

**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON** Cf. Ps 85: 3, 5  
Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I cry to you all the day long.  
O Lord, you are good and forgiving,  
full of mercy to all who call to you.

**COLLECT**  
God of might, giver of every good gift,  
put into our hearts the love of your name,  
so that, by deepening our sense of reverence,  
you may nurture in us what is good  
and, by your watchful care,  
keep safe what you have nurtured.  
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 Sirach. Sirach 3:17-18, 20, 28-29

My son, perform your tasks in meekness; then you will be loved by those whom God accepts. The greater you are, the more you must humble yourself; so you will find favour in the sight of the Lord. For great is the might of the Lord; he is glorified by the humble. The affliction of the proud has no healing, for a plant of wickedness has taken root in him. The mind of the intelligent man will ponder a parable, and an attentive ear is the wise man's desire.

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

**PSALM** Psalm 68(67):4-5ac. 6-7b. 10-11. R. cf. 11b  
**R. In your goodness, O God, you provided a home for the poor.**

The upright shall rejoice at the presence of God;  
they shall exult with glad rejoicing.  
O sing to God; make music to his name.  
The LORD is his name.

R.

Father of orphans, defender of widows:  
such is God in his holy place.  
God gives the desolate a home to dwell in;  
he leads the prisoners forth into prosperity.

R.

You poured down, O God, a generous rain;  
when your heritage languished, you restored it.  
It was there that your flock began to dwell.  
In your goodness, O God, you provided for the poor.

R.

**SECOND READING**  
A reading from the Letter to the Hebrews.  
Hebrews 12:18-19, 22-24a

Brothers and sisters: You have not come to what may be touched, a blazing fire and darkness and gloom and a tempest and the sound of a trumpet and a voice whose words made the hearers beg that no further messages be spoken to them.

But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to innumerable angels in festal gathering, and to the assembly of the firstborn who are enrolled in heaven, and to God, the judge of all, and to the spirits of the righteous made perfect, and to Jesus, the mediator of a new covenant.

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

**ACCLAMATION BEFORE THE GOSPEL**  
Alleluia, alleluia. Matthew 11:29ab  
Take my yoke upon you, says the Lord,  
and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart.  
Alleluia.

**GOSPEL** Luke 14:1, 7-14  
The Lord be with you.  
**And with your spirit.**  
A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.  
**Glory to you, O Lord.**

One Sabbath, when Jesus went to dine at the house of a ruler of the Pharisees, they were watching him carefully. Now he told a parable to those who were invited, when he noticed how they chose the places of honour, saying to them, 'When you are invited by someone to a wedding feast, do not sit down in a place of honour, lest someone more distinguished than you be invited by him, and he who invited you both will come and say to you, "Give your place to this person", and then you, with shame, will take the lowest place. But when you are invited, go and sit in the lowest place, so that when your host comes he may say to you, "Friend, move up higher." Then you will be honoured in the presence of all who sit at table with you. For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted.'

He said also to the man who had invited him, 'When you give a dinner or a banquet, do not invite your friends, or your brothers and sisters or your relatives or rich neighbours, lest they also invite you in return and you be repaid. But when you give a feast, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind, and you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you. For you will be repaid at the resurrection of the just.'

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

**R. PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS**  
May this sacred offering, O Lord,  
confer on us always the blessing of salvation,  
that what it celebrates in mystery  
it may accomplish in power.  
Through Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

**COMMUNION ANTIPHON** Ps 30: 20  
**How great is the goodness, Lord,  
that you keep for those who fear you.**

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**  
Renewed by this bread from the heavenly table,  
we beseech you, Lord,  
that, being the food of charity,  
it may confirm our hearts  
and stir us to serve you in our neighbour.  
Through Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

31ST AUGUST 2025

22ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (C)

# Our Faith on Sunday

GOSPEL REFLECTION



As a consequence of original sin, we all have an innate tendency to want people to appreciate our 'goodness'. Whatever good we do, we often look for thanks and praise, and we can become resentful if we feel our efforts

have not been appreciated. Of course, there's no harm in being thanked or even rewarded when we do something good or helpful, but we need to examine our motives. In today's Gospel Jesus notices how the Pharisees take

the places of honour at the table. Jesus himself gives us the example of how we should behave. We should, metaphorically, wash the feet of others, be at their service. How can we, his followers, behave any differently? How can we be sure we are doing things for unselfish motives? Jesus says we should do them for those who cannot reward us.



POPE FRANCIS' ENCYCLICAL  
FRATELLI TUTTI  
BROTHERS AND SISTERS ALL

MEMORY

248. Nor must we forget the atomic bombs dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki. Once again, "I pay homage to all the victims, and I bow before the strength and dignity of those who, having survived those first moments, for years afterward bore in the flesh immense suffering, and in their spirit seeds of death that drained their vital energy... We cannot allow present and future generations to lose the memory of what happened. It is a memory that ensures and encourages the building of a more fair and fraternal future".<sup>233</sup> Neither must we forget the persecutions, the slave trade and the ethnic killings that continue in various countries, as well as the many other historical events that make us ashamed of our humanity. They need to be remembered, always and ever anew. We must never grow accustomed or inured to them.

233. Address at the Peace Memorial, Hiroshima, Japan (24 November 2019): L'Osservatore Romano, 25-26 November 2019, p. 8.

Pope Francis'  
Amoris Laetitia  
LOVE IN THE FAMILY

Love rejoices with others

When a loving person can do good for others, or sees that others are happy, they them-selves live happily and in this way give glory to God, for "God loves a cheerful giver" (2 Cor 9:7). Our Lord especially appreciates those who find joy in the happiness of others. If we fail to learn how to rejoice in the well-being of others, and fo-cus primarily on our own needs, we condemn our-selves to a joyless existence, for, as Jesus said, "it is more blessed to give than to receive" (Acts 20:35). The family must always be a place where, when something good happens to one of its members, they know that others will be there to celebrate it with them.

# PARISH COMMUNITIES OF



## ST GEORGE

Eastbourne Road  
Polegate



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(Answerphone service available)

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

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

## ST WILFRID

South Road  
Hailsham



### WEEKLY SERVICES

#### Twenty Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sat	30th	10am	St Wilfrid's —	Confessions & Adoration
Sun	31st	9am	St George's —	Sean O'Sullivan RIP
		10.30am	St Wilfrid's —	Parish Communities' Intention
Mon	1st	2.30pm	St George's —	Rosary Group - All Welcome
Tues	2nd	10am	St George's —	For an increase in Catechists
Wed	3rd	10am	St Wilfrid's —	Cecilia Hyland Intention
Thurs	4th	10am	St George's —	For an increase in Readers
Fri	5th	10am	St Wilfrid's —	Bill Humphries RIP

#### Twenty Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sat	6th	10am	St Wilfrid's —	Open for Veneration & Reconciliation
Sun	7th	9am	St George's —	Jenni Duder-Rumsey (8th Anniversary) RIP
		10.30am	St Wilfrid's —	For an increase of Ministers of the Eucharist

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:**

**Father, Son and Holy Spirit,**

**Jesus, Mary and Joseph**

**Pray and pray constantly and never loose heart**

As we begin a new year with the visit of the Relics, and a very important fruitful meeting with leaders from our two communities at St George's and St Wilfrid's. Please God, we are off to a great start. A true sense, I hope and pray we have very dedicated hard working core members of our faith communities ..... With a constant underlining true sense we need more persons to step forward and help, my constant prayer is that we are on our way with the help of God.

*Fr Rory*

#### **National Relic Tour 2025**

It is impossible to name everyone who made this day such a success. We had so many helpers form both churches in the parish who worked in the background as well as all of the organising committee, many of whom stayed all day. Visitors came from all over including Hastings, Robertsbridge, Firle, Selmeston, Eastbourne and many more, all were very impressed with everything. So it is with grateful hearts, a big thank you to those who serve our parish so well and so faithfully.

**FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PROGRAMME 2025-26 Closing Date for enrolment is Thursday 4th September.** 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. For more information, please contact Teresa Palmer. 07951082592, [tpalmer2205@gmail.com](mailto:tpalmer2205@gmail.com)

**St George's Parish Meeting:** Sunday 7th September after Mass in St George's Hall. Please could we ask that as many parishioners as possible attend this important meeting.

**Save the date:** The next Quiz Night at St Wilfrid's will be on Friday 17th October. Details about tickets to be confirmed over the next few weeks.

**Children's Liturgy:** Children's Liturgy returns at St Wilfrid's on Sunday 7th September 2025.

#### **Cathedral Mass for Altar Servers - Saturday 27 September at 12 noon at Arundel Cathedral:**

Fr Aaron Spinelli, the Diocesan Director for the Guild of St Stephen, invites diocesan altar servers to a special Mass at Arundel Cathedral led by Bishop Richard. The Mass will offer an opportunity to celebrate and thank servers for their service to our parish communities and is for those who have served, those who are serving, and anybody who would like to serve – everyone is very welcome to attend. Please contact Fr Aaron to confirm attendance and numbers; E: [aaron.spinelli@abdiocese.org.uk](mailto:aaron.spinelli@abdiocese.org.uk) - and bring a cassock, cotta or an alb, if possible. Holy Mass will be followed by light refreshments (please bring a packed lunch).

**Catholicism by Bishop Robert Baron:** I am planning to start a session of 10 weeks (not necessarily consecutive) showing the videos on Catholicism by Bishop Robert Baron. These are easy to watch and very informative on our faith-all the things we aren't sure about or want to extend our knowledge of Catholicism. They are beautifully presented. There will be time for discussion and a book to guide us. Initially it will be in my home in Willingdon but I'm happy for others to host the videos too. Please call or text me if you are interested and I'll try to arrange a date that suits most people. I look forward to our journey in faith  
Mary O'Hanlon 07789464817

#### **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.

**St George's:** If you have a child under 4 there is a box of toys and books at the back of St George's church by the welcoming table. Please feel free to borrow these so your child is entertained and you feel less stressed during mass. We welcome all little ones, it is their Church too and we really don't mind them crying or talking. That was once us!!

**Baptism:** If you have a child or baby looking for baptism please contact Mary on 07799464817 or Angie on 07582267546. If you are expecting a baby you may wish to attend the sessions before your baby arrives. Sessions will be 3x1 hour after the 10.30 mass at Hailsham church. We look forward to hearing from you.

**Walsingham Pilgrimage – 14-16 October 2025:** For more information please contact Cheryl in the OLR parish office (01323 723222).

**Over 50's Tea and Games Afternoon:** Our next meeting is Thursday 25th September when the theme will be Harvest.

**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 24th August - Mass Attendance:**

St Wilfrid's 80      St George's 69

**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:**

Sun 7th Sept, After Mass, St George's Parish Mtg, St G'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.  
Fri 26th Sept, 11-12pm - Parish Bereavement Group, St W's Hall.  
Sun 28th Sept, 10am - Community Charity Breakfast, St G's Hall.  
Fri 17th Oct, Time TBC, Quiz Night, St W's Hall.