

Hymn 34*Angels from the realms of glory***COLLECT**

Almighty God, who wonderfully created us in your own image and yet more wonderfully restored us through your Son Jesus Christ: grant that, as he came to share in our humanity, so we may share the life of his divinity; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

FIRST READING 1 Samuel 1.20-22, 24 to end

So in the course of time Hannah conceived and gave birth to a son. She named him Samuel, saying, 'Because I asked the Lord for him.' When the man Elkanah went up with all his family to offer the annual sacrifice to the Lord and to fulfill his vow, Hannah did not go. She said to her husband, 'After the boy is weaned, I will take him and present him before the Lord and he will live there always.' After he was weaned, she took the boy with her, young as he was, along with a three year old bull, an ephah of flour and a skin of wine, and brought him to the house of the Lord at Shiloh. When they had slaughtered the bull, they brought the boy to Eli and she said to him, 'As surely as you live, my lord, I am the woman who stood here beside you praying to the Lord. I prayed for this child and the Lord has granted me what I asked of him. So now I give him to the Lord. For his whole life he will be given over to the Lord' and he worshipped the Lord there.

Psalms 96 vv1-10*Cantate Domino*

O sing unto the Lord a new song: sing unto the Lord all the whole earth. Sing unto the Lord and praise his Name: be telling of his salvation from day to day. Declare his honour unto the heathen: and his wonders unto all people. For the Lord is great, and cannot worthily be praised: he is more to be feared than all gods. As for all the gods of the heathen, they are but idols: but is the Lord that made the heavens. Glory and worship are before him: power and honour are in his sanctuary. Ascribe unto the Lord O ye kindreds of the people: ascribe unto the Lord worship and power. Ascribe unto the Lord the honour due unto his Name: bring presents and come into his courts. O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness: let the whole earth stand in awe of him. Tell it out among the heathen that the Lord is King: and that it is he who hath made the round world so fast that it cannot be moved, and how that he shall judge the people righteously.

SECOND READING 1 John 3.1-2, 21 to end

How great is the love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are! The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. Dear friends, now we are children of God and what we will be has not yet been made known. But we know that when he appears, we shall be like him for we shall see him as he is. Dear friends, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have confidence before God and receive from him anything we ask, because we obey his commands and do what pleases him. And this is his command: to believe in the name of his Son, Jesus Christ, and to love one another as he commanded us. Those who obey his commands live in him and he in them. And this is how we know that he lives in us: we know it by the Spirit he gave us.

Alleluia, alleluia!

Open our heart, O Lord to accept the words of your Son
Alleluia!

GOSPEL Luke 2:41-52

Now every year his parents went to Jerusalem for the festival of the Passover. And when he was twelve years old, they went up as usual for the festival. When the festival was ended and they started to return, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem, but his parents did not know it. Assuming that he was in the group of travellers, they went a day's journey. Then they started to look for him among their relatives and friends. When they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem to search for him. After three days they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. And all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers. When his parents saw him they were astonished; and his mother said to him, "Child, why have you treated us like this? Look, your father and I have been searching for you in great anxiety." He said to them, "Why were you searching for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?" But they did not understand what he said to them. Then he went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them. His mother treasured all these things in her heart. And Jesus increased in wisdom and in years, and in divine and human favour.

Hymn 526 Unto us a boy is born!**PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS**

Lord, accept this sacrifice and through the prayers of Mary, the virgin Mother of God, and of her husband, Joseph, unite our families in peace and love.

COMMUNION SENTENCE

Our God has appeared on earth, and lived among men.

Hymn 251 Anthem

*Infant holy, infant lowly
Away in a manger*

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Heavenly Father, whose blessed Son shared at Nazareth the life of an earthly home: help your Church to live as one family, united in love and obedience, and bring us all at last to our home in heaven; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Hymn 253

It came upon a midnight clear



The Parish Church of St. Wilfrid



Ellasdale Road, Bognor Regis, West Sussex PO21 2SG
 Email : office@wilfrid.com Tel: 01243 841275
 Website: www.wilfrid.com

Please pray for our two Church Aided Schools:

Nyewood Junior School, (in special measures), for the acting head teacher, Sandra Jones and Nyewood Infants School; for the head teacher, Jacqui Cobb and for all the teaching staff, governors, parents and pupils. Father Andrew takes assemblies at 9.10 on Wednesdays at the Infants School and at 9.00 on Thursdays at the Junior School

Please pray for those who are sick or in need, including:-

Christine Harris, Oliver Baxter-Smith, Joyce Brett, Christine MacKay, Christine Thomas, Joan Soothill, Ron Thomas, James Inwood, Edna Moody, the Bonthrone family

Please pray for the recently departed:-

Karin Bonthrone, James Lewellyn

Father Andrew is available for those who wish to make their confessions. Please arrange this with him and note his day off is Monday. He is also available from 4.30 pm to 5.00 pm in the Lady Chapel on Saturdays.

TODDLER CORNER This area in church is for pre-school children. There are activity sheets on the table by the south porch for older children to use in their places during the service. Please collect them before the service begins.

6 JANUARY The Feast of the Epiphany Eucharist at 19.00

13 JANUARY - 3.15 pm meeting of the Fellowship and Support Group hosted by Jean Rose, 98 Nyetimber Lane.

17 JANUARY - 10.30 Family Eucharist on the theme of Christian Unity
 3-4 pm A Christian Unity Family Celebration with Ishmael at the Methodist Church, Waterloo Square

Please email any material for Bulletin 40 to bulletin@wilfrid.com by 18 January. Alternatively please leave material in the office, marked with your name, date submitted and telephone number for Helen Woods' attention.

20 JANUARY - PCC meeting at 7.15 pm in the committee room

30 JANUARY - Auction of Promises, 7.00 pm in the hall. Please see the information on the narthex table for details.

IN THE EVENT OF AN EMERGENCY, THE EXITS ARE THE NARTHEX, EAST DOOR, CHOIR VESTRY AND SOUTH PORCH. FIRST AID BOXES ARE OUTSIDE THE CHOIR VESTRY AND IN THE HALL

27th December 2009 First Sunday of Christmas Holy Family Sunday

Welcome to the parish church of St Wilfrid.
 We welcome all our visitors today and invite you to join us for refreshments in the Hall after the service.

SERVICES TODAY

Holy Communion 08.00
 Parish Eucharist 10.30

SERVICES THIS WEEK

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| Monday 28 Dec | Eucharist | 10.00 |
| Holy Innocents | | |
| Tuesday 29 Dec | Eucharist | 10.00 |
| St John the Evangelist | | |
| Wednesday 30 Dec | Evening Prayer Eucharist | 18.00 18.30 |
| Thursday 31 Dec | Eucharist Unity | 10.00 |
| John Wyclif, 1384 | | |
| Friday 1 Jan | Eucharist The Cross | 10.00 |
| The Naming of Jesus | | |
| Saturday 2 Jan | Eucharist Mary | 11.30 |
| St Basil the Great 379 | Evening Prayer | 17.00 |

SERVICES NEXT SUNDAY- 3 January 2010

The Second Sunday of Christmas

Holy Communion 08.00
 Parish Eucharist 10.30