

St. Wilfrid's Parish Church Bognor



CENTENARY CELEBRATIONS

On 23rd April 2010 it will be 100 years since the Dedication of St. Wilfrid's Church and details are enclosed of the planned centenary events.

Centenary Prayer

Heavenly Father, pour down your spirit on St Wilfrid's Church in our Centenary Year. Grant us a new vision of your glory, a new experience of your power, a new faithfulness to your Word and a new consecration to your service, that through our renewed Witness your Holy name may be glorified and your kingdom advanced through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

This programme will regularly be updated through the year and is available for download from our church website: www.wilfrid.com/events/centenary.pdf

**The Parish Church of St. Wilfrid
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St. Wilfrid's Church

Centenary Programme

- April 23 The Bishop of Chichester, the Right Reverend John Hind to Celebrate and Preach at the Eucharist 7.00pm
- April 25 The Bishop of Hereford, the Right Reverend Anthony Priddis to Celebrate and Preach at the Eucharist 10.30am followed by Parish Lunch.
- May 5 Organ Recital by Rex Latter 1:10 - 2:00pm
- May 9 The Reverend Zachary Allen to preach at the Eucharist 10.30am
- May 13 Ascension Day Eucharist and Dedication of the Plaque in memory of Helen Dey. Fr. Robin Farrow, St. Peter's Church, West Blatchington to preach. 7.00pm
- May 23 The Reverend Canon Philip Bourne, Director of Ordinands to preach at the Eucharist 10.30am.
- May 25 Talk on the Sculptor Uli Nymptsch and the donor Miss Helen Dey of the Christ Ascendant Statue 2:00pm
- May 30 The Reverend Roger Calder to preach at the Eucharist. 10.30am
- June 3 The Venerable Douglas McKittrick Archdeacon of Chichester to Celebrate and Preach at The Eucharist for Corpus Christi 7.00pm.
- June 5 Centenary Summer Garden Party in the Vicarage garden.
- June 6 The Reverend Darren Smith, General Secretary of the Additional Curates Society , to preach at the Eucharist. 10.30am
- June 13 The Bishop of Horsham, the Right Reverend Mark Sowerby to Celebrate and Preach at the Eucharist 10.30am followed by Parish lunch
- June 20 Beach Barbecue 12.30 for 1.00pm



- July 10 Centenary Buffet and Pimms Evening in the Church Gardens 7.00pm.
- July 11 The Right Reverend Kieran Conry Bishop of Arundel and Brighton to preach at Evensong 6.00pm.
- July 18 The Reverend Canon John Everest to preach at the Eucharist 10.30am
- July 25 The Reverend Canon Tim Schofield, Precentor of Chichester Cathedral to preach at the Eucharist 10.30am
- September 21 Lord Carey former Archbishop of Canterbury to talk on the Life of an Archbishop 2.30pm
- September 24 -26 Flower Festival "All Things Bright and Beautiful"
- September 26 Harvest Festival Eucharist 10.30am
Harvest Songs of Praise 6.00pm
- October 3 Centenary Pets Service 3.00pm.
- October 12 Patronal Festival with The Very Reverend Nicholas Frayling Dean of Chichester Cathedral to Celebrate and Preach at The Eucharist 7.00pm
- October 13 Guild of the Servers of the Sanctuary Eucharist 7.00pm
- November 13 Autumn Fair
- November 20 Six Villages Choir Concert 7.00pm

St. Wilfrid's Church

was dedicated on 23rd April 1910 and built as a daughter church to St. John's church, London Road to meet the growing needs in the west of the town. The planned 900 seat church formed part of the ambitious plans for the Victoria Park Estate with the imposing Victoria Drive running from the railway station (built 1864) down to the sea and the



construction of many fine buildings along the way. Few of the proposed buildings were actually built and just the first phase of St. Wilfrid's church. The original plans by the architect George Fellowes Prynne were for a much larger church (only two of the five bays were ever completed) and would have included an imposing bell tower and baptistery (see below).



St. Wilfrid's became the Parish Church on 25th of May 1971, when St. John's Church was closed and subsequently demolished in 1972.

St. Wilfrid's church has the rare privilege of being built on land that the saint it is dedicated to once owned. When Wilfrid was banished from Northumbria in 681 he formed a monastery at Seal Island (Selsey) on land given to him by king Aethelwealh of the South Saxons, and this became the first Cathedral seat (which was not moved to Chichester until 1076), and Wilfrid its first bishop. When Wilfrid was reinstated to his see in York in 687, he handed the Pagham estate to Theodore, Archbishop of Canterbury as a gift of gratitude for his help in reconciling him to the king of Northumbria, and to this day this makes the parish a peculiar where the patron is the Archbishop of Canterbury.