

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Cf. Ps 138: 18, 5-6

**I have risen, and I am with you still, alleluia.
You have laid your hand upon me, alleluia.
Too wonderful for me, this knowledge,
alleluia, alleluia.**

COLLECT

O God, who on this day,
through your Only Begotten Son,
have conquered death
and unlocked for us the path to eternity,
grant, we pray, that we who keep
the solemnity of the Lord's Resurrection
may, through the renewal brought by your Spirit,
rise up in the light of life.
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 Acts of the Apostles. Acts 10:34a, 37-43

In those days: Peter opened his mouth and said: 'You yourselves know what happened throughout all Judea, beginning from Galilee after the baptism that John proclaimed: how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power. He went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. And we are witnesses of all that he did both in the country of the Jews and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree, but God raised him on the third day and caused him to appear, not to all the people but to us who had been chosen by God as witnesses, who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. And he commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one appointed by God to be judge of the living and the dead. To him all the prophets bear witness that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.'

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM

Psalm 118(117):1-2. 16-17. 22-23. R.24

**R. This is the day the Lord has made;
let us rejoice in it and be glad.**

Give praise to the LORD, for he is good;
his mercy endures for ever.
Let the house of Israel say,
'His mercy endures for ever.'

The LORD's right hand is exalted.
The LORD's right hand has done mighty deeds.
I shall not die, I shall live
and recount the deeds of the LORD.

The stone that the builders rejected
has become the cornerstone.
By the LORD has this been done,
a marvel in our eyes.

SECOND READING

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Colossians. Colossians 3:1-4

Brothers and sisters: If you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth. For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. When Christ who is your life appears, then you also will appear with him in glory.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SEQUENCE

Christians, to the Paschal Victim offer sacrifice and praise.
The sheep are ransomed by the Lamb;
and Christ, the undefiled,
hath sinners to his Father reconciled.
Death with life contended: combat strangely ended!
Life's own Champion, slain, yet lives to reign.
Tell us, Mary: say what thou didst see upon the way.
The tomb the Living did enclose;
I saw Christ's glory as he rose!
The angels there attesting;
shroud with grave-clothes resting.
Christ, my hope, has risen: he goes before you into Galilee.
That Christ is truly risen from the dead we know.
Victorious king, thy mercy show!

ACCLAMATION BEFORE THE GOSPEL

Alleluia, alleluia. 1 Corinthians 5:7b-8a
**Christ, our Passover lamb, has been sacrificed;
let us therefore celebrate the festival in the Lord.
Alleluia.**

GOSPEL

John 20:1-9

The Lord be with you.
And with your spirit.
A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.
Glory to you, O Lord.

On the first day of the week Mary Magdalene came to the tomb early, while it was still dark, and saw that the stone had been taken away from the tomb. So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, 'They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him.' So Peter went out with the other disciple, and they were going towards the tomb. Both of them were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. And stooping to look in, he saw the linen cloths lying there, but he did not go in. Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen cloths lying there, and the face cloth, which had been on the head of Jesus, not lying with the linen cloths but folded up in a place by itself. Then the other disciple, who had reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; for as yet they did not understand the Scripture, that he must rise from the dead.

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

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

Exultant with the paschal gladness, O Lord,
we offer the sacrifice
by which your Church
is wondrously reborn and nourished.
Through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

1 Cor 5:7-8

**Christ our Passover has been sacrificed,
alleluia;
therefore let us keep the feast with the unleavened bread
of purity and truth, alleluia, alleluia.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Look upon your Church, O God,
with unfailing love and favour,
so that, renewed by the paschal mysteries,
she may come to the glory of the resurrection.
Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Our Faith on Sunday

GOSPEL REFLECTION



If we were to ask the question: "What is Christianity?" we should have no hesitation in answering: "It is an encounter with the risen Lord." Who is more of a Christian than the disciple Thomas who meeting the risen Jesus says: "My Lord, and my God" (Jn. 20:28). Without the resurrection there would be no Christianity. For how could you and I encounter Jesus today if he was not

risen? If he had died and remained in the tomb and that tomb had been preserved then I could visit his tomb. But it is only because he is risen that I can have a living encounter with him just as Saul did on the road to Damascus. If Christ's resurrection were nothing more than a demonstration of his power and majesty it would merit our kneeling down in adoration before this power and majesty. But it is more than this. It is even much more than our human minds could imagine. It is a new creation, a cosmic transformation where the power of sin and death have been vanquished. The risen Jesus among us is not just a leader surrounded by followers, a

guru worshipped by his disciples. Jesus has made us partakers of his resurrection. When Paul says that it is no longer he who lives but Christ who lives in him he means not the Christ who died on the cross but the risen Christ. Isn't this the meaning of our baptism? we have died with Christ and we have risen with Christ. St Athanasius wrote that God became man so that man might become God. And who is this God that we become? The risen Christ.



POPE FRANCIS' ENCYCLICAL
FRATELLI TUTTI
BROTHERS AND SISTERS ALL



CHRISTIAN IDENTITY

278. Called to take root in every place, the Church has been present for centuries throughout the world, for that is what it means to be "catholic". She can thus understand, from her own experience of grace and sin, the beauty of the invitation to universal love. Indeed, "all things human are our concern... wherever the councils of nations come together to establish the rights and duties of man, we are honoured to be permitted to take our place among them".²⁷⁴ For many Christians, this journey of fraternity also has a Mother, whose name is Mary. Having received this universal motherhood at the foot of the cross (cf. Jn 19:26), she cares not only for Jesus but also for "the rest of her children" (cf. Rev 12:17). In the power of the risen Lord, she wants to give birth to a new world, where all of us are brothers and sisters, where there is room for all those whom our societies discard, where justice and peace are resplendent.

274. SAINT PAUL VI, Encyclical Letter *Ecclesiam Suam* (6 August 1964): AAS 56 (1964), 650.

Jubilee of Seminarians
St John Chrysostom –
Easter Sunday Year A 2026

Now is the time when the blessed light of Christ sheds its rays; the pure rays of the pure Spirit rise and the heavenly treasures of divine glory are opened up. Night's darkness and obscurity have been swallowed up and the dense blackness dispersed in this light of day; death has been totally eclipsed. Life has been extended to every creature and all things are diffused in brightness. The dawn of dawn ascends over the earth and "He who was before the morning star" (Ps 109:2) and before the other stars, the mighty Christ, immortal and all powerful, sheds light brighter than the sun on the universe. For all of us his faithful He has initiated a bright, new day, long, eternal, and unquenchable; it is the mystical Passover, celebrated in figures under the Law but fulfilled in very truth by Christ; the marvellous Passover, the wonder of divine virtue, the work of power, truly a feast, an everlasting memorial, impassibility born of suffering, immortality born of death, life born in the tomb, healing born from wounds, resurrection born from the fall, ascent to Heaven born from descent to Hell.





Catholic Parish of Eastbourne & St Leonards

Churches of St George - Polegate & St Wilfrid - Hailsham

Parish Clergy: Fr Rory Kelly, St Wilfrid's Presbytery, South Road, Hailsham, BN27 3JG

Parish Secretary: Jackie **Parish Office:** St Wilfrid's Presbytery, South Road, Hailsham, BN27 3JG

Hours: Mon, Wed & Fri 9am-12.30pm **Email:** hailsham@abdiocese.org.uk **Telephone:** 01323 841504

Website: <https://saintsgeorgeandwilfrid.co.uk>

Safeguarding Co-ordinator: Maria, 07873 759962

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER: 5 April 2026

Easter Sunday

Sun	5th	9am	St George	-	Mass: Parish Communities' Intention
		10.30am	St Wilfrid	-	Mass: In Thanksgiving
Mon	6th		St George	-	Rosary Group - All Welcome
Tues	7th	12noon	St George	-	Mass:
Wed	8th	12noon	St Wilfrid	-	Mass: Thanksgiving Intention
Thurs	9th	10am	St George	-	Liturgy of the Word

Second, "Low", Sunday of Easter

Sun	12th	5.30pm	St Wilfrid	-	Mass: Parish Communities' Intention
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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.

USEFUL PARISH INFORMATION

St Wilfrid's Planned Giving Contact (01323) 832577

St George's Planned Giving Contact (01323) 832577

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: pfh.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, 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, Madeleine Waters, Andrew and Gerry Page.

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 Paul Writes:

The week after Easter, that is, the week beginning April 6th, I have a long-standing commitment to say Mass at Hove, so the Mass on Tuesday 7th and Wednesday 8th will be at 12noon and not 10am as usual. I shall be saying Mass in Hove on the Saturday evening and in Bexhill in the morning on Sunday 12th so there will be just one Mass in the parish on Sunday 12th and that will be at 5.30pm at St Wilfrid's. These are commitments I made some time ago, long before our situation here in Hailsham and Polegate arose, so I hope you will understand.

If you need a Sunday morning Mass on 12th, there is Mass in Eastbourne at 9am (St Gregory, Victoria Drive); 9.30am (St Joachim, Brodrick Road, Hampden Park) 10.15am (Our Lady of Ransom, Grange Road); 11.30am (St Agnes, Whitley Road); 11.30am (Christ the King, Princes Road).

Easter 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 Fr 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.myдона.com/st-wilfrids-church-hailsham>) using the "Easter Collections" tab.



Talk on Battle of Britian Spitfire: 25th April 2026 at 7.30pm, St Wilfrid's Hall, Andy Saunders will give a talk on the recovery and restoration of a Battle of Britian Spitfire. Tickets cost £15 available from www.civilaviationtrust.org or at the door.

Grandparents Pilgrimage, The Shrine of Our Lady of Consolation & St Francis, West Grinstead, Wednesday 17 June 11am – 3pm

A day of sharing and prayer with other Grandparents to include Mass, Benediction, Rosary, tours of the secret chapel and lots of chat. Please bring a packed lunch. To register, go to the Events page of the Diocesan website W: www.abdiocese.org.uk/diocesan/events or scan the QR code on the poster. If you have any questions about the day please contact Deacon Simon South, Diocesan Marriage & Family Life Adviser E: simon.south@abdiocese.org.uk

The Diocese sends out a weekly E-Bulletin newsletter which includes details of formation and events taking place across the Diocese and our wider Catholic community. Please do sign up, it's a great way to stay in touch! You can click on the link to sign up mailchi.mp/7529e811ae63/joinourlist

OUR NEW PARISH

The New Parish will be overseen by a Clergy Team, moderated by Fr Kevin Dring. The team will work closely with Hub Secretaries, Hub Leadership Groups and lay representatives to support pastoral planning, governance and the shared mission of the Parish. The West Hub covering Eastbourne, Polegate, Hampden Park, Hailsham and the East Hub; St Leonard's, Hastings, Bexhill, Battle and Rye.

East Hub Secretary: Elizabeth Fitch
stleonards@abdiocese.org.uk 01424 602077

West Hub Secretary: Cheryl Wood
eastbourneolor@abdiocese.org.uk 01323 723222

New Parish Website: www.eastbourne-stleonards.org.uk

New Parish Magazine Out Now

The first issue of our new *Single Parish Magazine* is now available and includes news and interesting articles from across the churches in our deanery. It also includes a full list of deanery holy week services.

A small number of printed copies are available at the back of the church. Please take one to read, but please also kindly return it afterwards so others may also enjoy it.

You can also read the magazine on the parish website: <https://saintsgeorgeandwilfrid.co.uk>

Augustinian Weekend at Michelham Priory: June 13th/14th, 10am to 5pm. Celebrating the life of the Augustinian Canons who lived and prayed there. If we can get a group of 10 or more to go, we can get a discount on tickets.

Sunday Charity Breakfast: Our next Charity Breakfast will be Sunday 26th April after mass at St George's when we will be supporting "Adam's Light". We hope you, your family and friends can support this.

Parish Over 50's Club: We next meet on Thursday 30th April, 2-4pm, Anyone over 50 is welcome, just turn up on the day.

Catholic Women's League Cheese & Wine Evening: All ladies are warmly invited to join us for a Cheese & Wine evening on Wed 8th April, 7pm, Christ the King Church Hall, Langney. Come along for an enjoyable social evening together - share good company, delicious refreshments and discover more about the League, what we do in support of one another, our parish community and wider charitable mission. Contact Sandra for more information 07791 627368

Diocesan Link: The web edition which has more detailed news can be accessed from this link [April 2026 NBCW Newsletter](#)

22nd March - Mass Attendance: St W's 101 St G's 76

29th March - Mass Attendance: St W's 183 St G's 74

Dates for your Diary:

Sun 12 April, After Mass - St G's Quarterly Com Mtg, St G's.

Thurs 16 April, 6-7.30pm - 1st Holy Com Mtg, St W's Hall.

Fri 24 April, 11-12pm - Parish Bereavement Gp, St W's Hall.

Sat 25 April, 7.30pm - Talk, Battle of Britian Spitfire, St W's

Sun 26 April, 10am - Charity Breakfast, St G's Hall.

Thurs 30 April, 2-4pm - Over 50's Club, St W's Hall.

Wed 13 May, 6-7.30pm - 1st Holy Com Mtg, St W's Hall.

Wed 17 June, 6-7.30pm - 1st Holy Com Mtg, St W's Hall.

NEW PARISH UPDATE: As a Catholic community, a "community of communities", we're called to a life of discipleship: to follow Jesus, learn from him, become like him, and join him in his mission to love and serve others. In the journey of discipleship, we are always being invited to deepen our faith, hope and love. One of the key priorities for us as we continue to move forward together in the Church's Mission, is to look for all good ways to help everybody, of all ages, in our communities continue to deepen their Faith. As we enter the Season of Easter, we will begin to share through newsletters good and varied resources that you can access to help grow in your faith. Especially we pray for the many adults who will have been received into the Church with us at Easter. They are an inspiration for us all! – **Fr Kevin**