

THE INTRODUCTORY RITES

Entrance Antiphon

Like newborn infants, you must long for  
the pure, spiritual milk,  
that in him you may grow to salvation, alleluia.

1 Pt 2: 2

Gloria

Collect

God of everlasting mercy,  
who, in the very recurrence of the paschal feast  
kindle the faith of the people you have made your own,  
increase, we pray, the grace you have bestowed,  
that all may grasp and rightly understand  
in what font they have been washed,  
by whose Spirit they have been reborn,  
by whose Blood they have been redeemed.  
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 Acts of the Apostles.

Acts 5:12-16

Many signs and wonders were regularly done among the people by the hands of the Apostles. And they were all together in the Solomon's Portico. None of the rest dared join them, but the people held them in high esteem. And more than ever believers were added to the Lord, multitudes of both men and women, so that they even carried out the sick into the streets and laid them on cots and mats, that as Peter came by at least his shadow might fall on some of them. The people also gathered from the towns round Jerusalem, bringing the sick and those afflicted with unclean spirits, and they were all healed.

The word of the Lord.  
Thanks be to God.

Psalm Psalm 118(117):2-4. 22-24. 25-27a. R.1

R. Give praise to the Lord for he is good,  
his mercy endures for ever.

or: Alleluia.

Let the house of Israel say,  
'His mercy endures for ever.'  
Let the house of Aaron say,  
'His mercy endures for ever.'  
Let those who fear the Lord say,  
'His mercy endures for ever.'

The stone that the builders rejected  
has become the cornerstone.  
By the Lord has this been done,  
a marvel in our eyes.  
This is the day the Lord has made;  
let us rejoice in it and be glad.

We beseech you, O Lord, grant salvation;  
we beseech you, O Lord, grant success.  
Blest is he who comes  
in the name of the Lord.  
We bless you from the house of the Lord;  
the Lord is God, and has given us light.

Second Reading

A reading from the Book of Revelation.

Revelation 1:9-11a, 12-13, 17-19

I, John, your brother and partner in the tribulation and the kingdom and the patient endurance that are in Jesus, was on the island called Patmos on account of the word of God and the testimony of Jesus. I was in the Spirit on the Lord's day, and I heard behind me a loud voice like a trumpet saying, 'Write what you see in a book and send it to the seven churches.'

Then I turned to see the voice that was speaking to me, and on turning I saw seven golden lampstands, and in the midst of the lampstands one like a son of man, clothed with a long robe and with a golden sash round his chest. When I saw him, I fell at his feet as though dead. But he laid his right hand on me, saying, 'Fear not, I am the first and the last, and the living one. I died, and behold I am alive for evermore, and I have the keys of Death and Hades. Write

therefore the things that you have seen, those that are and those that are to take place after this.'

The word of the Lord.  
Thanks be to God.

Acclamation before the Gospel

Alleluia, alleluia.

John 20:29

You believed, Thomas, because you have seen me, says the Lord.  
Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.  
Alleluia.

Gospel

The Lord be with you.  
And with your spirit.  
A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.  
Glory to you, O Lord.

John 20:19-31

On the evening of that day, the first day of the week, the doors being locked where the disciples were for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said to them, 'Peace be with you.' When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, 'Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you.' And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, 'Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you withhold forgiveness from any, it is withheld.'

Now Thomas, one of the Twelve, called the Twin, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, 'We have seen the Lord'. But he said to them, 'Unless I see in his hands the mark of the nails, and place my finger into the mark of the nails, and place my hand into his side, I will never believe.'

Eight days later, his disciples were inside again, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you.' Then he said to Thomas, 'Put your finger here, and see my hands; and put out your hand, and place it in my side. Do not disbelieve, but believe.' Thomas answered him, 'My Lord and my God!' Jesus said to him, 'Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.'

Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; but these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.

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

Homily

R. The Nicene Creed Or The Apostles' Creed

Prayer over the Offerings

Accept, O Lord, we pray,  
the oblations of your people  
(and of those you have brought to new birth),  
that, renewed by confession of your name  
and by Baptism,  
they may attain unending happiness.  
Through Christ our Lord.  
Amen.

Communion Antiphon

Bring your hand and feel the place of the nails,  
and do not be unbelieving but believing,  
alleluia.

Cf. Jn 20:27

Prayer after Communion

Grant, we pray, almighty God,  
that our reception of this paschal Sacrament  
may have a continuing effect  
in our minds and hearts.  
Through Christ our Lord.  
Amen.

# Our Faith on Sunday

## GOSPEL REFLECTION



After the death and Resurrection of Jesus, the disciples were lost and frightened. They had shut themselves in a room and didn't know what to do next. However, as promised, Jesus appears to

forgiving sins to the ordained members of our community. The incident with 'doubting' Thomas finds an echo in most of us. When any remarkable event is reported to us, we want physical

them and gives them the gift of the Holy Spirit and with it the power to forgive (or not) sins. In times like ours, when confession is ignored by many Catholics, this Gospel is a very powerful reminder that God himself gives the power of

evidence before we believe. It is true that we have not 'seen' in a literal sense, but we have the Word of God, present in the Gospels which help believe that Jesus is with us. And if we are able to really love one another, then Jesus promises his spiritual presence among us. When this happens, we can't see him, but we can feel his strong presence and our faith is strengthened.



POPE FRANCIS' ENCYCLICAL  
FRATELLI TUTTI  
BROTHERS AND SISTERS ALL

### THE ART AND ARCHITECTURE OF PEACE

230. Working to overcome our divisions without losing our identity as individuals presumes that a basic sense of belonging is present in everyone. Indeed, "society benefits when each person and social group feels truly at home. In a family, parents, grandparents and children all feel at home; no one is excluded. If someone has a problem, even a serious one, even if he brought it upon himself, the rest of the family comes to his assistance; they support him. His problems are theirs... In families, everyone contributes to the common purpose; everyone works for the common good, not denying each person's individuality but encouraging and supporting it. They may quarrel, but there is something that does not change: the family bond. Family disputes are always resolved afterwards. The joys and sorrows of each of its members are felt by all. That is what it means to be a family! If only we could view our political opponents or neighbours in the same way that we view our children or our spouse, mother or father! How good would this be! Do we love our society or is it still something remote, something anonymous that does not involve us, something to which we are not committed?" <sup>215</sup>

215. Meeting with Political, Economic and Civic Leaders, Quito, Ecuador (7 July 2015): L'Osservatore Romano, 9 July 2015, p. 9.

## Pope Francis' Amoris Laetitia LOVE IN THE FAMILY

Our teaching on marriage and the family cannot fail to be inspired and transformed by this message of love and tenderness; otherwise, it becomes nothing more than the defence of a dry and lifeless doctrine. The mystery of the Christian family can be fully understood only in the light of the Father's infinite love revealed in Christ, who gave himself up for our sake and who continues to dwell in our midst. I now wish to turn my gaze to the living Christ, who is at the heart of so many love stories, and to invoke the fire of the Spirit upon all the world's families.

# 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: [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

#### Second, 'Low', Sunday of Easter (Divine Mercy Sunday)

Sat	26th	10am	St Wilfrid's —	Church Open for Confessions and Veneration
Sun	27th	9am	St George's —	Angela Menendez RIP
				Burial of Ashes for Margaret Boots
		10.30am	St Wilfrid's —	Parish Communities' Intention
Mon	28th	2.30pm	St George's —	Rosary Group - All Welcome
Tues	29th	10am	St George's —	In Thanksgiving for the life of Margaret Boots
Wed	30th	10am	St Wilfrid's —	Marion Boyle RIP
Thurs	1st	10am	St George's —	A Special Family Intention
Fri	2nd	10am	St Wilfrid's —	Jessie Lissenburg RIP

#### Third Sunday of Easter

#### (Collection next Sunday for the Education of Priests)

Sat	3rd	10am	St Wilfrid's —	Church Open for Confessions and Veneration
Sun	4th	9am	St George's —	Jenni Duder-Rumsey 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 [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!

**Fr Rory Writes:**

**With the help of our parish community:**

In a statement issued on Monday morning, Bishop Richard said: "As we mourn the death of Pope Francis, we can also be deeply grateful for his life of service to the Universal Church. Bringing his experience of the Church in South America, informed and enlightened by his life as a member of the Society of Jesus, he called us all to simplicity of life, a renewed openness to the gift of mercy, a deeper understanding of the dignity of the human person and a respect and care for creation. The work of the Synod, that has marked the more recent years of his papacy, is sure to inform to the life and mission of the Church in the proclamation of the Gospel and his faithful dedication, even as he lived with failing health, is an example to us all."

As we mourn the passing of Pope Francis we remember the holy, humble, ordinary man. He did not enjoy the trappings and riches of his position, he was a simple man. He spoke out for the vulnerable and marginalized.

*Fr Rory*

**The Pope's funeral** will be celebrated on Saturday 26 April at 9am (UK time) and will be broadcast live on most major TV channels and on the Vatican's YouTube channel. Following Mass in St Peter's Square, the Pope's body will be transferred to the Papal Basilica of St Mary Major for burial.

**Bishop Richard is offering nine Masses** for the repose of the Pope's soul, including Mass at Arundel Cathedral on Sunday 27 April at 11am. The Dean of Arundel Cathedral, Fr Stephen Dingley, is also celebrating Masses for the Pope at Arundel Cathedral or Our Lady of England Catholic Church, Storrington.

**NEW PARISH OPEN MEETING: Tuesday 20 May in Our Lady of Ransom hall (6.30-8.00 pm)** for the "Eastbourne communities including Hailsham & Polegate" of our New Parish - an opportunity for a detailed update on the practical developments towards our becoming a New Parish, and the ways everyone is invited to be part of this important work.

**Easter Sunday at St Wilfrid's:** A big thank you to everyone who helped in anyway, what a great turn out, we were bursting at the seams!! A great service by Fr Rory, what a difference it makes when the church is so full. The altar servers, readers and especially our young children; who had loud and clear voices. The beautiful flowers everywhere, including the pots Lulu attends to outside the church, it was truly a magnificent service. Everyone enjoyed tea and cake in the hall after mass and the children enjoyed their Easter Egg Hunt with the warm and sunny weather sent to us from the Good Lord.  
Please remember to pray for our 8 Communion candidates.

**Dates for your Diary:**

Sat 26th April, 3.30pm - **Postponed - Date To Be Confirmed**  
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.  
Sun 11th May, 10.30am - 1st Holy Com Service, St W's Church.  
Wed 14th May, 7pm - 1st Communion Lesson, St W's Hall.  
Sun 18th May, 1st Communion Breakfast, St W's Hall.  
Thurs 29th May, 2-4pm - Parish Over 50's Club, St W's Hall.  
Fri 30th May, 11-12pm - Parish Bereavement Group, St W's Hall.

**Carlo Acutis Eucharistic Miracles Exhibition, Our Lady of Ransom Church, Eastbourne:**

This wonderful Exhibition runs from **Fri 25th April - Wed 14th May**. We're extending an invitation for a special **Exhibition Open Day** on **Wed 30th April**, starting with Adoration and Mass, followed by **2 Sessions (11.30 & 1.00 start)** with a brief presentation, time to view exhibition and ending with a short time of prayer. All are welcome ..... invite a friend!

**Thank you** to the readers, eucharistic ministers, flower arrangers, sacristans and music ministry at St George's for enabling beautiful Masses during Holy Week. At a time when it is so important to work together as a community, supporting Fr Rory in his service to us, everything was accomplished and delivered with grace and respect. Parishioners enjoyed tea, cake and a natter together to celebrate our Patron Saint George a day early on Tuesday morning, to accommodate both our usual weekday Mass and the hall being available. A good time was had by all.

**Community Charity Breakfast** - Our next breakfast will be today 27th April after mass at St George's - this month our charity is Cinnamon Trust, a national and local charity for older people, the terminally ill and their pets. We hope you, your family and friends can support this breakfast. All are welcome.

**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.

**Mass Attendance:**

**Good Friday** 10am St W's 53, 3pm St W's 43, 3pm St G's 42  
**Saturday Vigil Service** - St Wilfrid's 43  
**Easter Sunday**  
St Wilfrid's 198                      St George's 100