

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Turn your eyes, O God, our shield;  
and look on the face of your anointed one;  
one day within your courts  
is better than a thousand elsewhere.

Ps 83: 10-11

SECOND READING

A reading from the Letter to the Hebrews. Hebrews 12:1-4

Brothers and sisters: Since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.

Consider him who endured from sinners such hostility against himself, so that you may not grow weary or faint-hearted. In your struggle against sin you have not yet resisted to the point of shedding your blood.

The word of the Lord.  
Thanks be to God.

ACCLAMATION BEFORE THE GOSPEL

Alleluia, alleluia.

John 10:27

My sheep hear my voice, says the Lord,  
and I know them, and they follow me.  
Alleluia.

GOSPEL

Luke 12:49-53

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 came to cast fire on the earth, and would that it were already kindled! I have a baptism to be baptised with, and how great is my distress until it is accomplished! Do you think that I have come to give peace on earth? No, I tell you, but rather division. For from now on in one house there will be five divided: three against two and two against three. They will be divided, father against son and son against father; mother against daughter and daughter against mother; mother-in-law against her daughter-in-law, and daughter-in-law against mother-in-law.’

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

Receive our oblation, O Lord,  
by which is brought about a glorious exchange,  
that, by offering what you have given,  
we may merit to receive your very self.  
Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Ps 129: 7

With the Lord there is mercy;  
in him is plentiful redemption.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Made partakers of Christ through these Sacraments,  
we humbly implore your mercy, Lord,  
that, conformed to his image on earth,  
we may merit also to be his coheirs in heaven.  
Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.  
Amen.

COLLECT

O God, who have prepared for those who love you good things which no eye can see, fill our hearts, we pray, with the warmth of your love, so that, loving you in all things and above all things, we may attain your promises, which surpass every human desire. 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 Prophet Jeremiah. Jeremiah 38:4-6, 8-10

In those days: The officials said to the king, ‘Let this man, Jeremiah, be put to death, for he is weakening the hands of the soldiers who are left in this city, and the hands of all the people, by speaking such words to them. For this man is not seeking the welfare of this people, but their harm.’ King Zedekiah said, ‘Behold, he is in your hands, for the king can do nothing against you.’ So they took Jeremiah and cast him into the cistern of Malchiah, the king’s son, which was in the court of the guard, letting Jeremiah down by ropes. And there was no water in the cistern, but only mud, and Jeremiah sank in the mud.

Ebed-melech went from the king’s house and said to the king, ‘My lord the king, these men have done evil in all that they did to Jeremiah the prophet by casting him into the cistern, and he will die there of hunger, for there is no bread left in the city.’ Then the king commanded Ebed-melech the Ethiopian, ‘Take thirty men with you from here, and lift Jeremiah the prophet out of the cistern before he dies.’

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM

Psalm 40(39):2. 3. 4. 18. R.14b

R. LORD, make haste to help me!

I waited, I waited for the LORD,  
and he stooped down to me.  
He heard my cry.

He drew me from the deadly pit,  
from the miry clay.  
He set my feet upon a rock,  
made my footsteps firm.

He put a new song into my mouth,  
praise of our God.  
Many shall see and fear  
and shall trust in the LORD.

Wretched and poor though I am,  
the Lord is mindful of me.  
You are my rescuer, my help;  
O my God, do not delay.

# Our Faith on Sunday

## GOSPEL REFLECTION



Jesus is sometimes called the Prince of Peace. At every mass the priest repeats the words of Jesus: “I leave you peace,

in opposition to the values in our 21st century society. Abortion is now promoted as a woman’s right.

my peace I give you.” But in today’s Gospel he tells his disciples he has not come to bring peace, “but rather division.” What is this all about? It is enough to see what is happening to Christians in Pakistan, or India or Nigeria to know that being a follower of Jesus can bring hatred and violence. Even in Britain, many if the values that the Church proposes are

Couples tend to live together rather than get married. Pornography is freely available to all, including to very young children. Young people who try to live seriously as Christians in Britain today will have tough time in trying to defend their beliefs and values in the face of criticism from fellow students of workmates. Jesus warns us that life will be difficult and divisive. But that is the price we have to pay when we try to spread the kingdom of God.



POPE FRANCIS’ ENCYCLICAL  
FRATELLI TUTTI  
BROTHERS AND SISTERS ALL

MEMORY

246. Of those who have endured much unjust and cruel suffering, a sort of “social forgiveness” must not be demanded. Reconciliation is a personal act, and no one can impose it upon an entire society, however great the need to foster it. In a strictly personal way, someone, by a free and generous decision, can choose not to demand punishment (cf. Mt 5:44-46), even if it is quite legitimately demanded by society and its justice system. However, it is not possible to proclaim a “blanket reconciliation” in an effort to bind wounds by decree or to cover injustices in a cloak of oblivion. Who can claim the right to forgive in the name of others? It is moving to see forgiveness shown by those who are able to leave behind the harm they suffered, but it is also humanly understandable in the case of those who cannot. In any case, forgetting is never the answer.

Pope Francis’  
Amoris Laetitia  
LOVE IN THE FAMILY

Love forgives

Once we allow ill will to take root in our hearts, it leads to deep resentment. The phrase ou logizetai to kakón means that love “takes no account of evil”; “it is not resentful”. The oppo-site of resentment is forgiveness, which is rooted in a positive attitude that seeks to understand other people’s weaknesses and to excuse them. As Jesus said, “Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do” (Lk 23:34). Yet we keep looking for more and more faults, imagining greater evils, presuming all kinds of bad intentions, and so resentment grows and deepens. Thus, every mistake or lapse on the part of a spouse can harm the bond of love and the stability of the family. Something is wrong when we see every problem as equally serious; in this way, we risk being unduly harsh with the fail-ings of others. The just desire to see our rights respected turns into a thirst for vengeance rather than a reasoned defence of our dignity.

# PARISH COMMUNITIES OF



## ST GEORGE

Eastbourne Road  
Polegate



Parish Priest: Fr. Rory Kelly  
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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

#### Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sat	16th	10am	St Wilfrid's —	Church Open
Sun	17th	9am	St George's —	Parish Communities' Intention
		10.30am	St Wilfrid's —	Norman Wright RIP
Mon	18th	2.30pm	St George's —	Rosary Group - All Welcome
Tues	19th	10am	St George's —	Willie and John Kelly Intention (80th Birthday)
Wed	20th	10am	St Wilfrid's —	Thanksgiving for Prayers Answered
Thurs	21st	10am	St George's —	Loretta & Anthony Intention
Fri	22nd	10am	St Wilfrid's —	Bob & Madeleine Intention

#### Twenty First Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sat	23rd	10am	St Wilfrid's —	Church Open
Sun	24th	9am	St George's —	Parish Communities' Intention
		10.30am	St Wilfrid's —	Brian Winter 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#\\_=\\_](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: 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!

Fr Rory Writes:

## “A most special time

## The Sabbath Day”

A day of rest. Through the ages the Sabbath Day has received different guidelines on how it is best to celebrate it. So it is good to pay attention for this time of rest as we enjoy our holiday season.

A big thank you to Bob and Madeleine Waters for their great contributions to us over the years. An opportunity to express gratitude as we host the sacred relics, St Andrew - Apostle, Patron of Scotland, St Columba of Iona and St Margaret of Scotland.

It is good for me to take this time to thank you all for the work we share for our communities, and as we enjoy our holidays we share a great sense of thanks to God's providence in our lives. With the help of the holiday season we will respond to the challenges that face us as we begin a new year.

*Fr Rory*

**Please continue to pray for all those on the walking pilgrimage this week that is ending at OLR.** Gary O'Brien from St Wilfrid's church is leading the pilgrims on the last walking day, Friday 22nd August. Even if you are not booked as a pilgrim, if you wish to join as a walking pilgrim on the Friday you can join at three separate points:

9.15am - St Thomas More RC Church Seaford (16mile walking day)  
14.00pm - 15.00pm The Tiger Inn East Dean (lunch stop 6-7mile walk afterwards)

18.15pm - Eastbourne Bandstand to process to Our Lady of Ransom (welcome all pilgrims and join them for last mile)

18.45pm - Pilgrims will all arrive at OLR and those who are already booked in to the pilgrimage and staying overnight will have dinner together

20.30pm - Everyone is welcome to attend the short service at OLR church for pilgrims.

Saturday 23rd August 10am - all pilgrims will be attending the 10am mass and others are encouraged to attend even if not on the pilgrimage. Please contact Sandra for more details 07791 627368

[sandraforte40@gmail.com](mailto:sandraforte40@gmail.com).

### **VOLUNTEER CATECHISTS & CHILDRENS LITURGY ASSISTANTS URGENTLY REQUIRED**

As we are about to commence our new year of Children's Liturgy and sacramental preparation, we give thanks to all those who freely give of their time to support this most valuable ministry. Our Sacramental preparation programmes and Children's Liturgy sessions are dependent on the number of volunteers available. Going forward, we only have 1 leader available at George's to run both of these programmes and without further support it will not be possible to offer a Children's Liturgy session every Sunday in term time. One DBS checked adult catechist is needed for every eight children to meet the child safeguarding regulations. If you are willing to give a little of your time, want to learn more about your faith and share it with others, then please email Jackie at [hailsham@abdiocese.org.uk](mailto:hailsham@abdiocese.org.uk) or speak to Teresa or Mary O'Hanlon. We would especially like to encourage parents to consider joining our team so that we can continue to offer this service to your children. Prior experience is not necessary. Support and training will be provided.

**Lumen Christi:** If you or your child are in Year 9 - Year 13 in September 2025 and would like to join the Parish Lumen Christi group for formation towards the sacrament of confirmation, please collect a form from the back of church. The deadline for applications is 3rd October.

### **Dates for your Diary:**

Fri 22nd Aug, 8.30am-6.25pm - Walking Pilgrimage Seaford to E/B.  
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.  
Wed 10th Sept, After Mass, Fundraising/Social Mtg, St W's Hall.  
Thurs 11th Sept, 6pm - 1st Holy Comm, Parents Mtg, St W's Hall.  
Thurs 25th Sept, 2-4pm - Over 50's Club, St W's Hall.  
Sun 28th Sept, 10am - Community Charity Breakfast, St G's Hall.

**St Wilfrid's Church:** There will be no Veneration of the Blessed Sacrament during August.

**Tea/Coffee at St Wilfrid's:** There will be no tea/coffee after Mass **Today, Sunday 17th August** due to a private baptism celebration. Sorry for any inconvenience.

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

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

The reliquary contains sacred relics of three beloved 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** with **refreshments** in the hall from **10.40am to 5.30pm**.

**Family Friendly activities** including storytelling, games and crafts will be available in the **church garden** between **4.00pm and 5.30pm**. For the full itinerary please **pick up an event programme** from the church porch. All welcome – come and share in this rare and holy occasion!

### **FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PROGRAMME 2025-26**

Parents are invited to enrol their children for our First Holy Communion Programme 2025- 26 (those entering Year 3 or above). Application forms to join the programme are available at the back of the church and on the parish website. The course will begin with an introductory meeting for parents on September 11th at 6.00pm in St Wilfrid's Church Hall. Deadline for enrolment is September 4th. For more information, please contact Teresa Palmer. 07951082592, [tpalmer2205@gmail.com](mailto:tpalmer2205@gmail.com)

**Send a postcard to your fellow parishioners via your parish office this summer**—let's fill our churches with stories of faith and the beauty of the universal Catholic Church! Share your experience with your parish community. Your postcard will be proudly displayed this September as part of our Jubilee Year celebration. Let's journey together as **Pilgrims of Hope!**

**Community Charity Breakfast:** Our next breakfast will be Sun 28th September after mass at St George's - when we will be supporting The Food Bank. We hope you, your family and friends can support this.

**Sunday 10th August - Mass Attendance:**  
St Wilfrid's 97 St George's 84