

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON Ps 118: 137, 124
**You are just, O Lord, and your judgement is right;
treat your servant in accord with your merciful love.**

COLLECT
O God, by whom we are redeemed and receive adoption,
look graciously upon your beloved sons and daughters,
that those who believe in Christ
may receive true freedom
and an everlasting inheritance.
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 Ezekiel 33:7-9
A reading from the Prophet Ezekiel.

Thus says the Lord: ‘So you, son of man, I have made a watchman for the house of Israel. Whenever you hear a word from my mouth, you shall give them warning from me. If I say to the wicked, O wicked one, you shall surely die, and you do not speak to warn the wicked to turn from his way, that wicked person shall die in his iniquity, but his blood I will require at your hand. But if you warn the wicked to turn from his way, and he does not turn from his way, that person shall die in his iniquity, but you will have delivered your soul.’

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

PSALM Psalm 95(94):1-2. 6-7b. 7c-9. R.7c, 8a

**R. O that today you would listen to his voice!
‘Harden not your hearts.’**

Come, let us ring out our joy to the LORD;
hail the rock who saves us.
Let us come into his presence, giving thanks;
let us hail him with a song of praise.

O come; let us bow and bend low.
Let us kneel before the LORD who made us,
for he is our God, and we the people,
the people of his pasture, the flock of his hand.

O that today you would listen to his voice!
‘Harden not your hearts as at Meribah,
as on that day at Massah in the desert
when your forebears put me to the test;
when they tried me, though they saw my work.’

SECOND READING Romans 13:8-10
A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Romans.

Brothers and sisters: Owe no one anything, except to love each other. For the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. For the commandments, ‘You shall not commit adultery, You shall not murder, You shall not steal, You shall not covet’, and any other commandment, are summed up in this word: ‘You shall love your neighbour as yourself.’ Love does no wrong to a neighbour; therefore love is the fulfilling of the law.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

ACCLAMATION BEFORE THE GOSPEL
Alleluia, alleluia. 2 Corinthians 5:19
**God was in Christ reconciling the world to himself,
and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation.
Alleluia.**

GOSPEL Matthew 18:15-20
The Lord be with you.
And with your spirit.
A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.
Glory to you, O Lord.

At that time: Jesus said to his disciples, ‘If your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault, between you and him alone. If he listens to you, you have gained your brother. But if he does not listen, take one or two others along with you, that every charge may be established by the evidence of two or three witnesses. If he refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church. And if he refuses to listen even to the church, let him be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector. Truly, I say to you, whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven. Again I say to you, if two of you agree on earth about anything they ask, it will be done for them by my Father in heaven. For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I among them.’

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

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS
R. O God, who give us the gift of true prayer and of peace,
graciously grant that through this offering,
we may do fitting homage to your divine majesty
and, by partaking of the sacred mystery,
R. we may be faithfully united in mind and heart.
Through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

R. COMMUNION ANTIPHON Cf. Ps 41: 2-3
**Like the deer that yearns for running streams,
so my soul is yearning for you, my God;
my soul is thirsting for God, the living God.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION
Grant that your faithful, O Lord,
whom you nourish and endow with life
through the food of your Word and heavenly Sacrament,
may so benefit from your beloved Son’s great gifts
that we may merit an eternal share in his life.
Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.
Amen.

6TH SEPTEMBER 2026

22ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (A)

Our Faith on Sunday

GOSPEL REFLECTION



The gospel reading for this Sunday clearly illustrates that faith and practice is centred on the

community. It is true that responding to the call to follow Christ is a personal choice, but once I make that choice, I am called to be a member of the Church, the people of God. That is why any disunity within the community must be addressed, and access to the Father is granted to those who are in agreement. The Church as a building is made of bricks but the Church as the mystical Body of Christ is there where two or three are gathered in the name of Jesus. That is why it is possible to speak of the “domestic Church” wherever parents and children are united in Christ, which means the readiness to love one another as he loved us. It is also why the Church can survive in

the midst of the most severe restrictions and persecutions. Just as a piece of the eucharist contains the fullness of Christ so too the universal Church is present wherever two or three Christians are united in the name of Jesus. In this passage from the gospel of Matthew Jesus promises to be present when his disciples come together in his name. And in case we are in danger of giving a too “spiritual” interpretation of this presence, let us remember that above all Jesus is encountered in the loving words and deeds of those who are united in his name.



POPE LEO XIV
THE HOLY SEE
APOSTOLIC EXHORTATIONS

THE CRY OF THE POOR

10. In this sense, it can be said that the commitment to the poor and to removing the social and structural causes of poverty has gained importance in recent decades, but it remains insufficient. This is also the case because our societies often favor criteria for orienting life and politics that are marked by numerous inequalities. As a result, the old forms of poverty that we have become aware of and are trying to combat are being joined by new ones, sometimes more subtle and dangerous. From this point of view, it is to be welcomed that the United Nations has made the eradication of poverty one of its Millennium Goals.

Saint Alphonsus de Liguori

Uniformity With God’s Will

Mortification, meditation, receiving Holy Communion, acts of fraternal charity are all certainly pleasing to God—but only when they are in accordance with his will.... If we would completely rejoice the heart of God, let us strive in all things to conform ourselves to his divine will. Let us not only strive to conform ourselves, but also to unite ourselves to whatever dispositions God makes of us. Conformity signifies that we join our wills to the will of God. Uniformity means more—it means that we make one will of God’s will and ours, so that we will only what God wills; that God’s will alone, is our will. This is the summit of perfection and to it we should always aspire; this should be the goal of all our works, desires, meditations and prayers. To this end we should always invoke the aid of our holy patrons, our guardian angels, and above all, of our mother Mary, the most perfect of all the saints because she most perfectly embraced the divine will.



This parish is part of

The Catholic Deanery of Eastbourne and St Leonards

working towards implementing the Pastoral Plan

Fear not, for I am with you; I will bring your offspring from the east, and from the west I will gather you. Isaiah 43:5

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: 6 September 2026

Twenty Third Sunday in Ordinary Time (Collection for Education Sunday on 13/9)

Sun	6th	10.30am	St Wilfrid	-	Readings and Reflection
		5.30pm	St George	-	Mass: Bill Humphries RIP
Mon	7th	2.30pm	St George	-	Rosary Group - All Welcome
Tues	8th		St George	-	No Mass
Wed	9th		St Wilfrid	-	No Mass

Twenty Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Collection Today for Education Sunday) (Collection next week for Evangelii Gaudium Sunday 20/9)

Sun	13th	9am	St George	-	Mass:
		10.30am	St Wilfrid	-	Mass: 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: 01323 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: 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 - hailsham@abdiocese.org.uk

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, Tom Woodrow-Spencer, Laurey Stimpson, Nicole McCutchan, Nellie Oakshott, Jean Molloy, Alan Smith, Julie Martin, Gill Standen, Letty Booth, Thomas Pailey, Thomas Guy, Michael O'Regan, Patricia Delaney, Graham, Pamela Swanston, Jean Littlewood, Jennifer, Peter Mitchell, Madeleine Waters, Sue Matthews, Andrew, Gerry Page, Amy and Ben.

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!

Harvest Festival at St Wilfrid's: We will be celebrating Harvest Festival at St Wilfrid's Church on Sunday 27th September - a time to thank God for His gifts and share them with others. A produce sale in aid of CAFOD will follow the **10.30am Mass** (donations of fruit, veg, preserves, or baked goods welcome on Saturday 26th September) **Foodbank collection:** Non-perishable items may be left in the church porch from this weekend. Thank you.

Children's Liturgy

Children's Liturgy at St Wilfrid's recommences on Sunday 13th September. Children under 5 must be accompanied by an adult. Please could I ask you to complete a Parental Permission Form as this is required for children attending independently. We also need adults to escort children to and from the hall. Please consider joining the rota which is available in the church porch. We look forward to welcoming everyone back

Walk: On Saturday October 17th I am organising a walk from Wilfrid's Catholic Church to Michelham Priory. The walk is to remember John Stone an Augustinian Canon who was martyred by Henry VIII in 1539. For more details contact Gary O'Brien at garyobrien4@yahoo.co.uk

Social Committee Meeting: Please note this has moved to Sunday 20th September after Mass.

No Bereavement Group Meeting until the last Friday in September, 25th.

Afternoon Tea Club, last Thursday of every month, 2-4pm. We will next meet on Thursday 24th September. Thank you.

Sunday Charity Breakfast: Our next Breakfast will be Sun 27th September after mass at St G's. We will be raising funds for the Foodbank. Thank you to everyone who supports us with these breakfasts.

CAFOD Family Fast Day Appeal this Harvest

Please donate to our *Family Fast Day* parish collection. Put your faith into action and share the Lord's love by supporting our global neighbours experiencing shortages of food and safe water. Your gift can support children like Tayla in Zimbabwe to stay in school by helping communities and schools provide nourishing meals, improve access to water and grow food in school gardens.

Use the CAFOD envelope in church, donate online at cafod.org.uk/envelope, or call 0303 303 3030.



We pray for the repose of the soul of the faithful recently departed:

Pauline Cruden, Requiem Mass, OLR, 11am, Fri 11 Sept.
Jeffrey Boots, Funeral, Family Chapel E/B Crem, 2.30pm Mon 14th Sept.

30th August - Mass Attendance: St W's 65 St G's 9

OUR JOURNEY TO BECOMING A NEW PARISH:

Ultimately the new Parish will be overseen by a Priests Team, moderated by Fr Kevin Dring. They will work closely with a Leadership Team of clergy and lay reps, and with Hub Pastoral Teams of clergy and lay representatives from across our churches, in the development of our Pastoral Plan and our shared mission. The West Hub covers Eastbourne, Polegate, Hampden Park, Hailsham, and the East Hub covers 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

Deanery Website: www.eastbourne-stleonards.org.uk

Calling New Catechists!

We're expanding our team for Children's Liturgy, Baptism preparation, and First Communion. If you love faith, story, and helping children and families feel at home in church, we'd love you with us. Training provided. No experience necessary. Speak to Teresa or Annette for more information.

First Holy Communion Programme 2026-2027

Registration is now open for children in Year 3 and above who wish to prepare to receive their First Holy Communion. An introductory session for parents only will take place on **Thursday 24th September** at 7.00pm in St Wilfrid's Church Hall. If you would like your child to join this year's programme, please complete an enrolment form, available at the back of church or E: pfc.hailsham@abdiocese.org.uk, and return it by **Friday 18th September**. We look forward to welcoming you as your family begins this special journey of faith.

A huge thank you to Mary Burbage and Martin Falkner for leading us through beautiful and meaningful services on the Sunday's in August where we had no priest. Tea in the hall was provided afterwards. A chance for a chat and catch up. The people who came were very grateful our doors at St George's were kept open. It is only by working together as a community and selfless individuals coming forward that we can provide the opportunity for prayer, support and friendship. Thank you both on behalf of the parish.

Sacramental Enrolment Forms for confirmation in 2027, via the West Hub's RCIA (adult formation group) and Lumen Christi (Youth group Year 9 to Year 13) are now available in both church porches.

Elite Mobility Scooter excellent condition, cost over £3000 and used 3/4 times, folds down easily to go in a Car Boot, Polegate area. £800 ono. Please ring: Bill Swindell 01323 485257

Deanery Magazine & Website: For news and updates on Eastbourne and St Leonards Deanery activities and events visit the website www.eastbourne-stleonards.org.uk You can also email news@eastbourne-stleonards.org.uk to submit items for the website and magazine.

Dates for your Diary:

Sun 13 Sept, After Mass - St G's Quarterly Mtg, St G's Hall.
Sun 13 Sept, 10.30am - Fatima Devotions, Christ the King.
Sun 20 Sept, After Mass - Social Committee Mtg, St W's Hall.

Thurs 24 Sept, 2-4pm - Afternoon Tea Club, St W's Hall.

Thurs 24 Sept, 7pm - Parents FHC Meeting, St W's Hall.

Fri 25 Sept, 11-12pm - Parish Bereavement Gp, St W's Hall

Sun 27 Sept, 10am - Charity Breakfast, St G's Hall.

Sat 3 Oct, 4-6.45pm - Lumen Christi 1st Meeting, OLR Hall.

Sat End Oct TBC, 9-10.15am - RCIA Meeting, OLR Hall.

SUMMER DEANERY UPDATE: A final short update, as we come towards the summer holiday season. Thanks to everyone from across our Deanery churches who have been working hard to help us prepare for change and re-organisation. We realise as time goes by that we are in for a long-distance run rather than a quick sprint, quite rightly so as change needs to happen in a way that makes sense for people. We have just had news of appointment of our new Bishop-Elect, Stephen Wang. I know him well and am confident he will be a great new Shepherd for us all. Just to end with some encouraging words he shares with us on his appointment: "There are many challenges ahead, but I am full of hope. I've seen so many times what God can do when people pray and work together, and when they put their trust in him. If we listen to one another, and to the Lord, then he will show us the way forward" We pray for him as he prepares to join us after the summer.