

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

If you, O Lord, should mark iniquities,
Lord, who could stand?
But with you is found forgiveness,
O God of Israel.

Ps 129: 3-4

ACCLAMATION BEFORE THE GOSPEL

Alleluia, alleluia. Cf. Ephesians 1:17-18
May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
enlighten the eyes of our hearts,
so that we may know the hope to which he has called us.
Alleluia.

GOSPEL

Matthew 22:1-14

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

For shorter form read between []

[At that time: Jesus again spoke to the chief priests and the elders of the people, in parables, saying, ‘The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding feast for his son, and sent his servants to call those who were invited to the wedding feast, but they would not come. Again he sent other servants, saying, “Tell those who are invited, ‘See, I have prepared my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves have been slaughtered, and everything is ready. Come to the wedding feast.’” But they paid no attention and went off, one to his farm, another to his business, while the rest seized his servants, treated them shamefully, and killed them. The king was angry, and he sent his troops and destroyed those murderers and burned their city. Then he said to his servants, “The wedding feast is ready, but those invited were not worthy. Go therefore to the main roads and invite to the wedding feast as many as you find.” And those servants went out into the roads and gathered all whom they found, both bad and good. So the wedding hall was filled with guests.]

‘But when the king came in to look at the guests, he saw there a man who had no wedding garment. And he said to him, “Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding garment?” And he was speechless. Then the king said to the attendants, “Bind him hand and foot and cast him into the outer darkness. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.” For many are called, but few are chosen.’

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

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

Accept, O Lord, the prayers of your faithful
with the sacrificial offerings,
that, through these acts of devotedness,
we may pass over to the glory of heaven.
Through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Cf. Ps 33: 11

The rich suffer want and go hungry,
but those who seek the Lord lack no blessing.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

We entreat your majesty most humbly, O Lord,
that, as you feed us with the nourishment
which comes from the most holy Body and Blood of your Son,
so you may make us sharers of his divine nature.
Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.
Amen.

COLLECT

May your grace, O Lord, we pray,
at all times go before us and follow after
and make us always determined
to carry out good works.
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 Isaiah. Isaiah 25:6-10a

On this mountain the LORD of hosts will make for all peoples a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wine, of rich food full of marrow, of aged wine well refined. And he will swallow up on this mountain the covering that is cast over all peoples, the veil that is spread over all nations. He will swallow up death for ever; and the Lord God will wipe away tears from all faces, and the reproach of his people he will take away from all the earth, for the LORD has spoken. It will be said on that day, ‘Behold, this is our God; we have waited for him, that he might save us. This is the LORD; we have waited for him; let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation.’ For the hand of the LORD will rest on this mountain.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

PSALM

Psalm 23(22):1-3a. 3b-4. 5. 6. R.6cd

R. In the LORD’s own house shall I dwell for length of days unending.

The LORD is my shepherd;
there is nothing I shall want.
Fresh and green are the pastures
where he gives me repose.
Near restful waters he leads me;
he revives my soul.

He guides me along the right path,
for the sake of his name.
Though I should walk in the valley of the shadow of death,
no evil would I fear, for you are with me.
Your crook and your staff will give me comfort.

You have prepared a table before me
in the sight of my foes.
My head you have anointed with oil;
my cup is overflowing.

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me
all the days of my life.
In the LORD’s own house shall I dwell
for length of days unending.

SECOND READING

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Philippians. Philippians 4:12-14, 19-20

Brothers and sisters: I know how to be brought low, and I know how to abound. In any and every circumstance, I have learned the secret of facing plenty and hunger, abundance and need. I can do all things through him who strengthens me. Yet it was kind of you to share my trouble. And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus. To our God and Father be glory for ever and ever. Amen.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Our Faith on Sunday

GOSPEL REFLECTION



At the heart of the gospel reading for this Sunday we have a parable; and as we know the whole purpose of a parable is to teach. So what is the lesson? In the context in which Jesus is narrating the parable it is directed

at the “chief priests” and the “elders”. They are the representatives of the Jewish people and so they are being held responsible for the rejection and killing of the prophets who had been sent to them as messengers of God. However, the parable ends on a more universal note and so it is addressed to you and me. Through our baptism we have entered the Church which is an anticipation on earth of the heavenly kingdom of God. We have gained entry, but that is not enough. We need to be wearing a “wedding garment”. St Augustine identified this garment as “charity”. It is not enough to be baptised or even to have faith. This must be accompanied

by love of God and love of neighbour. Writing to the Colossians St Paul says: “Put on then, as God’s chosen ones, holy and beloved, heartfelt compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience, bearing with one another and forgiving one another; if one has a grievance against another; as the Lord has forgiven you, so must you also do. And over all these put on love, that is, the bond of perfection” (Col 3: 12-14). If this is a description of the spiritual garment I am called to wear as a Christian, I can ask myself the question: Am I dressed appropriately?



IDEOLOGICAL PREJUDICES

15. Christians too, on a number of occasions, have succumbed to attitudes shaped by secular ideologies or political and economic approaches that lead to gross generalizations and mistaken conclusions. The fact that some dismiss or ridicule charitable works, as if they were an obsession on the part of a few and not the burning heart of the Church’s mission, convinces me of the need to go back and re-read the Gospel, lest we risk replacing it with the wisdom of this world. The poor cannot be neglected if we are to remain within the great current of the Church’s life that has its source in the Gospel and bears fruit in every time and place.



We must understand that we can never acquire true conformity to the will of God until we are perfectly resolved to serve Him according to His will and pleasure and not to please ourselves. In everything look to God, and you will find Him everywhere, but more especially where you have most completely renounced yourself. When you are thoroughly convinced that of yourself you are incapable of doing any good, you will give up making resolutions but will humbly confess to God: “My God, I acknowledge after many trials that all my resolutions are useless. Doubtless I have hitherto depended too much on myself, but You have abased me. You alone can do all things; make me then, do such and such a thing, and give me, when necessary, the recollection, energy and strength of will that I require. Without this, I know from my former sad experiences, I shall never do anything.” ... When you become thoroughly convinced of this truth you will exclaim almost without reflexion, when you act rightly, “Oh my God it is You who do this in me by your grace.”



Next Sunday is World Mission Sunday: Next Sunday, the Holy Father invites all Catholics to support Missio – his charity for world mission – through a special collection. This day of prayer, solidarity and giving unites Catholics worldwide to share the Good News of God's love which has the power to transform lives and heal our world. To donate, use the Missio envelopes, call 020 7821 9755 (office hours) or visit missio.org.uk to give a gift, set up a Direct Debit and Gift Aid your donation if possible.

Can you please bring in your boxes to be emptied over the next 2 weeks. Leave with the Welcomers at the back of the church or put in the safe. Thank you.

Parish Christmas Fair – 14th November We Need Your Help!

Our Christmas Fair is fast approaching, and we need **donations and volunteers** to help make the day a success.

Over the next two Sundays after Mass, we will be handing out flyers with details of the items needed for our stalls. **Every donation, however small, is greatly appreciated.**

We also need volunteers to help with:

- Running stalls
- Setting up and clearing away
- Baking for the cake stall

Even one bag of donations or one hour of your time can make a real difference.

Donations can be brought to church **from Sunday 18th October.**

If you can help run a stall, please contact

pfc.hailsham@abdiocese.org.uk.

Our Parish Christmas Fair is not only a wonderful opportunity to come together as a community, but also an important fundraiser supporting the life and work of our church. **It can only happen with your support.**

Thank you to everyone who has already offered their help.

A Day with Saint Carlo Acutis & Eucharistic Miracles Exhibition

The Catholic Parish of Adur Valley warmly invites you to a special day in honour of Saint Carlo Acutis on **Sat 17 Oct 2026** at St Peter's, Shoreham-by-Sea, BN43 5WG. The day will include Mass, talks by Anna Johnstone (Guardian of Saint Carlo Acutis' First-Class Relic and former Governess to the Acutis family), prayer, Eucharistic Adoration, veneration of the relic, and the Eucharistic Miracles Exhibition. You are welcome to attend all or part of the day. Tea and coffee will be available; please bring a packed lunch. All warmly welcome.

Bishop-elect Stephen Wang's Mass of Episcopal Ordination will be live streamed on Monday 19th October, 12 noon, & the **Welcome Mass** on Sat 24th October, 11am in St Wilfrid's Church.

4th October - Mass Attendance: St W's 127 St G's 78

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, & the East Hub covers St Leonard's, Hastings, Bexhill, Battle & 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

Harvest Festival & CAFOD Family Fast Day – Thank You

A huge thank you to everyone who supported our Harvest Festival and CAFOD Family Fast Day. The sale of fresh produce at St Wilfrid's raised an amazing £397, and both St W's & St G's also made generous donations to our local foodbanks, helping families in our own communities.

Our CAFOD donations have so far reached £240 from St W's and £150 from St G's. Together, this is enough to help provide a solar-powered water pump, bringing safe water to a school and the wider community in a place like Tayla's community in Zimbabwe. What a wonderful example of how our generosity can make a real difference, both locally and around the world. If you haven't yet had an opportunity to support the Family Fast Day appeal, we will be holding a CAFOD Charity Breakfast at St Georges on Sunday, 25 October. We would love you to join us for breakfast and help us continue to support CAFOD's work around the world. Thank you for your generosity and for putting your faith into action!

Coach to Worth Abbey for Mass celebrated by Bishop-Elect

Stephen Wang - Mass will be for the people of the Diocese and St G's & St W's have 6 tickets each. There will be a form at each church to fill in if you wish to attend. In the event of more than 6 people per church wishing to go, a draw will be made after each Mass at both communities on Sun 11th Oct. Pick up is at St George's for 9.30 am, approximate arrival time at Worth Abbey 10.45 am. Coach travel is free. Mass at 11.30 am with departure at approx. 2.20pm. Attendees to bring packed lunch for after Mass.

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.

WALK IN MEMORY OF ST JOHN STONE Sat 17 October | 10am

Join us for a special walk from St Wilfrid's Church, Hailsham, to Michelham Priory, in honour of St John Stone, the Augustinian Canon martyred for his faith in 1539. Arrive at the Priory approx. 12.30pm for a short prayer service. Those who wish can then explore the Priory and grounds (entrance £12). Can't walk? You're very welcome to join us at the Priory. *Under-18s must be accompanied by a parent/guardian.*

More information: Gary O'Brien — garyobrien4@yahoo.co.uk

Dates for your Diary:

Mon 12 Oct, 5.30pm - Fatima Devotions, Christ the King.
Sat 17 Oct, 10:00am – A teaching Mass by Fr Kevin at OLR
Sun 25 Oct, 10am - Charity Breakfast, St G's Hall.
Thurs 29 Oct, 2-4pm – Afternoon Tea Club, St W's Hall.
Fri 30 Oct, 11-12pm - Parish Bereavement Gp, St W's Hall.
Sat End Oct TBC, 9-10.15am - RCIA Meeting, OLR Hall.
Mon 2 Nov, 7-8.30pm - Parents FHC Meeting, St W's Hall.
Fri 6 Nov, 5.15pm – Firework Night, St Thomas A Becket School
Thurs 12 Nov, 6pm-7.30pm - FHC Meeting, St W's Hall.
Sat 14 Nov, 10am–3pm — Christmas Fair St W's Hall.
Thurs 26th Nov, 2-4pm - Afternoon Tea Club, St W's Hall.
Thurs 10 Dec, 6-7.30pm – FHC Meeting, St W's Hall.
Sat 12 Dec, 5.30pm—Reconciliation Service St W's Church.
Carol Service – St Wilfrid's
Sun 13 Dec, 3pm, Followed by mulled wine & mince pies.



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: 11 October 2026

Twenty Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time

(Collection Today for Prisoners' Sunday)

(Collection for World Missions 18/10)

Sun	11th	9am	St George	-	Mass: Yvonne McNamee Intention
		10.30am	St Wilfrid	-	Mass: Richard Callaghan RIP
Mon	12th	2.30pm	St George	-	Rosary Group - All Welcome
Tues	13th	10am	St George	-	Mass: Cameron Banks Intention
Wed	14th	10am	St Wilfrid	-	Mass:

Twenty Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time

(Collection Today for World Missions)

Sun	18th	9am	St George	-	Mass: Parish Communities' Intention
		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 would love to meet you and help in any way!