

**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON**

Turn your eyes, O God, our shield;  
and look on the face of your anointed one;  
one day within your courts  
is better than a thousand elsewhere.

Ps 83:10-11

**THE COLLECT**

O God, who have prepared for those who love you  
good things which no eye can see,  
fill our hearts, we pray, with the warmth of your love,  
so that, loving you in all things and above all things,  
we may attain your promises,  
which surpass every human desire.  
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 book of Proverbs

9:1-6

Wisdom has built herself a house,  
she has erected her seven pillars,  
she has slaughtered her beasts,  
prepared her wine,  
she has laid her table.  
She has despatched her maidservants  
and proclaimed from the city's heights:  
'Who is ignorant? Let him step this way.'  
To the fool she says,  
'Come and eat my bread,  
drink the wine I have prepared!  
Leave your folly and you will live,  
walk in the ways of perception.'

The word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM**

Ps 33:2-3.10-15.R.v9

**R) Taste and see that the Lord is good.**

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)**

Revere the Lord, you his saints.  
They lack nothing, those who revere him.  
Strong lions suffer want and go hungry  
but those who seek the Lord lack no blessing. **(R)**

Come, children, and hear me  
that I may teach you the fear of the Lord.  
Who is he who longs for life  
and many days, to enjoy his prosperity? **(R)**

Then keep your tongue from evil  
and your lips from speaking deceit.  
Turn aside from evil and do good;  
seek and strive after peace. **(R)**

**SECOND READING**

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians 5:15-20

Be very careful about the sort of lives you lead, like intelligent  
and not like senseless people. This may be a wicked age, but  
your lives should redeem it. And do not be thoughtless but  
recognise what is the will of the Lord. Do not drug yourselves  
with wine, this is simply dissipation; be filled with the Spirit.  
Sing the words and tunes of the psalms and hymns when you  
are together, and go on singing and chanting to the Lord in  
your hearts, so that always and everywhere you are giving  
thanks to God who is our Father in the name of our Lord Jesus  
Christ.

The word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

Alleluia, alleluia!  
He who eats my flesh and drinks my blood  
lives in me, and I live in him,  
says the Lord.  
Alleluia!

Jn 6:56

**GOSPEL**

John 6:51-58

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 the crowd:

I am the living bread which has come down from heaven.  
Anyone who eats this bread will live for ever;  
and the bread that I shall give  
is my flesh, for the life of the world.'

Then the Jews started arguing with one another: 'How can this  
man give us his flesh to eat?' they said. Jesus replied:

'I tell you most solemnly,  
if you do not eat the flesh of the Son of Man  
and drink his blood,  
you will not have life in you.  
Anyone who does eat my flesh and  
drink my blood  
has eternal life,  
and I shall raise him up on the last day.  
For my flesh is real food  
and my blood is real drink.  
He who eats my flesh and drinks my blood  
lives in me  
and I live in him.  
As I, who am sent by the living Father,  
myself draw life from the Father,  
so whoever eats me will draw life from me.  
This is the bread come down from heaven;  
not like the bread our ancestors ate:  
they are dead,  
but anyone who eats this bread will live for ever.'

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

**PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS**

Receive our oblation, O Lord,  
by which is brought about a glorious exchange,  
that, by offering what you have given,  
we may merit to receive your very self.  
Through Christ our Lord.

**COMMUNION ANTIPHON**

Jn 6:51-52

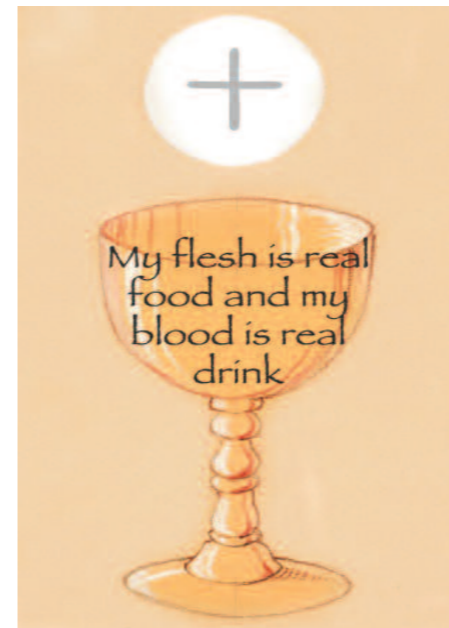
**I am the living bread that came down from heaven, says  
the Lord.  
Whoever eats of this bread will live for ever.**

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Made partakers of Christ through these Sacraments,  
we humbly implore your mercy, Lord,  
that, conformed to his image on earth,  
we may merit also to be his coheirs in heaven.  
Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

# Our Faith on Sunday

## GOSPEL REFLECTION



Despite the incomprehension of the  
Jews and their negative reaction to  
his words, Jesus continues to teach  
the crowds about his relationship  
with the Father and his flesh being  
real food and his blood real drink.  
He repeats the same teaching as in  
last Sunday's Gospel and is met with  
the same incredulity. He says that he  
draws life from the Father and that  
therefore whoever eats his flesh will  
draw life from him. It is a deeply  
mystical discourse which the crowds  
simply do not understand, or  
perhaps, don't want to make the  
effort to understand. They want to  
remain in their comfort zone where

everything fits into their normal  
experience of life. Anything that  
comes from without that comfort  
zone tends to be rejected. We too  
can be guilty of trying to fit God  
into our small world, into our  
comfort zone, when the only way we  
can understand his words is to open  
ourselves up to the completely new  
experience he is offering freely to us.



### EVANGELII GAUDIUM (JOY OF THE GOSPEL)



## FRUITFULNESS OVER RESULTS

193. Apart from their tireless activity, politicians  
are also men and women. They are called to  
practice love in their daily interpersonal  
relationships. As persons, they need to consider  
that "the modern world, with its technical  
advances, tends increasingly to functionalize the  
satisfaction of human desires, now classified and  
subdivided among different services. Less and less  
will people be called by name, less and less will  
this unique being be treated as a person with his  
or her own feelings, sufferings, problems, joys and  
family. Their illnesses will be known only in  
order to cure them, their financial needs only to  
provide for them, their lack of a home only to  
give them lodging, their desires for recreation and  
entertainment only to satisfy them". Yet it must  
never be forgotten that "loving the most  
insignificant of human beings as a brother, as if  
there were no one else in the world but him,  
cannot be considered a waste of time".<sup>190</sup>

[190] RENÉ VOILLAUME, *Frères de tous*, ed. Cerf, Paris,  
1968, 12-13.

### The Fire of Love\* A MEDITATION ON THE PASSION (2)

O Lord, I can see your red blood coursing down your  
cheeks, torrents of blood falling in front and behind.  
Your crown has torn pieces of skin from your head;  
every thorn of it penetrates your skull. I cannot bear to  
live and watch my gracious lord, so ailing and so  
submissive. He who has never done anything wrong is  
being so dishonourably displayed in a mocking way.  
See the remorse and the groaning, the grief and the  
sighing, the pathos of his expression. These make me  
want to die.

The crown of all bliss, who crowns all the blessed and is  
king of kings and lord of lords, is crowned with thorns by  
evil men. He is supremely honoured in heaven, but  
despised and desecrated here on earth. He who has created  
the world and all its beautiful things had nowhere to hide  
his head. He became poor to make us rich. So he walks  
completely naked under the gaze of all.

Lord, what grief! Why does it not bring about my  
death!

Now they march you forward naked as a worm,  
torturers and armed soldiers surrounding you.

\*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](mailto:ssgeorge.wilfrid@btinternet.com)

Website: [www.saintsgeorgeandwilfrid.co.uk](http://www.saintsgeorgeandwilfrid.co.uk)

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

## ST WILFRID

South Road  
Hailsham



### WEEKLY SERVICES

#### Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Collection Today for SPUC)

Sat 17th	10am	St Wilfrid's —	Church Open for Prayers and Confessions
Sun 18th	9am	St George's —	Joan Lodrick RIP
	10.30am	St Wilfrid's —	Parish Communities' Intention
Mon 19th	2.30pm	St George's —	Rosary Group - All Welcome
Tues 20th	10am	St George's—	Margaret Boots RIP
Wed 21st	10am	St Wilfrid's—	Margaret Murphy RIP
Thurs 22nd	10am	St George's —	Liturgy of Word & Eucharist
Fri 23rd	10am	St Wilfrid's —	Rosary & Prayer

#### Twenty First Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sat 24th	10am	St Wilfrid's—	Church Open for Prayers and Confessions
Sun 25th	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#\\_=\\_](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, 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.

**Fr Rory Writes:**

**So important that we continue on our pilgrim way on life's journey.**

At times like this, easier said than done. Thanks be to God for a very special moment of grace, last week had a blast from the past. Myself, Joan and Granddaughter Sophie visited Elizabeth Robinson. She is very blessed because her nursing home near the seafront in Bexhill is looking after her very well and she is very happy there. Sophie and Elizabeth's husband Peter, did a lot of work together for our parish and we cherished good times together.

So needless to say I continue to pray for our future. Words are always selective and we choose what we like to hear from "Letter to all parishioners of the Deanery - July 2024". We won't be about "closing down" but building up what we already have, sharing all our good resources.

*Fr Rory*

**Newsletter Articles:** Any new articles for the newsletter on the 1st September, please could we have in by 19th August, and for the newsletter on the 8th September, please could we have in by 21st August. Thank you.

**VOLUNTEER CATECHISTS & CHILDRENS LITURGY ASSISTANTS (ST WILFRID'S)**

As we are about to commence our new year of Children's Liturgy and sacramental preparation, we give thanks to all those who freely give of their time to support this most valuable ministry. We would like to give a special thanks to Angie Squizzoni who is now stepping back from her role following her recent retirement. Her enthusiasm and dedication will be greatly missed.

Our Sacramental preparation programmes and Children's Liturgy sessions are dependent on the number of volunteers available. Going forward, we only have 2 catechists available at St Wilfrid's to run both of these programmes and without further support it may not be possible to offer a Children's Liturgy session every Sunday in term time. One DBS checked adult catechist is needed for every eight children to meet the child safeguarding regulations.

If you are willing to give a little of your precious time, want to learn more about your faith and share it with others, then please email Jackie at [ssgeorge.wilfrid@bt.internet.com](mailto:ssgeorge.wilfrid@bt.internet.com) or speak to Teresa or Annette. We would especially like to encourage parents to consider joining our team so that we can continue to offer this service to your children. Prior experience is not necessary, support and training will be provided.

**St Wilfrid's, Teas & Coffees after Mass on a Sunday:** Usually Ann Hoad makes the teas/coffees, sets up tables etc., but currently she has shingles. Ladies and gentlemen stepped up to help for which we thank them. As Ann will be absent for a while we would be very pleased if other people could help out please. Lulu very kindly cleans away for us each week and we take this opportunity of thanking her so much. If you can help please, just slip away before the last hymn and get the kettle on, it will be all set up for you. Thank you in advance.

Please say a prayer that Ann will return as soon as she is able. We send our best wishes to you Ann. Sophie says "Thank You" to all who helped celebrate her birthday last week after Mass. The very large cake was gone in a flash!

**Dates for your Diary:**

- Thur 29th Aug, 2-4pm - Parish Over 50's Club, St W's Hall.
- Sun 1st Sept, Lourdes Pilgrimage Reunion, St W's Sch, Crawley
- Sat 21st Sept, Catechists Day at Worth Abbey School.
- Fri 27th Sept, 11-12pm - Parish Bereavement Gp, St W's Hall.
- Sun 29th Sept, 10am - Community Charity Breakfast, St G's.
- Sat 12th Oct, Significant Marriage Anniv. Mass, Arundel

**FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PROGRAMME 2024-25**

**First Communion Preparation:** Parents are invited to enrol their children for our First Holy Communion Programme 2024 - 25 (those entering Year 3 or above). Application forms to join the programme are available at the back of the church and on the parish website. The course will begin with an introductory meeting for parents on September 25th at 6.00pm in St Wilfrid's Church Hall. **Deadline for enrolment is September 15th.** For more information, please contact Teresa Palmer. 07951082592, [tpalmer2205@gmail.com](mailto:tpalmer2205@gmail.com)

**St George's Fire Drill - Sunday 15th September.**

The Diocese recommend that we have a fire drill at least annually. Although we are giving notice of it, to ensure it is as authentic as possible, following consultation with Fr Rory, it will take place during Mass, prior to the offertory procession. Appointed fire stewards will ensure prompt evacuation of both the church and hall where children's liturgy will be taking place. The evacuation assembly point is on the pavement, Eastbourne Road, right in front of the church. Afterwards, we will return to the church and continue with Mass. It is very important that as a community we know how to evacuate safely. The weekend before, during the notices announcement slot, there will be a short talk on the fire drill.

**St George's Hall:** Saturday 24th August 12 noon to 2.30 Afternoon Tea/tombola/raffle. This is a hall hire in aid of Breast Cancer Now and they would really appreciate your support.

**Parish Bereavement Group:** No meeting in August. Our next meeting will be Friday 27th September.

**St George's Hall:** Mon 26th August 10am - 5pm - Board Games Enthusiasts Fair. This is a group who enjoy all board games from across the decades. They have an annual fair where like minded people meet play and buy/sell games. They are holding the fair as a charity event for Demelza, the children's hospice. All welcome.

**Sunday 11th August - Mass Attendance:**  
St Wilfrid's 104                      St George's 75