

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON
The Lord said: I think thoughts of peace and not of affliction.
You will call upon me, and I will answer you, and I will lead back your captives from every place.

COLLECT
Grant us, we pray, O Lord our God, the constant gladness of being devoted to you, for it is full and lasting happiness to serve with constancy the author of all that is good.
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 Malachi. Malachi 4:1-2a
Behold, the day is coming, burning like an oven, when all the arrogant and all evildoers will be stubble. The day that is coming shall set them ablaze, says the LORD of hosts, so that it will leave them neither root nor branch. But for you who fear my name, the sun of righteousness shall rise with healing in its wings.
The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

PSALM Psalm 98(97):5-6. 7-8a. 8b-9b. 9cd. R. cf. 9
R. The LORD comes to judge the peoples with fairness.
Sing psalms to the LORD with the harp, with the harp and the sound of song.
With trumpets and the sound of the horn, raise a shout before the King, the LORD.
Let the sea and all within it thunder; the world, and those who dwell in it.
Let the rivers clap their hands.
The hills ring out their joy at the presence of the LORD, for he comes. He comes to judge the earth.
He will judge the world with justice, and the peoples with fairness.

SECOND READING
A reading from the Second Letter of Saint Paul to the Thessalonians. 2 Thessalonians 3:7-12
Brothers and sisters: You know how you ought to imitate us, because we were not idle when we were with you, nor did we eat anyone's bread without paying for it, but with toil and labour we worked night and day, that we might not be a burden to any of you. It was not because we do not have that right, but to give you in ourselves an example to imitate. For even when we were with you, we would give you this command: If anyone is not willing to work, let him not eat. For we hear that some among you walk in idleness, not busy at work, but busybodies. Now such persons we command and encourage in the Lord Jesus Christ to do their work quietly and to earn their own living.
The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

ACCLAMATION BEFORE THE GOSPEL
Alleluia, alleluia.
Straighten up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.
Alleluia.

GOSPEL Luke 21:5-19
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: While some were speaking of the Temple, how it was adorned with noble stones and offerings, Jesus said, 'As for these things that you see, the days will come when there will not be left here one stone upon another that will not be thrown down.' And they asked him, 'Teacher, when will these things be, and what will be the sign when these things are about to take place?' And he said, 'See that you are not led astray. For many will come in my name, saying, "I am he!" and, "The time is at hand!" Do not go after them. And when you hear of wars and tumults, do not be terrified, for these things must first take place, but the end will not be at once.' Then he said to them, 'Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. There will be great earthquakes, and in various places famines and pestilences. And there will be terrors and great signs from heaven. But before all this they will lay their hands on you and persecute you, delivering you up to the synagogues and prisons, and you will be brought before kings and governors for my name's sake. This will be your opportunity to bear witness. Settle it, therefore in your minds, not to meditate beforehand how to answer, for I will give you a mouth and wisdom, which none of your adversaries will be able to withstand or contradict. You will be delivered up even by parents and brothers and sisters, and relatives and friends, and some of you they will put to death. You will be hated by all for my name's sake. But not a hair of your head will perish. By your endurance you will gain your lives.'

R. The Gospel of the Lord.
R. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.
R.
R. **PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS**
Grant, O Lord, we pray, that what we offer in the sight of your majesty may obtain for us the grace of being devoted to you and gain us the prize of everlasting happiness. Through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON Mk 11:23-24
Amen, I say to you: whatever you ask in prayer, believe that you will receive, and it shall be given to you, says the Lord.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION
We have partaken of the gifts of this sacred mystery, humbly imploring, O Lord, that what your Son commanded us to do in memory of him may bring us growth in charity. Through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

16TH NOVEMBER 2025

33RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (C)

Our Faith on Sunday

GOSPEL REFLECTION



At the end of this Sunday's gospel reading Jesus says, "By your endurance you will gain your lives". Living as a Christian in today's world requires endurance. Often, it requires swimming against the current of

hatreds that have been polarised into opposing camps; or opting out of a consumer driven economy which plunders the earth's resources. It may mean taking a moral stand on certain issues that is not understood by friends or relatives. It can involve lovingly caring year after year for a family member

this form of counter-cultural lifestyle. When the world passes by with indifference those who are suffering, the Christian, like the Good Samaritan, permits his or her heart to me moved with compassion, and tends to the wounds of those who are broken in body or spirit. To the one who lives by the motto "looking after number one" all this may seem like a waste of time that could be used for self-advancement. Instead, it is by "losing" time in the service of others that we truly gain our lives.



POPE FRANCIS' ENCYCLICAL
FRATELLI TUTTI
BROTHERS AND SISTERS ALL

THE INJUSTICE OF WAR

258. War can easily be chosen by invoking all sorts of allegedly humanitarian, defensive or precautionary excuses, and even resorting to the manipulation of information. In recent decades, every single war has been ostensibly "justified". The Catechism of the Catholic Church speaks of the possibility of legitimate defence by means of military force, which involves demonstrating that certain "rigorous conditions of moral legitimacy" ²³⁹ have been met. Yet it is easy to fall into an overly broad interpretation of this potential right. In this way, some would also wrongly justify even "preventive" attacks or acts of war that can hardly avoid entailing "evils and disorders graver than the evil to be eliminated". ²⁴⁰ At issue is whether the development of nuclear, chemical and biological weapons, and the enormous and growing possibilities offered by new technologies, have granted war an uncontrollable destructive power over great numbers of innocent civilians. The truth is that "never has humanity had such power over itself, yet nothing ensures that it will be used wisely". ²⁴¹ We can no longer think of war as a solution, because its risks will probably always be greater than its supposed benefits. In view of this, it is very difficult nowadays to invoke the rational criteria elaborated in earlier centuries to speak of the possibility of a "just war". Never again war! ²⁴²

239. No. 2309. 240. Ibid. 241. Encyclical Letter Laudato Si' (24 May 2015), 104: AAS 107 (2015), 888. 242. Saint Augustine, who forged a concept of "just war" that we no longer uphold in our own day, also said that "it is a higher glory still to stay war itself with a word, than to slay men with the sword, and to procure or maintain peace by peace, not by war" (Epistola 229, 2: PL 33, 1020).

Pope Francis'
Apostolic Exhortation
GAUDETE ET EXSULTATE

We may think that we give glory to God only by our worship and prayer, or simply by following certain ethical norms. It is true that the primacy belongs to our relationship with God, but we cannot forget that the ultimate criterion on which our lives will be judged is what we have done for others. Prayer is most precious, for it nourishes a daily commitment to love. Our worship becomes pleasing to God when we devote ourselves to living generously, and allow God's gift, granted in prayer, to be shown in our concern for our brothers and sisters.

Similarly, the best way to discern if our prayer is authentic is to judge to what extent our life is being transformed in the light of mercy. For "mercy is not only an action of the Father; it becomes a criterion for ascertaining who his true children are". Mercy "is the very foundation of the Church's life". In this regard, I would like to reiterate that mercy does not exclude justice and truth; indeed, "we have to say that mercy is the fullness of justice and the most radiant manifestation of God's truth". It is "the key to heaven".

PARISH COMMUNITIES OF



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

ST WILFRID

South Road
Hailsham



WEEKLY SERVICES

Thirty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time (Collection for Retired Priests' Today)

Sat 15th	10am	St Wilfrid's —	Open for Adoration and Confessions
Sun 16th	9am	St George's —	Rose & Joseph Falkner RIP
	10.30am	St Wilfrid's —	Pauline Jobson RIP
	After Mass	St Wilfrid's -	Bereavement Celebration after Mass in St W's Hall.
Mon 17th	2.30pm	St George's —	Rosary Group - All Welcome
Tues 18th	10am	St George's -	Holy Souls' Intention
Tues 18th	11.15am	St George's —	Requiem Mass for John Romaine RIP
Wed 19th	10am	St Wilfrid's —	Cecilia Hyland Intention
Thurs 20th	10am	St George's —	Parish Communities' Intention
Fri 21st	10am	St Wilfrid's —	Mary Mathew RIP

Our Lord Jesus Christ, Universal King

(Collection for Arundel Cathedral Maintenance Fund Today)

Sat 22nd	10am	St Wilfrid's—	Open for Adoration and Confessions
Sun 23rd	9am	St George's —	Deceased Members of the Forte Family RIP
	10.30am	St Wilfrid's —	Marian Wiktor 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#_=_

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

Make your offertory donations go further! By simply signing up to the Gift Aid scheme, we can claim back an extra **25p** on every £1 you donate – **at no extra cost to you.** To join, contact Gerry today: pfc.hailsham@abdiocese.org.uk

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, Madeleine Waters, Andrew, Jeannie and Mick.

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:

Our parish Churches, St George's and St Wilfrid's, are places where we come together as a community to praise and worship God, to thank Him for his blessings, to ask pardon and forgiveness for our sins, and to offer our lives and petitions on the altar. It is our duty to make our Churches even more holy by adding our prayers and songs to our worship and by giving our time and talents and treasure in the various ministries. I am appealing this week for you to volunteer your services as welcomers, readers, ministers of holy communion, altar servers and writing the bidding prayers for use at Mass. None of these take up much time. Help and guidance are available if needed. They are all really needed in the current time and the more volunteers who come forward the lighter the burden on those already helping. Please speak to Fr Rory or any of those already helping if you are willing to help in any way. I have always said the personal approach is the best method of finding volunteers so don't be surprised if you are asked if you would be willing to help in some way. Unfortunately there is not enough time after Mass as you leave church for us to ask everyone personally. I have never managed to ask more than two on any one Sunday. I became a deacon some 4/5 years after I was asked one day by my Parish priest if I had ever thought about becoming a deacon. My immediate response was "No Father, what is that?" His question led me to eventually say "I will" after training and preparation. The various ministries that I mentioned earlier require nothing like the preparation to become a deacon. You see them in action each week in our churches, so you already know what they do. These ministries are really rewarding in that one gains a lot by doing one or more of them - so please help us all by volunteering, preferably before Fr Rory, myself or someone else asks you if you would volunteer!

Deacon John

Remembering Our Loved Ones in November:

During the month of November, we all remember and pray for all our departed loved ones. At St George's you are invited to write the names of your family members and friends who have died on the heart-shaped cards in the basket at the altar. These names will be added to our Prayer Board as we hold them in love and prayer throughout the month.

Comedy and Carols



We have organised a special festive treat for the parish. Join us for a night of **Comedy & Carols** on **Friday, 12th December at St Wilfrid's**.

We're delighted to welcome **comedian and writer Paul Karensa**, who will bring laughter and festive joy to this special celebration.

Tickets: £11.55 (including booking fee) — available from <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/an-evening-of-comedy-and-carols-with-paul-karensa-tickets-1866934785199>

St Wilfrid's Bereavement Mass: This special mass led by Fr Rory was preceded by the lighting of the candle and placing notes on the tree for deceased loved ones. We were each given a yellow rose, then into the hall for refreshments. Gary did a great job of showing on screen our departed family and friends. Thank you to all those who helped to make this day special.

Cafod's World Gifts Catalogue, can be found in the church porches or online at cafod.org.uk/worldgifts

St Wilfrid's Lucky Bags: Thank you to everyone who has put gifts into our box in the church porch. If we are to have a "Bumper Collection", we shall need more bags and gifts please. The box will remain until the end of this month, so please do not pass it by.

Volunteer Request: As part of our Trussell relationship with Tesco nationally we have a collection coming up at the Hailsham Tesco on Friday 28th and Saturday 29th November between 9-3 both days. It will involve encouraging shoppers to buy an item for us and thanking people for their donations.

If any of your members would like to help us out for 1 hour on either day here is a link to the sign up:

<https://xoyondo.com/su/uxx56snazpyb0mw> Thank you.

Dates for your Diary:

Wed 19th Nov, 6-7.30pm - 1st Holy Communion Mtg, St W's Hall.
Sat 22nd Nov, 5.30pm - Advent Wreath Making W/Shop, St W's Hall.
Thurs 27th Nov, 2-4pm - Over 50's Club, St W's Hall.
Fri 28th Nov, 11-12pm - Parish Bereavement Group, St W's Hall.
Sun 30th Nov, 10am - Community Charity Breakfast, St G's Hall.
Fri 12th Dec, 7.30pm - Comedy & Carols, St W's Hall.
Sat 13th Dec, 3.30pm - Christmas Melodies Concert, St G' Church.
Sun 14th Dec, Bambinelli Sunday - Blessing of Baby Jesus in Mass.

Last Sunday Charity Breakfast – Sunday 30th November, after Mass (10am if not attending mass). This month supporting the **Royal British Legion**. Bacon and sausage baps, croissants, tea loaf, a cuppa, and great company. No set price—donation only.

The Spotlight Players are performing "**Rapunzel**" by Tom Whalley Pantomimes at St Mary's Church Hall, Decoy Drive Hampden Park on Fri 5th Dec at 7.30pm, Sat 7th Dec at 2.30pm and Sun 7th Dec at 10.30am and 3pm 2025. Tickets on Sale now www.ticketsource.co.uk/the-spotlight-players or call Trish on 07823 660 526. Adults £9, Children £4.50. Refreshments available to purchase/Raffle tickets cash only. Charity this year SCBU Conquest Hospital. Thank you Marylou.

Over 50's Afternoon Tea & Games: Our Christmas party will be on Thurs 27th Nov, 2-4pm. Then meet again on Thurs 29th January 2026. Anyone over 50 is welcome to join our merry group, just turn up on the day. All welcome.

St Wilfrid's Festive Wreath & Centrepiece Workshop – Saturday 22nd November, 5.30 pm in St Wilfrid's Hall. Come along for a fun evening making your own festive wreath and/or centrepiece – all materials provided. £15 per person to cover costs. Places limited to 20 Ladies only. To reserve your place contact Agata or Monika at St Wilfrid's, or Sandra at St George's.

Bambinelli Sunday – 14th December, blessing during mass of Baby Jesus from our home nativities.

Christmas Melodies Concert by South Downs Singers at St George's Church on Saturday 13th December at 3.30 pm. Tickets £10 and can be purchased from Shirley or Anne at St George's or calling 01323 832767. This community choir regularly makes donations, through its concerts, to local charities and welcome your support. You will be encouraged to join in well loved carols, as well as listening to beautiful seasonal pieces from the choir.

Sunday 9th November - Mass Attendance:
St Wilfrid's 101 St George's 80