

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON
God is in his holy place, Cf. Ps 67: 6-7, 36
God who unites those who dwell in his house;
he himself gives might and strength to his people.

COLLECT
O God, protector of those who hope in you,
without whom nothing has firm foundation, nothing is holy,
bestow in abundance your mercy upon us
and grant that, with you as our ruler and guide,
we may use the good things that pass
in such a way as to hold fast even now
to those that ever endure.
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.

FIRST READING
A reading from the Book of Genesis. Genesis 18:20-32
In those days: The LORD said, ‘Because the outcry against
Sodom and Gomorrah is great and their sin is very grave, I will
go down to see whether they have done altogether according
to the outcry that has come to me. And if not, I will know.’
So the men turned from there and went towards Sodom, but
Abraham still stood before the LORD.

Then Abraham drew near and said, ‘Will you indeed sweep
away the righteous with the wicked? Suppose there are fifty
righteous within the city. Will you then sweep away the place
and not spare it for the fifty righteous who are in it? Far be it
from you to do such a thing, to put the righteous to death with
the wicked, so that the righteous fare as the wicked! Far be that
from you! Shall not the Judge of all the earth do what is just?’
And the LORD said, ‘If I find at Sodom fifty righteous in the city,
I will spare the whole place for their sake.’ Abraham answered
and said, ‘Behold, I have undertaken to speak to the Lord, I who
am but dust and ashes. Suppose five of the fifty righteous are
lacking. Will you destroy the whole city for lack of five?’ And he
said, ‘I will not destroy it if I find forty-five there.’ Again he spoke
to him and said, ‘Suppose forty are found there.’ He answered,
‘For the sake of forty I will not do it.’ Then he said, ‘Oh let not
the Lord be angry, and I will speak. Suppose thirty are found
there.’ He answered, ‘I will not do it, if I find thirty there.’ He
said, ‘Behold, I have undertaken to speak to the Lord. Suppose
twenty are found there.’ He answered, ‘For the sake of twenty I
will not destroy it.’ Then he said, ‘Oh let not the Lord be angry,
and I will speak again but this once. Suppose ten are found
there.’ He answered, ‘For the sake of ten I will not destroy it.’

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

PSALM Psalm 138(137):1-2a. 2bc, 3. 6-7b. 7c-8. R.3a
R. On the day I called, you answered me, O Lord.

I thank you, LORD, with all my heart;
you have heard the words of my mouth.
In the presence of the angels I praise you.
I bow down towards your holy Temple.

I give thanks to your name
for your merciful love and your faithfulness.
On the day I called, you answered me;
you increased the strength of my soul.

The LORD is high, yet he looks on the lowly,
and the haughty he knows from afar.
You give me life though I walk amid affliction;
you stretch out your hand against the anger of my foes.

With your right hand you save me;
the LORD will accomplish this for me.
O LORD, your merciful love is eternal;
discard not the work of your hands.

SECOND READING
A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Colossians.
Colossians 2:12-14

Brothers and sisters: You have been buried with Christ in baptism,
in which you were also raised with him through faith in the
powerful working of God who raised him from the dead. And you,
who were dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your
flesh, God made alive together with him, having forgiven us all our
trespasses, by cancelling the record of debt that stood against us
with its legal demands. This he set aside, nailing it to the cross.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

ACCLAMATION BEFORE THE GOSPEL
Alleluia, alleluia. Romans 8:15bc
You have received the Spirit of adoption as sons,
by whom we cry, ‘Abba! Father!’
Alleluia.

GOSPEL Luke 11:1-13
The Lord be with you.
And with your spirit.
A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.
Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus was praying in a certain place, and when he finished,
one of his disciples said to him, ‘Lord, teach us to pray, as John
taught his disciples.’ And he said to them, ‘When you pray, say:
‘Father, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come. Give
us each day our daily bread, and forgive us our sins, for we
ourselves forgive everyone who is indebted to us. And lead us
not into temptation.’

And he said to them, ‘Which of you who has a friend will go to him
at midnight and say to him, “Friend, lend me three loaves, for a
friend of mine has arrived on a journey and I have nothing to set
before him”; and he will answer from within, “Do not bother me;
the door is now shut, and my children are with me in bed. I cannot
get up and give you anything”? I tell you, though he will not get
up and give him anything because he is his friend, yet because
of his impudence he will rise and give him whatever he needs.
And I tell you, ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will
find; knock, and it will be opened to you. For everyone who asks
receives, and the one who seeks finds, and to the one who knocks
it will be opened. What father among you, if his son asks for a fish,
will instead of a fish give him a serpent; or if he asks for an egg,
will give him a scorpion? If you then, who are evil, know how to
give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly
Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!’

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

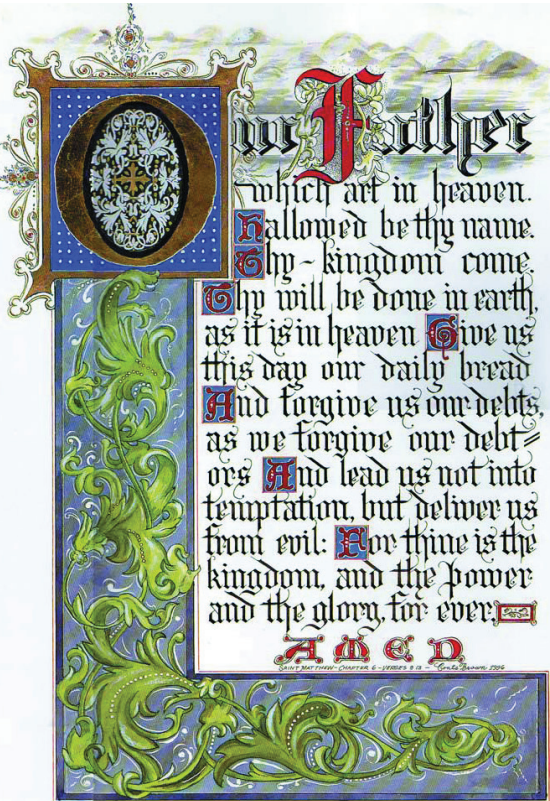
PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS
Accept, O Lord, we pray, the offerings
which we bring from the abundance of your gifts,
that through the powerful working of your grace
these most sacred mysteries may sanctify our present way of life
and lead us to eternal gladness.
R. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON Ps 102: 2
Bless the Lord, O my soul,
and never forget all his benefits.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION
We have consumed, O Lord, this divine Sacrament,
the perpetual memorial of the Passion of your Son;
grant, we pray, that this gift,
which he himself gave us with love beyond all telling,
may profit us for salvation.
Through Christ our Lord.
R. Amen.

Our Faith on Sunday

GOSPEL REFLECTION



This Gospel passage brings us back to the event of the Last Supper. Jesus has given his disciples his New Commandment of mutual love. He has washed their feet. He has instituted the celebration of the eucharist. Now he prays to his Father with the request that all may be one. He prays for unity. Not just any sort of unity, but the same unity that exists between him and his Father. Our unity is to be modelled on the unity that exists in the Blessed Trinity. It is only when as Christians we are “one” that the world will believe in Jesus and the Father who sent him. That is why any breakdown of unity in the Christian community is a scandal that needs to be addressed. At this point in history the Church that Jesus founded is no longer “one”. For all sorts of religious,

cultural, and political reasons we find ourselves divided. This makes it all the more urgent to remind ourselves of Jesus’ prayer for unity. Ecumenism is not an option for Christians, it is mandatory. One of the ways that we can come together as Christians is to point to what we have in common and not what divides us. More than anything else we are united by our common baptism which gives us the gift of new life and makes us sons and daughters of the one Father in heaven.



POPE FRANCIS’ ENCYCLICAL
FRATELLI TUTTI
BROTHERS AND SISTERS ALL



Pope Francis’
Amoris Laetitia
LOVE IN THE FAMILY

LEGITIMATE CONFLICT AND FORGIVENESS

243. To be sure, “it is no easy task to overcome the bitter legacy of injustices, hostility and mistrust left by conflict. It can only be done by overcoming evil with good (cf. Rom 12:21) and by cultivating those virtues which foster reconciliation, solidarity and peace”.²²⁵ In this way, “persons who nourish goodness in their heart find that such goodness leads to a peaceful conscience and to profound joy, even in the midst of difficulties and misunderstandings. Even when affronted, goodness is never weak but rather, shows its strength by refusing to take revenge”.²²⁶ Each of us should realize that “even the harsh judgment I hold in my heart against my brother or my sister, the open wound that was never cured, the offense that was never forgiven, the rancour that is only going to hurt me, are all instances of a struggle that I carry within me, a little flame deep in my heart that needs to be extinguished before it turns into a great blaze”.²²⁷

225. Arrival Ceremony, Colombo, Sri Lanka (13 January 2015): L’Osservatore Romano, 14 January 2015, p. 7.
226. Meeting with the Children of the “Bethany Centre” and Representatives of other Charitable Centres of Albania, Tirana, Albania (21 September 2014): Insegnamenti II, 2 (2014), 288.
227. Video Message to the TED Conference in Vancouver (26 April 2017): L’Osservatore Romano, 27 April 2017, p. 7.



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

Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sat	26th	10am	St Wilfrid's —	Church Open for Confessions and Veneration
Sun	27th	9am	St George's —	Parish Communities' Intention
		10.30am	St Wilfrid's —	Margaret Westcar RIP 5th Anniversary
Mon	28th	2.30pm	St George's —	Rosary Group - All Welcome
Tues	29th	10am	St George's —	Margaret Madams RIP
Wed	30th	10am	St Wilfrid's —	Cecilia Hyland Intention
Thurs	31st	10am	St George's —	Avery Triggs RIP
		10.30am	St George's —	Internment of Ashes for Sheila Bree
Fri	1st	10am	St Wilfrid's —	

Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sat	2nd	10am	St Wilfrid's —	Church Open for Confessions and Veneration
Sun	3rd	9am	St George's —	Jim Ayres 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#_=_

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: Maria - 07873759962

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, Jean Skelton, Jennifer, Peter Mitchell, Cecilia Hyland, Sheila Jury & Madeleine Waters.

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!

Deacon John Writes:

This week brings me to the last instalment of the Deacon John writes about food:

We have had three examples recently where meals have been the feature. The first was in May when we had the wonderful party celebrating my 90th Birthday. So many came to the celebration and the food was scrumptious - a memorable occasion. The second special event was the party for Canon Paul Jennings on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of his ordination as priest - a real example of Service to the Lord. The third was what has become a regular party after Mass on the last Sunday of the month. Each month it is for a different charity and is much appreciated both by those who attend it and by the recipient of the proceeds. These are just three examples of the benefits of meals in the life of the church. I hope that in the coming weeks and months there will be many more events where we show hospitality to the world around us. This is a very important part of our being in this world.

Deacon John

The Eastbourne Parkinson's Choir is performing in concert at Our Lady of Ransom church hall (opposite the town hall) on 21st August when they are raising funds for the Catholic Midlands Orphanage and Care Centre in Colenso, Zululand, South Africa and also for our Lady of Ransom parish. Doors open at 6pm and the concert begins at 6.30pm. A Ploughman's meal will be served half way through. There will also be a bar serving wine, beer/lager and soft drinks. For tickets priced at £12 please contact Mick or Vernika Lees on 01323 654468 or email veronikammlees123@gmail.com

Walking Pilgrimage Seaford to Eastbourne, 22nd Aug 2025 Timetable:

08:30-09:00 Service, Seaford Baptist Church, Belgrade Road.

09:20-09:50 Prayers At Thomas of Canterbury RC Church, Seaford.

10:21 Seaford Head.

11:30 Cuckmere Inn, Exceat.

12:41 Brass Point, Seven Sisters.

13:30-13:50 Prayers At Mary the Virgin, Friston.

14:00-15:00 Tiger Inn, East Dean, Lunch.

15:05 -15:25 Prayers At Simon and Jude, East Dean.

17:20-17:40 Prayers, Holywell.

18:25 Arrive Our Lady of Ransom, Eastbourne.

Everyone welcome to join us, but you must book in advance please www.thepilgrims.org.uk

St Wilfrid's Church: Our lovely cleaning team **urgently** need a few more 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). Thank you

New & nearly new items needed for St George's Table Sale: If you have any items to donate please leave in a bag marked "table sale" at the back of the church. The table sale raises vital funds for the charity of the month and youth activities throughout the year. Thank you.

Over 50's Tea and Games Afternoon: We will not be meeting in July and August. Our next meeting is Thursday 25th September when the theme will be Harvest.

Sunday 21st September 5.00pm, Congress Theatre, Eastbourne. The Kanneh-Mason Trio play Beethoven's *Triple Concerto*, and the English Arts Chorale sing Verdi's *Requiem*. Tickets £19-£42 and more details available from www.englisharts.org

Dates for your Diary:

Sun 27th July, 10am - Community Charity Breakfast, St G's Hall.

Wed 27th Aug, 10.30am-7pm - National Relic Tour, St W's Hall.

Fri 29th Aug, 11-12pm - Parish Bereavement Group, St W's Hall.

Thurs 25th Sept, 2-4pm - Over 50's Club, St W's Hall.

Mrs Margaret Westcar RIP: 5th Anniversary on Tuesday 29th July 2025.

Community Charity Breakfast: This Sunday, 27th July after mass at St George's - this month we are supporting St Wilfrid's Hospice. We hope you, your family and friends can support this.

A Special Day for St Wilfrid's in this Jubilee Year

We are honoured that **St Wilfrid's is the only parish in East Sussex** selected to host a reliquary from **Carfin Grotto in Scotland**, as part of the **National Relic Tour** organised by the **Knights of St Columba**.

The reliquary contains sacred relics of three revered saints:

- **St Andrew** – Apostle, Patron of Scotland, and also Patron of Ropemakers (*fittingly, as Hailsham has a strong historical link with rope-making*), **St Columba of Iona, St Margaret of Scotland**

The relics will be available for **veneration at St Wilfrid's Church on Wednesday 27th August**, following **10am Mass**, and throughout the day until an **Evening Mass at 7pm**.

Day of Reflection for Ministers of the Eucharist – 11-4pm Sat 1st November at Christ the Prince of Peace, Weybridge

Led by Bishop Richard. The day will include theological and practical talks, Eucharistic Adoration and Mass. Arrival from 10.30am for refreshments. Please bring a packed lunch. Parking is available in the church car park but we suggest that you car share, if at all possible. To book a place follow this link [Day of Reflection for Ministers of the Eucharist \(01-Nov-2025\) · ChurchSuite Events](#) or book through the events page on the Diocesan website.

Lynne Phair's Sahara Trek October 2025 In Aid of St Wilfrid's Hospice Eastbourne.

Please come and enjoy a Summer Mocktail, after Mass on Sunday 3rd August in St George's Hall. All are welcome.

New Deanery Website & Newsletter to help with regular communication across our deanery, especially relating to the formation of a single parish, we have developed a temporary website which can be found at www.eastbourne-stleonards.org.uk. The website also has the Summer issue of the deanery newsletter to read online.

The South Down Singers Open Air Summer Concert:

Saturday 26th July 2025 starting at 3.30pm at Carters Corner Farm Cowbeech BN27 4JA.

Tickets are £10 on the door or by calling 01323 832767.

Bring a picnic and have some fun!

Sunday 20th July - Mass Attendance:

St Wilfrid's 121 St George's 73