

THE INTRODUCTORY RITES

**Entrance Antiphon** Cf. Jn 12:1, 12-13; Ps 23:9-10

Six days before the Passover,  
when the Lord came into the city of Jerusalem,  
the children ran to meet him;  
in their hands they carried palm branches  
and with a loud voice cried out:

\*Hosanna in the highest!  
Blessed are you, who have come in your abundant mercy!

O gates, lift high your heads;  
grow higher, ancient doors.  
Let him enter, the king of glory!  
Who is this king of glory?  
He, the Lord of hosts, he is the king of glory.

\*Hosanna in the highest!  
Blessed are you, who have come in your abundant mercy!

**The Collect**

Almighty ever-living God,  
who as an example of humility for the human race to follow  
caused our Saviour to take flesh and submit to the Cross,  
graciously grant that we may heed his lesson of patient suffering  
and so merit a share in his Resurrection.  
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 Prophet Isaiah. Isaiah 50:4-7

The Lord God has given me the tongue of those who are taught,  
that I may know how to sustain with a word him who is weary.  
Morning by morning he awakens; he awakens my ear to hear  
as those who are taught. The Lord God has opened my ear, and  
I was not rebellious; I turned not backwards. I gave my back to  
those who strike, and my cheeks to those who pull out the beard;  
I hid not my face from disgrace and spitting. But the Lord God  
helps me; therefore I have not been disgraced; therefore I have  
set my face like a flint, and I know that I shall not be put to shame.

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

**Psalm** Psalm 22(21):8-9. 17-18a. 19-20. 23-24. R.2a

**R. My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?**

All who see me deride me;  
they curl their lips, they toss their heads:  
'He trusted in the LORD, let him save him;  
let him release him, for in him he delights.'

For dogs have surrounded me;  
a band of the wicked besets me.  
They tear holes in my hands and my feet;  
I can count every one of my bones.

They divide my clothing among them,  
they cast lots for my robe.  
But you, O LORD, do not stay afar off;  
my strength, make haste to help me!

I will tell of your name to my kin,  
and praise you in the midst of the assembly;  
'You who fear the LORD, give him praise;  
all descendants of Jacob, give him glory;  
revere him, all you descendants of Israel.'

**Second Reading**

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Philippians.  
Philippians 2:6-11

Christ Jesus, though he was in the form of God, did not count  
equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied himself, by  
taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men.

And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming  
obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. Therefore  
God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that  
is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee  
should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and  
every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of  
God the Father.

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

**Acclamation before the Gospel**

**Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory.  
Christ became for us obedient to the point of death,  
even death on a cross.  
Therefore God has highly exalted him  
and bestowed on him the name that is above every name.  
Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory.**

**The Passion**

The Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.  
Luke 22:14-23:56

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

**Homily**

**The Nicene Creed or The Apostles' Creed**

**Prayer over the Offerings**

Through the Passion of your Only Begotten Son, O Lord,  
may our reconciliation with you be near at hand,  
so that, though we do not merit it by our own deeds,  
yet by this sacrifice made once for all,  
we may feel already the effects of your mercy.  
Through Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

**Communion Antiphon** Mt 26:42

**Father, if this chalice cannot pass without my drinking it,  
your will be done.**

**Prayer after Communion**

Nourished with these sacred gifts,  
we humbly beseech you, O Lord,  
that, just as through the death of your Son  
you have brought us to hope for what we believe,  
so by his Resurrection  
you may lead us to where you call.  
Through Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

**R. Prayer over the People**  
*The Deacon, or the Priest, says:*  
Bow down for the Blessing.

*The Priest continues:*  
**R.** Look, we pray, O Lord, on this your family,  
for whom our Lord Jesus Christ  
did not hesitate to be delivered into the hands of the wicked  
and submit to the agony of the Cross.  
**R.** Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.  
**Amen.**

And may the blessing of almighty God,  
the Father, and the Son, ✠ and the Holy Spirit,  
come down on you and remain with you for ever.  
**R. Amen.**

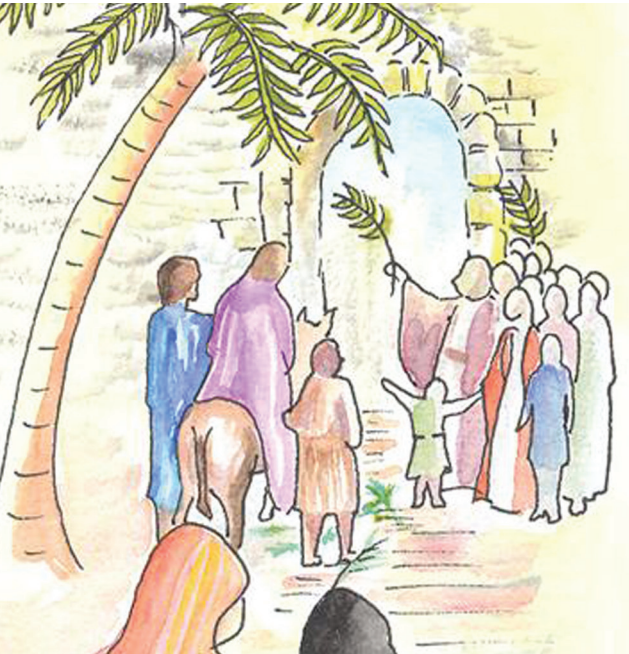
*Then the Deacon, or the Priest, says:*  
Go forth, the Mass is ended.  
Go and announce the Gospel of the Lord.  
Go in peace, glorifying the Lord by your life.  
Go in peace.

**Thanks be to God.**

Or:  
Or:  
Or:

# Our Faith on Sunday

## GOSPEL REFLECTION



The reading of passion of the Lord is one of the most profound and important ones of the Church year. We hear it every year and the danger is

redeemer, should be so unjustly and brutally treated was unthinkable to those who knew and loved him. And yet that was precisely the Father's plan



POPE FRANCIS' ENCYCLICAL  
FRATELLI TUTTI  
BROTHERS AND SISTERS ALL

### THE ART AND ARCHITECTURE OF PEACE

228. The path to peace does not mean making society blandly uniform, but getting people to work together, side-by-side, in pursuing goals that benefit everyone. A wide variety of practical proposals and diverse experiences can help achieve shared objectives and serve the common good. The problems that a society is experiencing need to be clearly identified, so that the existence of different ways of understanding and resolving them can be appreciated. The path to social unity always entails acknowledging the possibility that others have, at least in part, a legitimate point of view, something worthwhile to contribute, even if they were in error or acted badly. "We should never confine others to what they may have said or done, but value them for the promise that they embody", <sup>212</sup> a promise that always brings with it a spark of new hope.

212. Message for the 2020 World Day of Peace (8 December 2019), 3: L'Osservatore Romano, 13 December 2019, p. 8.

Yet another challenge is posed by the various forms of an ideology of gender that "denies the difference and reciprocity in nature of a man and a woman and envisages a society without sexual differences, thereby eliminating the anthropological basis of the family. This ideology leads to educational programmes and legislative enactments that promote a personal identity and emotional intimacy radically separated from the biological difference between male and female. Consequently, human identity becomes the choice of the individual, one which can also change over time".



# PARISH COMMUNITIES OF



## ST GEORGE

Eastbourne Road  
Polegate



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Tel: (01323) 841504

(Answerphone service available)

Email: [hailsham@abdiocese.org.uk](mailto:hailsham@abdiocese.org.uk)

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

**Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord (Friday is a day of Fasting & Abstinence)**  
**(Collection for Easter Flowers Today)**

Sat 12th	10am	St Wilfrid's —	Church Open for Confessions and Veneration
Sun 13th	9am	St George's —	Dolores Dee McNabb RIP
	10.30am	St Wilfrid's —	Sheila Web Intention
	3pm	St George's -	Stations of the Cross and Benediction
Mon 14th	2.30pm	St George's —	Rosary Group - All Welcome
Tues 15th	10am	St George's —	Parish Communities' Intention
Wed 16th	10am	St Wilfrid's—	Sheila Jury Intention
<b>Maundy Thursday</b>	<b>7pm</b>	<b>St George's —</b>	<b>Mass of the Lord's Supper</b>
<b>Good Friday</b>	<b>10am</b>	<b>St Wilfrid's —</b>	<b>Family Stations of the Cross</b>
	<b>3pm</b>	<b>St Wilfrid's—</b>	<b>Passion of the Lord</b>
	<b>3pm</b>	<b>St George's -</b>	<b>Passion of the Lord</b>

**Easter Sunday (Collection for the Holy Places of Palestine)**

<b>Holy Saturday</b>	10am	St Wilfrid's—	Church Open for Confessions and Veneration
	<b>8pm</b>	St Wilfrid's—	Vigil Mass
<b>Easter Sunday</b>	9am	St George's —	Resurrection of the Lord
	10.30am	St Wilfrid's —	Resurrection of the Lord

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 [hailsham@abdiocese.org.uk](mailto: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](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 & 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, Jean Skelton, Jennifer, Peter Mitchell, Cecelia Hyland and Sheila Jury.

**Warm Welcome!** We're glad to have you at Mass, especially visitors.

New to the parish or looking to reconnect? Fill out a welcome form in the porch or speak to Fr. Rory - we'd love to meet you and help in any way!

## Parish Leadership Group Update

Last week, Gerry Palmer and I attended the latest Parish Leadership Group meeting with Father Kevin and other representatives of our new parish. Significant progress has been made since our first meeting in January. Over the next few weeks, we will complete an audit of all church organisational structures, which will enable us to assess consistency of approach and reduce duplication of effort. We also hope to launch a new parish website by the end of spring, which will help us communicate more effectively across all our communities.

Plans are also underway to centralise financial arrangements and meetings with all current parish treasurers will be taking place shortly.

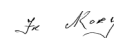
The major focus for April, however, is the development of a new **Liturgical Strategy**. The current situation is not sustainable, given the limited number of priests available to carry out liturgical duties such as saying Mass and holding Adoration and Reconciliation services. The challenge lies in reimagining our provision of services based on the geographical boundaries of our new parish, rather than the existing church catchment areas.

Currently, there are four priests serving the Eastbourne hub, which covers seven churches. However, we must plan on the basis of having only three priests to ensure a sustainable workload, allow for rest days, holidays, and potential illness, and to reduce the risk of burnout.

According to Canon Law, one priest may celebrate no more than three Masses across Saturday evening and Sunday. This means our maximum capacity for weekend Masses across the hub is nine. An audit will therefore be carried out across the seven churches to determine how best to reduce the number of Masses accordingly.

Importantly, this assessment will also consider factors beyond just attendance—such as the spiritual and community significance of individual Masses.

The next step is to prepare a **draft proposal**, which will then be shared for consultation. This process will allow all congregations to provide input before any final decisions are made.



**Easter Collection:** As I am sure many of you are aware, Catholic Priests do not receive a salary and rely on your generosity at Christmas and Easter as a thank you for all they do for us. It is also possible to claim gift aid on your donation if you are a UK taxpayer and that extra 25% will go directly to Father Rory. If you aren't part of a planned giving scheme then please use the "one off" gift aid envelopes located in the porch. You can also contribute via the digital collection plate at St Wilfrid's or via the QR code or donations website link (<https://donate.mydona.com/st-wilfrids-church-hailsham>) using the "Easter Collections" tab.



**Easter Flowers:** There will be a collection for Easter Flowers at St George's and St Wilfrid's this Sunday. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

**Good Friday Family Service:** Join us for a family-friendly Stations of the Cross at St Wilfrid's on Good Friday at 10:00am. After the service, enjoy hot cross buns and refreshments in the hall. Donations of buns are welcome—please bring them after Mass on April 16th or on the day itself.

**Assisted suicide Bill even worse than before - postcards available:** Committee Stage of the assisted suicide Bill has ended. It is now weaker and less safe than it was before. 300+ amendments that sought to strengthen safeguards in the Bill and protect vulnerable groups were rejected by Bill supporters, including protection for people with disabilities and domestic abuse victims. **Please take action now - collect a red and white postcard, fill out your details and post it to your MP today!**

**Arundel & Brighton Ecumenical Walking Pilgrimage:** Booking is now open, for more information go to [thepilgrims.org.uk](http://thepilgrims.org.uk). The pilgrimage is going all around the diocese and is from 9th - 24th August 2025.

**Music Practice at St Wilfrid's:** The next practice for our music group will be on Saturday 26th April from 10am to 11am in St Wilfrid's Church Hall. We are looking for more instrumentalists and singers, only enthusiasm needed. All ages welcome.

**The South Downs Singers Spring Concert** is on Sat 26th April, 3.30 pm St George's Church. Tickets available from Anne or Shirley at £10. Tickets will be available on the door. A diverse programme of Mozart, Nella Fantasia plus easy listening show tunes.

#### Dates for your Diary:

Sat 12th April, 10am-12pm - Womble Day, St George's.  
 Fri 18th April, 10am - Family Stations of the Cross, St W's Church.  
 Thurs 24th April, 2-4pm - Parish Over 50's Club, St W's Hall.  
 Fri 25th April, 11-12pm - Parish Bereavement Group, St W's Hall.  
 Sun 27th April, 10am - Community Charity Breakfast, St G's Hall.  
 Wed 30th April, 7pm - 1st Communion Lesson, St W's Hall.  
 Wed 7th May, 6.30pm - Communion Day Practice, St W's Hall.

**Womble Day at St Wilfrid's Postponed:** Will now take place on Sunday 1st June.

**Womble Day at St George's:** Sat 12th April 10am-12noon. If you would like to help with weeding the car park, clearing away leaves and generally tidying the borders, do come and join us for a couple of hours. If possible bring your own tools or borrow some on the day! Thank you!

**Easter Cards** are on sale at the back of St George's Church.

**Sunday 6th April - Mass Attendance:**

St Wilfrid's	104	St George's	80
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