

PARISH COMMUNITIES OF



ST GEORGE

Eastbourne Road
Polegate



Parish Priest: Fr. Rory Kelly
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The Arundel & Brighton Diocesan Trust is a Registered Charity No. 252878

ST WILFRID

South Road
Hailsham



WEEKLY SERVICES

Fourth Sunday of Advent, 'O Oriens'

(Crib Collection - The Catholic Children's Society A&B Crisis Fund)

Sat 20th	10am	St Wilfrid's —	Open for Adoration and Confessions
Sun 21st	9am	St George's —	Tina Scanlon Anniversary RIP
	10.30am	St Wilfrid's —	James Leslie Westcar RIP
Mon 22nd	2.30pm	St George's —	Rosary Group - All Welcome
Tues 23rd	10am	St George's -	Parish Communities' Intention
Christmas Eve	5.30pm	St Wilfrid's —	Family Service with Children's Mime
Christmas Day	9.30am	St George's —	Nativity of the Lord
Fri 26th	10am	St Wilfrid's —	Holy Souls' Intention

The Holy Family

Sat 27th	10am	St Wilfrid's—	Open for Adoration and Confessions
Sun 28th	9am	St George's —	Holy Souls' Intention
	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

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, 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, Gerry Page and Steph Simons RIP.

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:

Do you remember the gospel from the first Sunday of Advent? That Gospel was a wakeup call to all of us Christians. We were instructed to "Stay awake!" It is very important because all of Advent is a season of great awakening, preparation, and of great expectation of the birth of the Messiah. It is a season that will end this week in an outburst of great joy. It is, a season of prayer when we turn to God in prayer. Therefore, with the psalmist, I pray for you all with the phrase from the psalm of that first Sunday: "Peace be to your homes! May peace reign in your walls, and in your palaces, peace!"

Let the Advent wreath be a visible reminder to us all of our call as people who are followers of the Light of the World. It is not just an invitation to light, but an invitation to be **bearers** of light to all. In the days ahead let us remember that it says to us: Light the candle. Pray more deeply. Love more generously. Give more freely. Christ is coming this week— as an infant, yes, but also as a king. Time is short. We need to be ready. Let us always remember, he **is** here now. Let these four lights be sparks of hope, peace, joy and love to all we meet. St Teresa of Avila said: "Christ has no body now but yours" so **we** must be the Body of Christ and let our hands and feet, our eyes and ears, each word we speak, bring compassion to the world around us.

for Rory

Christmas Collection: As I am sure many of you are aware, Catholic Priests do not receive a salary and rely on your generosity at Christmas and Easter as a thank you for all they do for us. It is also possible to claim gift aid on your donation if you are a UK taxpayer and that extra 25% will go directly to Father Rory. If you aren't part of a planned giving scheme then please use the "one off" gift aid envelopes located in the porch. You can also contribute via the digital collection plate at St Wilfrid's or via the QR code or donations website link



(<https://donate.mydona.com/st-wilfrids-churchhailsham>) using the "Christmas Collections" tab.

New Years Day Mass - St George's Church - 10am

Epiphany of the Lord - Tuesday 6th January

Mass at St Wilfrid's Church - 10am

Requiem Mass for Christina Neyenhuizen - St George's, 11am

Hailsham Foodbank: Thank you for your support. Your harvest donations make a huge difference to people facing hardship. Happy Christmas from Hailsham Foodbank.

Christmas Flowers: We are collecting at both churches to help with the cost of the flowers in the church over the Christmas period, any donations are gratefully received. Thank you.

Advent Reconciliation Service: What a lovely little service this was. Thank you Teresa for preparing our candidates for their very first reconciliation. It was a shame only a few of our church members attended this half hour service to support our young people.

St Wilfrid's Carol Service: Again, this was a great little service, but very few of our churchgoers attended! Those of us who did attend enjoyed the readings and popular carols, then into our hall for refreshments and of course the very popular 'Bags'. Lots of fun and laughter was had by all. The remaining bags will be on sale after all masses in our hall, so don't miss out! £2 Adults, £1 Children. Money raised will go towards equipment in our hall.

Annette would like to say a big thank you to everyone who has been asking about the operation of her knee. It was successful and she is doing the exercises, but trying to get her to rest is very difficult, as anyone who knows her will understand!

Rorate Caeli Mass, celebrated by only candlelight every Friday in Advent at 6.30am at Our Lady of Ransom. This peaceful, beautiful tradition in honour of Our Lady is followed by breakfast in the hall. All are welcome. Families and schoolchildren are warmly encouraged to come - many attend in school uniform before heading on to school or work, with local journeys and trains still perfectly manageable. More details can be found here: [Rorate Caeli Mass Information](#)

Many thanks to everyone who donated to Bethlehem University last Sunday through the second collection at St Wilfrid's and via the lucky bag sale after the Carol Concert. We have currently raised £356, but there is still an opportunity to donate this week via the digital plate. Sophie will also be selling the remaining lucky bags after Mass on Sunday.

The December edition of the Eastbourne St Leonards Parish Monthly Newsletter is now available. Please pick up a copy from the porch if you haven't already done so. It can also be accessed online through the new parish website; [West Hub Newsletter – December 2025](#)
[Catholic Parish of Eastbourne & St Leonards Website](#)

Baptismal programmes for St George's and St Wilfrid's will run at various times during 2026. Please enquire through the parish office on 01323 841504 or email hailsham@abdiocese.org.uk

Mill Hill Red Boxes to be brought to church and handed in to be counted. Make sure your name is on the box label or we will be unable to give you a receipt, which is important. The next counting will be June 2026.

St George's quarterly community meeting: We will not have this in Dec, as there is a lot going on already. Also, to help align the meetings to allow feedback from the monthly Parish Hub Meetings we have decided to hold them on the second Sunday of the month instead of the first. 2026 meetings will therefore be after mass on Sunday: January 11th; April 12th; July 12th; and October 11th.

Dates for your Diary:

Sun 11th Jan, After Mass - St G's Quarterly Community Mtg, St G's
Thurs 29th Jan, 2-4pm - Over 50's Club, St W's Hall.

Fri 30th Jan, 11-12pm - Parish Bereavement Group, St W's Hall.

Sun 25th Jan, 10am - Community Charity Breakfast, St G's Hall.

Sunday 14th December - Mass Attendance:

St Wilfrid's 117 St George's 77



Christmas Mass Times

**Christmas Eve - Family Service with Children's Mime
St Wilfrid's Church at 5.30pm**

**Christmas Day – Nativity of the Lord
St George's Church at 9.30am**

**New Years Day
St George's Church at 10am**

**Epiphany of the Lord
Tuesday 6th January
St Wilfrid's Church at 10am**

**Requiem Mass for Christina Neyenhuizen
Tuesday 6th January
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