. 'Now I know it is all true,' he said, 'The Lord really did send his angel and has saved me from Herod and from all that the Jewish people were so certain would happen to me.'

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.**PSALM**

Ps 33:2-9. R.v5

R) From all my terrors the Lord set me free.

I will bless the Lord at all times,
his praise always on my lips;
in the Lord my soul shall make its boast.
The humble shall hear and be glad. **(R)**

Glorify the Lord with me.
Together let us praise his name.
I sought the Lord and he answered me;
from all my terrors he set me free. **(R)**

Look towards him and be radiant;
let your faces not be abashed.
This poor man called; the Lord heard him
and rescued him from all his distress. **(R)**

The angel of the Lord is encamped
around those who revere him, to rescue them.
Taste and see that the Lord is good.
He is happy who seeks refuge in him. **(R)**

SECOND READING

A reading from the second letter of St Paul to Timothy

4:6-8. 17-18

My life is already being poured away as a libation, and the time has come for me to be gone. I have fought the good fight to the end; I have run the race to the finish; I have kept the faith; all there is to come now is the crown of righteousness reserved for me, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will give to me on that Day; and not only to me but to all those who have longed for his Appearing.

The Lord stood by me and gave me power, so that through me the whole message might be proclaimed for all the pagans to hear; and so I was rescued from the lion's mouth. The Lord will rescue me from all evil attempts on me, and bring me safely to his heavenly kingdom. To him be glory for ever and ever. Amen.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION****Alleluia, alleluia!**

Mt 16:18

**You are Peter and on this rock I will build my Church.
And the gates of the underworld can never hold out
against it.**

Alleluia!**GOSPEL**

Matthew 16:13-19

The Lord be with you.

And with your spirit.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

Glorify to you, O Lord.

When Jesus came to the region of Caesarea Philippi he put this question to his disciples, 'Who do people say the Son of Man is?' And they said, 'Some say he is John the Baptist, some Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.' 'But you,' he said 'who do you say I am?' Then Simon Peter spoke up, 'You are the Christ,' he said, 'the Son of the living God.' Jesus replied, 'Simon son of Jonah, you are a happy man! Because it was not flesh and blood that revealed this to you but my Father in heaven. So I now say to you: You are Peter and on this rock I will build my Church. And the gates of the underworld can never hold out against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven: whatever you bind on earth shall be considered bound in heaven; whatever you loose on earth shall be considered loosed in heaven.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

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

May the prayer of the Apostles, O Lord,
accompany the sacrificial gift
that we present to your name for consecration,
and may their intercession make us devoted to you
in celebration of the sacrifice.
Through Christ our Lord.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Cf. Mt 16:16,18

**Peter said to Jesus: You are the Christ, the
Son of the living God.**

**And Jesus replied: You are Peter,
and upon this rock I will build my Church..**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Grant us, O Lord,
who have been renewed by this Sacrament,
so to live in the Church,
that, persevering in the breaking of the Bread
and in the teaching of the Apostles,
we may be one heart and one soul,
made steadfast in your love.

Through Christ our Lord.

Our Faith on Sunday

GOSPEL REFLECTION



In today's Gospel Jesus 'appoints' Peter to be the rock on which he will build his Church. When we stop and think about this, it is quite remarkable. Peter, who denied Jesus 3 times, who was

filled with fear when the storm arose around the boat in which Jesus was sleeping and who so often misunderstood the Lord, is chosen to lead the new-born Church. Paul was a fierce persecutor of Christians and yet the Lord calls him to be the greatest missionary of the early Church. You may have wondered why such great figures in the nascent Church have to share a feast day. Peter, as the first pope, represents the institutional part of the Church, the hierarchical aspect. Paul, on the other hand represents the more 'charismatic' part of the Church. And the

Church is only what Jesus wanted it to be when these two 'profiles' of the Church, the Petrine and the Pauline work together in harmony. The very same thing applies to the Church in the 20th century. Pope Francis himself has said on various occasions that the Church needs these two 'lungs' in order to breathe properly.



EVANGELII GAUDIUM (JOY OF THE GOSPEL)



THE EXERCISE OF POLITICAL LOVE

186. There is a kind of love that is "elicited": its acts proceed directly from the virtue of charity and are directed to individuals and peoples. There is also a "commanded" love, expressed in those acts of charity that spur people to create more sound institutions, more just regulations, more supportive structures. ¹⁸¹ It follows that "it is an equally indispensable act of love to strive to organize and structure society so that one's neighbour will not find himself in poverty". ¹⁸² It is an act of charity to assist someone suffering, but it is also an act of charity, even if we do not know that person, to work to change the social conditions that caused his or her suffering. If someone helps an elderly person cross a river, that is a fine act of charity. The politician, on the other hand, builds a bridge, and that too is an act of charity. While one person can help another by providing something to eat, the politician creates a job for that other person, and thus practices a lofty form of charity that ennobles his or her political activity.

¹⁸¹. Catholic moral doctrine, following the teaching of Saint Thomas Aquinas, distinguishes between "elicited" and "commanded" acts; cf. Summa Theologiae, I-II, qq. 8-17; M. ZALBA, S.J., Theologiae Moralis Summa. Theologia Moralis Fundamental. Tractatus de Virtutibus Theologicis, ed. BAC, Madrid, 1952, vol. I, 69; A. ROYO MARÍN, Teología de la Perfección Cristiana, ed. BAC, Madrid, 1962, 192-196.

¹⁸². PONTIFICAL COUNCIL FOR JUSTICE AND PEACE, Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church, 208.

The Fire of Love* MEETING TEMPTATIONS WISELY

There can be no doubt that the true lovers of what is everlasting never lose inner peace in the midst of temptations. They gain a crown in warfare while other less stable are slain. The beloved of Christ never fail to cut down whatever stands in their way, even while they are pouring out their hearts to their maker. They are not like those who, in the highways of love, are unsteady on their feet, and who easily give up when the going gets tough. Rather, they go from strength to strength and are unshakeable from the first.

As they are nourished and taught by the sweetness of heaven, they brighten outsiders with the example of their sanctity, and among themselves they burn sweetly with the fire of love. They have a passion for purity, even though it is impossible to live completely without sin in this regard during our lifetime. We cannot make ourselves perfect by human means – that belongs only to heaven. There, glory strengthens our capacity to look on God and everlasting peace conquers grief and pain. Meanwhile, the mind remains alert, longing to keep the fire of love constantly burning.

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



PARISH COMMUNITIES OF



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

ST GEORGE

Eastbourne Road
Polegate



ST WILFRID

South Road
Hailsham



WEEKLY SERVICES

Ss Peter and Paul, Apostles

(Collection Today for Peter's Pence)

Sat 29th		St Wilfrid's —	
Sun 30th	9am	St George's —	Rosamma Thomas RIP
	10.30am	St Wilfrid's —	Bill & Alan O'Rourke RIP
Mon 1st	2.30pm	St George's —	Rosary Group - All Welcome
Tues 2nd	10am	St George's—	Liturgy of the Word
Wed 3rd	10am	St Wilfrid's—	William & Mary Humphries RIP
Thurs 4th	10am	St George's —	Colin Bullock RIP
Fri 5th	10am	St Wilfrid's —	Margaret Madams RIP

Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

(Collection next week for Stella Maris (Apostleship of the Sea))

Sat 6th	10am	St Wilfrid's—	Church Open for Prayers and Confessions
Sun 7th	9am	St George's —	Colin Bullock 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, Peter Andrews, Graham, Pamela Swanston, Jean and Chris Littlewood.

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.

Deacon John Writes:

Recently I have written about the Holy Spirit. There are seven gifts of the Holy Spirit so over the next few weeks by way of relaxation, I will present some jokes which are based on these gifts:

B. The Gift of Understanding:

1) **A Primary school teacher** was observing the children in her classroom while they drew pictures. She would occasionally walk around to see each child’s artwork. As she came to one little girl who was working diligently, she asked what the drawing was. The girl replied, “I’m drawing God.” The teacher paused and said, “But no one knows what God looks like.” — Without missing a beat, or looking up from her drawing the girl replied, “They will in a minute.”

2) **“If I sold my house** and my car, had a big garage sale and gave all my money to the Church, would that get me into Heaven?” I asked the children in my Sunday School class. “NO!” the children all answered. “If I cleaned the Church every day, mowed the yard, and kept everything neat and tidy, would that get me into Heaven?” Again, the answer was, “NO!” “Well, then, if I were kind to animals and gave sweets to all the children, and loved my wife, would that get me into Heaven?” I asked them again. Again, they all answered, “NO!” “Well,” I continued, “then how can I get into Heaven?” A five-year-old boy shouted out, “YOU GOTTA BE DEAD!”

Deacon John

Fr Rory’s Golden Jubilee Celebration:

Fr Rory’s Golden Jubilee Celebration: 14th July 2024, by now you should all have hopefully received a printed invite, if you haven't collect one after mass. If you have not already please ensure you let us know if you, and if relevant how many people from your household, will be attending via the list at the back of the church or email to the parish office (ssgeorge.wilfrid@btinternet.com). Deadline for RSVPs **Today, Sunday 30th June**.

St Wilfrid’s: We urgently need more volunteers to help with keeping our beautiful church spick and span. We are looking for 2 hours of your time once a month. Even whole families could take this on as there are plenty of tasks children can be involved in. Please see Maria Hills at the back of the church on Sunday or ring on 07873759962. Thank you.

Margaret Nevill would like to thank the parishioners of St George for their lovely card, kind Birthday wishes and very cute present. Margaret and family are looking forward to a lovely weekend with their Hungarian relatives.

Beachy Head Chaplaincy Team: Do you have compassion for the lost and broken? Would you be able to give 5 hours a week? Get involved as a Volunteer Chaplain. Find out more about the work of Beachy Head Chaplaincy Team at www.bhct.org.uk or contact gail.whittington@bhct.org.uk for more information.

The Parish Rosary Group meets every Monday at 2pm in St G'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.

Table Sale St George's - We urgently need quality items for our table sale, new and nearly new. This table sale raises significant amounts to our monthly charity and also to assist in Youth Activities throughout the year. Please leave bags marked table sale at the back of St George's church.

The diocese Marriage and Family Life Adviser, Katherine Bergin, has worked with a range of contributors to create a fantastic brand-new newsletter aimed at diocesan grandparents. We have made several copies of the newsletter available at the back of church for anyone wishing to read it. Please do leave them for others to read after you.

Parish Over 50’s Club: No tea in July, back again in August.

Parish Charity Breakfast: Next breakfast is Today, Sunday 30th June after St G's 9am mass - All welcome. This month we will be supporting Eastbourne Foodbank.

Soon to become a new parish - What’s Next? A talk by Fr Kevin at Our Lady of Ransom, Thurs 18th July at 7pm. Exploring the plans for the coming months on becoming a new Mega (moderated) Parish, from Eastbourne to Rye! What part will you play in this? Refreshments available. All are welcome.

Dates for your Diary:

Sun 30th June, 10am - Community Charity Breakfast, St G’s.
Sun 14th July, Golden Jubilee Celebration, St W’s & St G’s.
Fri 26th July, 11-12pm - Parish Bereavement Gp, St W’s Hall.
Sun 28th July, 10am - Community Charity Breakfast, St G’s.
Thur 29th Aug, 2-4pm - Parish Over 50’s Club, St W’s Hall.

Sunday 23rd June - Mass Attendance:

St Wilfrid’s 164 St George’s 70