

THE INTRODUCTORY RITES

Entrance Antiphon

O Lord, I trust in your merciful love.
My heart will rejoice in your salvation.
I will sing to the Lord who has been bountiful with me.

Ps 12: 6

Gloria

Collect

Grant, we pray, almighty God,
that, always pondering spiritual things,
we may carry out in both word and deed
that which is pleasing to you.
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.
Amen.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Reading

A reading from the First Book of Samuel.
1 Samuel 26:2, 7-9, 12-13, 22-23

In those days: Saul arose and went down to the wilderness of Ziph with three thousand chosen men of Israel to seek David in the wilderness of Ziph.

David and Abishai went to the army by night. And there lay Saul sleeping within the encampment, with his spear stuck in the ground at his head, and Abner and the army lay round him. Then Abishai said to David, 'God has given your enemy into your hand this day. Now please let me pin him to the earth with one stroke of the spear, and I will not strike him twice.' But David said to Abishai, 'Do not destroy him, for who can put out his hand against the LORD's anointed and be guiltless?' So David took the spear and the jar of water from Saul's head, and they went away. No man saw it or knew it, nor did any awake, for they were all asleep, because a deep sleep from the LORD had fallen upon them.

Then David went over to the other side and stood far off on the top of the hill, with a great space between them. David said, 'Here is the spear, O king! Let one of the young men come over and take it. The LORD rewards every man for his righteousness and his faithfulness, for the LORD gave you into my hand today, and I would not put out my hand against the LORD's anointed.'

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Psalms Psalm 103(102):1-2, 3-4, 8, 10, 12-13, R.8a

R. The LORD is compassionate and gracious.

Bless the LORD, O my soul,
and all within me, his holy name.
Bless the LORD, O my soul,
and never forget all his benefits.

It is the Lord who forgives all your sins,
who heals every one of your ills,
who redeems your life from the grave,
who crowns you with mercy and compassion.

The LORD is compassionate and gracious,
slow to anger and rich in mercy.
He does not treat us according to our sins,
nor repay us according to our faults.

As far as the east is from the west,
so far from us does he remove our transgressions.
As a father has compassion on his children,
the LORD's compassion is on those who fear him.

Second Reading

A reading from the First Letter of Saint Paul to the Corinthians.
1 Corinthians 15:45-49

Brothers and sisters: 'The first man Adam became a living being'; the last Adam became a life-giving spirit. But it is not

the spiritual that is first but the natural, and then the spiritual. The first man was from the earth, a man of dust; the second man is from heaven. As was the man of dust, so also are those who are of the dust, and as is the man of heaven, so also are those who are of heaven. Just as we have borne the image of the man of dust, we shall also bear the image of the man of heaven.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Acclamation before the Gospel

Alleluia, alleluia. John 13:34
A new commandment I give to you, says the Lord,
that you love one another, just as I have loved you.
Alleluia.

Gospel

Luke 6:27-38
The Lord be with you.
And with your spirit.
A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.
Glory to you, O Lord.

At that time: Jesus said to his disciples, 'I say to you who hear: Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. To one who strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also; and from one who takes away your cloak do not withhold your tunic either. Give to everyone who begs from you; and from one who takes away your goods, do not demand them back. And as you wish that others would do to you, do so to them.

'If you love those who love you, what benefit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. And if you do good to those who do good to you, what benefit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. And if you lend to those from whom you expect to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to get back the same amount. But love your enemies, and do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return, and your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High, for he is kind to the ungrateful and the evil.

'Be merciful, even as your Father is merciful. Judge not, and you will not be judged; condemn not, and you will not be condemned; forgive, and you will be forgiven. Give, and it will be given to you; good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap. For with the measure you use it will be measured back to you.'

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

Homily

The Nicene Creed or The Apostles' Creed

Prayer over the Offerings

R. As we celebrate your mysteries, O Lord,
with the observance that is your due,
we humbly ask you,
that what we offer to the honour of your majesty
may profit us for salvation.
R. Through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

R. **Communion Antiphon**
I will recount all your wonders,
I will rejoice in you and be glad,
and sing psalms to your name, O Most High.
R.

R. **Prayer after Communion**
Let us pray.
Grant, we pray, almighty God,
that we may experience the effects of the salvation
which is pledged to us by these mysteries.
Through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Our Faith on Sunday

GOSPEL REFLECTION



Today's Gospel is probably one of the strongest and most 'revolutionary'

in the whole of the New Testament. Jesus challenges his disciples, and therefore us too today, to go completely against the 'normal' way of thinking and behaving. Perhaps the greatest challenge of all is to love our enemies. And there are no compromises! Our love has to be concrete and active. We must not even ask for our property back from the one who stole it. This may seem very harsh, but in fact it is no more than allowing ourselves to be purified of our 'attachment'. It is

clearly not wrong to have material possessions, but the danger is in becoming attached to them. We will not be able to take any of these things with us when we die and clinging to them through thick and thin blocks our relationship with God and prevents us from reaching the goal of eternal life. Jesus makes it very clear that our reward in the next life will be in proportion to how much we have forgiven our brothers and sisters and not judged them.



POPE FRANCIS' ENCYCLICAL
FRATELLI TUTTI
BROTHERS AND SISTERS ALL

THE JOY OF
ACKNOWLEDGING OTHERS

220. Indigenous peoples, for example, are not opposed to progress, yet theirs is a different notion of progress, often more humanistic than the modern culture of developed peoples. Theirs is not a culture meant to benefit the powerful, those driven to create for themselves a kind of earthly paradise. Intolerance and lack of respect for indigenous popular cultures is a form of violence grounded in a cold and judgmental way of viewing them. No authentic, profound and enduring change is possible unless it starts from the different cultures, particularly those of the poor. A cultural covenant eschews a monolithic understanding of the identity of a particular place; it entails respect for diversity by offering opportunities for advancement and social integration to all.

Pope Francis'
Amoris Laetitia
LOVE IN THE FAMILY

"A great number of children are born outside of wedlock, many of whom subsequently grow up with just one of their parents or in a blended or reconstituted family... The sexual exploitation of children is yet another scandalous and perverse reality in present-day society. Societies experiencing violence due to war, terrorism or the presence of organized crime are witnessing the deterioration of the family, above all in large cities, where, on their outskirts, the so-called phenomenon of 'street-children' is on the rise". The sexual abuse of children is all the more scandalous when it occurs in places where they ought to be most safe, particularly in families, schools, communities and Christian institutions.



PARISH COMMUNITIES OF



Parish Priest: Fr. Rory Kelly

South Road, Hailsham, East Sussex BN27 3JG

Tel: (01323) 841504

(Answerphone service available)

Email: hailsham@abdiocese.org.uk

Website: www.saintsgeorgeandwilfrid.co.uk

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

ST GEORGE

Eastbourne Road
Polegate



ST WILFRID

South Road
Hailsham



WEEKLY SERVICES

Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sat 22nd	10am	St Wilfrid's —	Church Open for Confessions and Veneration
Sun 23rd	9am	St George's —	Cicily Mathew RIP
	10.30am	St Wilfrid's —	Intention of Barbara
Mon 24th	2.30pm	St George's —	Rosary Group - All Welcome
Tues 25th	10am	St George's —	Parish Communities' Intention
Wed 26th	10am	St Wilfrid's—	Michael Copper RIP
Thur 27th	10am	St George's —	Special Intention
Fri 28th	10am	St Wilfrid's —	Creta O'Neill RIP

Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time

(Collection Today for the White Flower Appeal SPUC)

(Wednesday is Ash Wednesday; fasting and abstinence)

Sat 1st	10am	St Wilfrid's—	Church Open for Confessions and Veneration
Sun 2nd	9am	St George's —	Parish Communities' Intention
	10.30am	St Wilfrid's —	Norman & Angela Wright 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#_=_

Newsletter items: Please send to Jackie at hailsham@abdiocese.org.uk, 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 & those named in the books in our churches

Amy Jenkins, Lily May, Joshua Hardy, Peter & Teresa Zurenkas, Anne Holt, Margaret, Rosie Tuson, Lilian Summers, Sue Nye, Tom Woodrow-Spencer, Chris Neyenhuizen, Laurey Stimpson, Nicole McCutchan, Nellie Oakshott, Jean Molloy, Alan Smith, Julie Martin, Holly Leone, Deborah Osbourne Walker, Gill Standen, Letty Booth, Thomas Pailey, Thomas Guy, Michael O'Regan, Richard Streeter, Patricia Delaney, Graham, Pamela Swanston, Jean & Chris Littlewood, Terry & Anne Oglethorpe and Jean Skelton.

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:

To the parishioners of St Wilfrid's and St George's

Nice to hear from family, sometimes especially nice. They ask to extend their thanks to the parish.

We the Kelly family would like to acknowledge with thanks the love, time and energy you all give Fr Rory in his ministry. Thank you for the hours you spend assisting him and for being his friend. It is such a blessing to know he can rely on you for help in assisting him in his ministry.

On Rory's 50th Anniversary you all excelled in delivering a most memorable day for friends and family. Words cannot express how much it means to us, Fr Rory's family in Tipperary. We will be eternally grateful. The Kelly Family.

2025 Jubilee Year Reflection Gatherings with CAFOD

Are you wondering what the 2025 Jubilee Year is all about? Join us as we reflect on the meaning of the Jubilee Year and what it means to be a 'Pilgrim of Hope'. We'll be meeting at St Wilfrid's Church on March 26th after the 10.00am mass for the first of four gatherings. This will be followed by a simple soup lunch to raise funds for CAFOD. Sign up sheets to register interest are available at the back of church.

Pilgrims of Hope for CAFOD: To mark this Jubilee Years theme of 'Pilgrims of Hope' we invite you to join us for a day of prayer and walking on Saturday, March 29th.

The day will begin with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and opportunities for Confession at 10.00 am at St Wilfrid's Church.

Following this we are taking on the Big Lent Walk for CAFOD!

As a group we will be walking to achieve 200km together. Starting at St Wilfrid's our route will take us along the Cuckoo Trail to St George's in time for a simple soup lunch. Following lunch we will be led by our youth in a Family Stations of the Cross service.

The route between our two churches is only 5km, so in order to achieve our collective goal of 200km we need 40 people to walk with us on the day. Please join us! For more information about sponsorship and how to join our walking team please follow this link or follow the QR code below:

<https://parishes.walk.cafod.org.uk/fundraising/st-wilfrid-and-st-george-big-lent-walk>

Alternatively, you can collect a sponsor form from the back of church.

If you're unable to join us, please keep us in your prayers, and if you are in a position to sponsor us, we will be very grateful. Scan this QR code and follow the link to make your donation or add your name to the Team

Sponsor form at the back of church.



A most memorable lady:

Sheila Bree died last week and she is a sad loss. Each time I visited her I was really inspired by her positive spirit. Thankful for the many blessings of her life and how God has blessed her so much. She had visited so many places and achieved a lot of good things done, an example of that was her visits as a minister of the eucharist, and being able to offer company and support. Yes it was a treat to take her Holy Communion, and her willingness to go. She did not want to live to be 100, her time and patience being tested; she was ready to go to meet the Lord. I pray that some of her grace may rub off on me.

St Wilfrid's Church: Our lovely cleaning team need one or two people to join them in keeping our beautiful church in tip top condition. It would involve working with at least one other person for about two hours every five weeks. Please contact Maria Hills on [07873759962](tel:07873759962).

Used Postage Stamps: The Card Shop next to the level crossing in Polegate are pleased to receive any used postage stamps.

Parish Over 50's Club: Thurs 27th Feb, 2-4pm. Theme 'Wales and all things Welsh'. Look forward to seeing you there.

Dates for your Diary:

Sun 23rd Feb, 10am - Community Charity Breakfast, St G's Hall.

Sun 23rd Feb, After Mass - Parish Meeting, St W's

Thur 27th Feb, 2-4pm - Parish Over 50's Club, St W's Hall.

Fri 28th Feb, 11-12pm - Parish Bereavement Group, St W's Hall.

Wed 12th March, 7pm - 1st Communion Lesson, St W's Hall.

Wed 26th March, After Mass - CAFOD Gathering + Soup Lunch.

Wed 2nd April, 7pm - 1st Communion Lesson, St W's Hall.

Youth led Fundraiser for Flame 2025: We are delighted that over 80 of our Catholic youth and their leaders from our Deanery will be attending FLAME 2025, the Catholic youth Congress in Wembley, during Lent. The £29 ticket price has been paid by the attendees, however they are looking to raise the money to fund the coaches to travel there, over £2000 needed.

Fundraising events include:

St George's - Souper quiz night - Friday 28th Feb, 6pm doors open and quiz starts at 6.30pm. Soup and sweet treats will be served between rounds. Tickets £7 adults, under 14s £3 on sale after mass or available to reserve via parish office hailsham@abdiocese.org.uk Team size max 8 and can be formed in advance or on the night.

Our Lady of Ransom Eastbourne Pancakes and Bacon/sausage Bap breakfast - after 10.15am mass on Sunday March 2nd.

Christ the King - Bingo date and time TBC. Please support us if you can. Donations of raffle prizes are also welcomed (mark "youth fundraiser" and leave with welcomers to pass on). Thank you.

Community Charity Breakfast - Today, 23rd Feb after mass at St George's - this month our charity is Care International, a disaster emergency charity.

Mass Attendance

Sunday 16th February - Mass Attendance:

St Wilfrid's 107

St George's 65