

THE INTRODUCTORY RITES

Entrance Antiphon
Cry out with joy to God, all the earth;
O sing to the glory of his name.
O render him glorious praise, alleluia.

Cf. Ps 65:1-2

Gloria

Collect
May your people exult for ever, O God,
in renewed youthfulness of spirit,
so that, rejoicing now in the restored glory of our adoption,
we may look forward in confident hope
to the rejoicing of the day of resurrection.
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 5:27b-32, 40b-41

In those days: The high priest questioned the Apostles, saying, 'We strictly charged you not to teach in this name, yet here you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching, and you intend to bring this man's blood upon us.' But Peter and the Apostles answered, 'We must obey God rather than men. The God of our fathers raised Jesus, whom you killed by hanging him on a tree. God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Saviour, to give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit, whom God has given to those who obey him.'

Having called in the Apostles, the council beat them and charged them not to speak in the name of Jesus, and let them go. Then they left the presence of the council, rejoicing that they were counted worthy to suffer dishonour for the name.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Psalms Psalm 30 (29):2, 4, 5-6, 11, 12a, 13b, R.2a

R. I will extol you, LORD, for you have raised me up.

I will extol you, LORD, for you have raised me up,
and have not let my enemies rejoice over me.
O LORD, you have lifted up my soul from Sheol,
restored me to life from those who sink into the pit.

Sing psalms to the LORD, you faithful ones;
give thanks to his holy name.
His anger lasts a moment; his favour all through life.
At night come tears, but dawn brings joy.

Hear, O LORD, and have mercy on me;
be my helper, O LORD.
You have changed my mourning into dancing.
O LORD my God, I will thank you for ever.

Second Reading
A reading from the Book of Revelation. Revelation 5:11-14

I, John looked, and I heard around the throne and the living creatures and the elders the voice of many angels, numbering myriads of myriads and thousands of thousands, saying with a loud voice, 'Worthy is the Lamb who was slain, to receive power and wealth and wisdom and might and honour and glory and blessing!' And I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and in the sea, and all that is in them, saying, 'To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be blessing and honour and glory and might for ever and ever!' And the four living creatures said, 'Amen!' and the elders fell down and worshipped.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Acclamation before the Gospel
Alleluia, alleluia.
Christ is risen, who created all things
and has shown compassion on the human race.
Alleluia.

Gospel (Shorter form) John 21:1-14

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

At that time: Jesus revealed himself again to the disciples by the Sea of Tiberias, and he revealed himself in this way. Simon Peter, Thomas (called the Twin), Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two others of his disciples were together. Simon Peter said to them, 'I am going fishing.' They said to him, 'We will go with you.' They went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing.

Just as day was breaking, Jesus stood on the shore; yet the disciples did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to them, 'Children, do you have any fish?' They answered him, 'No.' He said to them, 'Cast the net on the right side of the boat, and you will find some.' So they cast it, and now they were not able to haul it in, because of the quantity of fish. That disciple whom Jesus loved therefore said to Peter, 'It is the Lord!' When Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he put on his outer garment, for he was stripped for work, and threw himself into the sea. The other disciples came in the boat, dragging the net full of fish, for they were not far from the land, but about a hundred metres off.

When they got out on land, they saw a charcoal fire in place, with fish laid out on it, and bread. Jesus said to them, 'Bring some of the fish that you have just caught.' So Simon Peter went aboard and hauled the net ashore, full of large fish, one hundred and fifty-three of them. And although there were so many, the net was not torn. Jesus said to them, 'Come and have breakfast.' Now none of the disciples dared ask him, 'Who are you?' They knew it was the Lord. Jesus came and took the bread and gave it to them, and so with the fish. This was now the third time that Jesus was revealed to the disciples after he was raised from the dead.

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

R. Homily
The Nicene Creed Or The Apostles' Creed

R. Prayer over the Offerings
Receive, O Lord, we pray,
these offerings of your exultant Church,
and, as you have given her cause for such great gladness,
grant also that the gifts we bring
may bear fruit in perpetual happiness.
R. Through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Communion Antiphon Cf. Jn 21: 12-13
Jesus said to his disciples: Come and eat.
And he took bread and gave it to them, alleluia.

Prayer after Communion
Look with kindness upon your people, O Lord,
and grant, we pray,
that those you were pleased to renew by eternal mysteries
may attain in their flesh
the incorruptible glory of the resurrection.
Through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Our Faith on Sunday

GOSPEL REFLECTION



Jesus appears to the disciples for the third time since his Resurrection. Today's Gospel has two fairly 'distinct' sections. In the first one Jesus is standing on the shore, but the disciples do not recognize him. However, when they then had a

'miraculous' catch of fish, having failed to catch anything all night, John tells Peter "It is the Lord." The symbolism in this Gospel is very interesting. The disciples are working at night, that is, in the dark, and catch nothing. Jesus arrives 'in the light' and they have a mammoth catch. This story is a confirmation of Jesus says in another part of John's Gospel: "Without me you can do nothing". Without Jesus we are working 'in the dark' and therefore can do nothing.

In the second 'section' of this Gospel, Jesus addresses Peter. He asks him if he loves him more than the others. Peter says he does. Peter is emerging as the one to be take on the role of Jesus. As we know, Peter was impulsive and actually denied Jesus almost immediately after having promised he would never do so. And yet Jesus chose him to be the rock on which the Church would be built. We, who also often deny Jesus, should fell consoled by this.



POPE FRANCIS' ENCYCLICAL
FRATELLI TUTTI
BROTHERS AND SISTERS ALL

THE ART AND ARCHITECTURE OF PEACE

231. Negotiation often becomes necessary for shaping concrete paths to peace. Yet the processes of change that lead to lasting peace are crafted above all by peoples; each individual can act as an effective leaven by the way he or she lives each day. Great changes are not produced behind desks or in offices. This means that "everyone has a fundamental role to play in a single great creative project: to write a new page of history, a page full of hope, peace and reconciliation".²¹⁶ There is an "architecture" of peace, to which different institutions of society contribute, each according to its own area of expertise, but there is also an "art" of peace that involves us all. From the various peace processes that have taken place in different parts of the world, "we have learned that these ways of making peace, of placing reason above revenge, of the delicate harmony between politics and law, cannot ignore the involvement of ordinary people. Peace is not achieved by normative frameworks and institutional arrangements between well-meaning political or economic groups... It is always helpful to incorporate into our peace processes the experience of those sectors that have often been overlooked, so that communities themselves can influence the development of a collective memory".²¹⁷

216. Interreligious Meeting with Youth, Maputo, Mozambique (5 September 2019): L'Osservatore Romano, 6 September 2019, p. 7.
217. Homily, Cartagena de Indias, Colombia (10 September 2017): AAS 109 (2017), 1086.

Pope Francis'
Amoris Laetitia
LOVE IN THE FAMILY

The Synod Fathers noted that Jesus, "in speaking of God's original plan for man and woman, reaffirmed the indissoluble union between them, even stating that 'it was for your hardness of heart that Moses allowed you to divorce your wives, but from the beginning it was not so' (Mt 19:8). The indissolubility of marriage – 'what God has joined together, let no man put asunder' (Mt 19:6) – should not be viewed as a 'yoke' imposed on humanity, but as a 'gift' granted to those who are joined in marriage... God's indulgent love always accompanies our human journey; through grace, it heals and transforms hardened hearts, leading them back to the beginning through the way of the cross. The Gospels clearly present the example of Jesus who... proclaimed the meaning of marriage as the fullness of revelation that restores God's original plan (cf. Mt 19:3)".

PARISH COMMUNITIES OF



ST GEORGE

Eastbourne Road
Polegate



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

ST WILFRID

South Road
Hailsham



WEEKLY SERVICES

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
Mon	5th	2.30pm	St George's —	Rosary Group - All Welcome
Tues	6th	10am	St George's —	Deceased parents & family of Lilian Summers RIP
Wed	7th	10am	St Wilfrid's —	Eleanor Kelly's Intention
Thurs	8th	10am	St George's —	Mary Ryan's Intention
Fri	9th	10am	St Wilfrid's —	Deceased parents of Elsa Flint RIP

Fourth 'Good Shepherd' Sunday of Easter

(Collection Today for the Education of Priests)

Sat	10th	10am	St Wilfrid's —	Church Open for Confessions and Veneration
Sun	11th	9am	St George's —	Deacon John's 90th Birthday Intention
		10.30am	St Wilfrid's —	1st Holy Communion Service
				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 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, 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:

"Thanks be to God"

For all the prayers, services and experiences

of Holy Week and Easter in our churches.

It was truly good to be here. Special moments from it resonate deep within our being. Yes, there are crosses, trials and deep affliction within life, but these are the trials through which we triumph by the power of Him who loves us. The funeral service for Pope Francis was the icing on the cake.

Another person from our treasured memories, Anne Fielder, now from the long list with her husband Leon, gone before us, marked with the sign of faith. When I came here we were very blessed by members of our congregation who are faithful witnesses. There had been some good ecumenical sharing and one of the good fruits; The Link Centre, a place of caring and sharing and a place of comfort and support for adults in need of extra support and help.

Fr Rory

You are warmly invited to join our **Parish Pilgrimage to Arundel Cathedral** on the **Feast of Corpus Christi, Thursday, June 19, 2025.**

We will travel by coach with Lynns Travel, departing at **1:00pm from St George's Church, Polegate** (parking available in the church car park; the coach will leave from the bus stop opposite). On arrival, there will be time to **view the stunning Carpet of Flowers** inside the cathedral before the **5:30pm Mass**, followed by the **Corpus Christi procession and benediction**. Return is expected at approximately **8:30pm. Cost: £20 per person.**

Limited availability – those who have already signed up have been allocated places but please arrange payment. All other seats will be allocated on a first come, first served basis.

To book your place, please provide the following **with full payment** by Sunday 18th May: Names of all in your party, a primary contact number, an email address.

Payments and details should be given to **Jean (St Wilfrid's)** or **Sandra (St George's)** or deliver in an envelope clearly marked Arundel Pilgrimage to the parish office.

We hope you can join us for this beautiful celebration of our faith at the heart of our diocese.

Confirmation:

Please keep in your prayers Oskar, Raizel, Nathaniel, Chrish, Harvey, Grace and 60 plus others from our deanery who will be receiving their confirmation on the 3rd May at Arundel.

Deacon John celebrates his 90th birthday in May. A Mass will be held for him at St George's on Sunday 11th May at 9.00 am, followed by a birthday breakfast in the hall. All are welcome to attend from both communities, but if you are attending from St Wilfrid's, please could you let Jackie know so we have an idea of numbers for catering purposes. Thank you.

Ann Fielder: Sadly Ann died on Easter Sunday. We will be holding a memorial service at St Wilfrid's Church on Thursday 5th June at 11.30am followed by refreshments in our church hall.

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.

Dates for your Diary:

Wed 7th May, After Mass - Social Meeting, St W's Hall.
Wed 7th May, 6.30pm - Communion Day Practice, St W's Hall.
Sun 11th May, 9am - Deacon John's Birthday Mass/B/Fast, St G's.
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 22nd May, 2-4pm - Parish Over 50's Club, St W's Hall.
Sun 25th May, 10am - Community Charity Breakfast, St G's Hall.
Fri 30th May, 11-12pm - Parish Bereavement Group, St W's Hall.

First Holy Communion:

A special welcome to Autumn, Boston, Callie, Hannah, Lilyanna, Maksymilian, Oscar, Paris, Sarah and Rio who will be receiving their First Communion at next Sunday's 10.30 am mass. Please remember them, their families and the Catechists, who have prepared them for this special day, in your prayers.

There will be a **Social Meeting** in St Wilfrid's Hall on Wednesday 7th May after the 10am Mass . All are welcome, please come along and bring ideas with you for future Social events.

Over 50's Afternoon Tea: Please make a note that our date for May will be **Thurs 22nd May**, 2-4pm and not 29th May. Thank you.

The South Downs Singers cancelled their Spring Concert last Saturday at St George's in respect of the funeral of Pope Francis. It was very moving that non Catholics within this lovely choir were so vocal in saying respect must be shown to the Catholic community at St George's and immediately contacted Fr Rory to express this. If you purchased a ticket, a refund will be given by the seller. We perform again at our Summer Concert on 26th July, Carter's Corner Farm. If you prefer, your ticket from the Spring Concert can be used there.

Community Charity Breakfast - Our next breakfast will be Sunday 25th May after mass at St George's - this month our charity is Mary's Meals. We hope you, your family and friends can support this breakfast.

Mass Attendance:

St Wilfrid's 127

St George's 94