

Readings: Sunday 23rd February

2 Peter 1.16-end

Eyewitnesses of Christ's Glory

¹⁶ For we did not follow cleverly devised myths when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we had been eyewitnesses of his majesty. ¹⁷For he received honour and glory from God the Father when that voice was conveyed to him by the Majestic Glory, saying, 'This is my Son, my Beloved, with whom I am well pleased.' ¹⁸We ourselves heard this voice come from heaven, while we were with him on the holy mountain. ¹⁹ So we have the prophetic message more fully confirmed. You will do well to be attentive to this as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts. ²⁰First of all you must understand this, that no prophecy of scripture is a matter of one's own interpretation, ²¹because no prophecy ever came by human will, but men and women moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God.

Matthew 17.1-9

The Transfiguration

¹⁷Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain, by themselves. ²And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became dazzling white. ³Suddenly there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him. ⁴Then Peter said to Jesus, 'Lord, it is good for us to be here; if you wish, I will make three dwellings here, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.' ⁵While he was still speaking, suddenly a bright cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud a voice said, 'This is my Son, the Beloved; with him I am well pleased; listen to him!' ⁶When the disciples heard this, they fell to the ground and were overcome by fear. ⁷But Jesus came and touched them, saying, 'Get up and do not be afraid.' ⁸And when they looked up, they saw no one except Jesus himself alone.

⁹ As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus ordered them, 'Tell no one about the vision until after the Son of Man has been raised from the dead.'

Coronavirus / Communion: Until the risk of infection has passed, the priests will use hand-gel before conducting the Eucharist at any of our churches. If you would prefer to dip your wafer in the wine rather than drinking from the chalice, then please do so; but please ensure that your fingers do not contact the wine as this too can cause the transfer of germs. I know that force-of-habit will mean it is all too easy to forget *in the moment of receiving*, but if we can remember it will reduce the risk of any potential transfer of infection. Thank you. Revd David

Home Groups: The Benenden Home Group meets on Tuesdays at 8pm, usually at Julia and David Collard's, 7 Fuggles Court. The Sandhurst Home Group meets on Wednesdays in term time (no meeting this week, Ash Wednesday) at the Mission Church on Back Road, TN18 5JU. The Wednesday group will be following our Lent Course, starting Wednesday 4th March at 7:30pm. All are welcome.

Ash Wednesday, 26th February: There is an Ashing Service on Ash Wednesday led by Revd Rosemary Kobus van Wengen at St George's, starting at 7.30pm. This marks the beginning of Lent.

Sound System: Is there anyone interested in becoming familiar with the basics of the church sound system? (ie to be able to make simple adjustments, if needed, during a service, to learn what/when to adjust for different users and different mic. How to store the mics to reduce damage to them.) This may be of interest to some people who are sidesmen, to those who lead worship, or even if you sit in the congregation and are not scared off by technology! If you are interested, I am happy to run a short session on Saturday 14th March, 10am, in St. George's. (If you can drop me an email if you intend to be there, that would be helpful.) Revd David

A RUSSIAN CHOIR IN BENENDEN: The Friends of St Georges presents LYRA on Friday 8th May at 7.30 pm. in church. This is a professional choir from St Petersburg, offering a mix of Russian Orthodox, classical and folk music.(Soprano, alto, tenor, base.) Tickets £12. They will be on tour around the UK. Info from email: cfgparkinson@gmail.com



Lent 2020

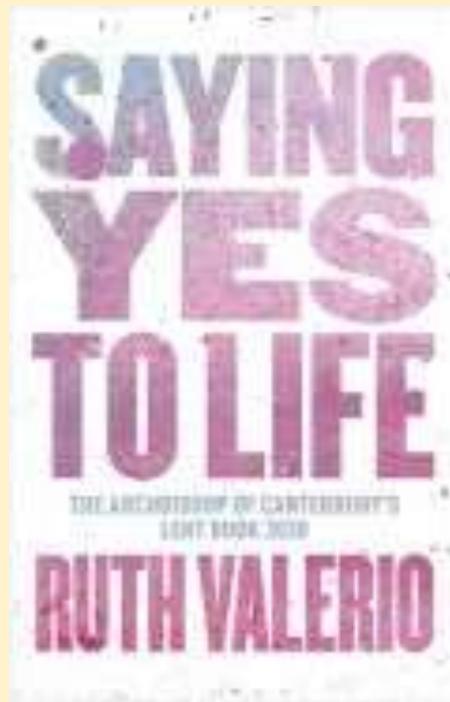
Archbishop Justin:

“As people of faith, we cannot just say what we believe. We are obliged to live out the life that Christ calls us to live, to care for our neighbours, for the creatures and the creation that God has so generously given us.

Ash Wednesday - 26th February, 7:30pm. Service at St. George’s Church, led by Revd Rosemary Kobus van Wengen.

Lent Course: At the Mission Church, Sandhurst, begins Wednesday 4th March, 7:30pm

Using the “#LiveLent” and “Saying Yes to Life” resources. See separate leaflet for full details.



Bishop Rose Hudson-Wilkin, our new Bishop of Dover, will be preaching and presiding at the 10am Sung Eucharist service at St George's Church on Sunday 15th March.

The service will be a benefice service;
everyone is very welcome to attend and meet our new Bishop over refreshments after the service. Revd David.





An exciting opportunity for you to share the real meaning of Easter!

Rewind is a 2-hour presentation/workshop for children aged 9-10 from local schools. This year sessions will be held on the morning and afternoon of Thursday, 19th March at Hawkhurst Baptist Church hall.

This event has been organised jointly by local schools and churches, but we need willing volunteers for the day to work in small groups with children making craft and answering a booklet about **the Easter story.**

We are running a training session on Wednesday, 26th February at 7.30 p.m. at Hawkhurst Baptist

If you are able to help, or would like more information, please email either:

Revd David Brown rev.david.brown@btinternet.com

Gill Knox gill.knox@virgin.net

Inspiring everyday Faith

Saturday 7 March, 9.00am-12.30pm - John Wallis Academy, Ashford

Booking is essential <https://www.canterburydiocese.org/events/open-synodv2/>

Be encouraged and equipped to be more confident in our churches and communities to bear witness to Jesus Christ. This morning will enable us to get a feel for the national initiative, give some first-hand experiences of how everyday faith can be encouraged and resources that gift us with ways to stimulate new conversations in our worshipping communities and in our everyday encounters.

(This is an open session of Diocesan Synod; all welcome, but you do need to book a place.)

Contacts

Church Office	Cathy Baker, Benefice Administrator The Mission Church, Back Road, Sandhurst, Kent TN18 5JU Tel: 01580 850 849 E-mail: benendenchurch@gmail.com		
Hospital/Doctors Lift Coordinator	Lesley Attwood Tel: 01580 243318	Jackie Liffen E-mail: Memhall@daisystar.co.uk	
Parish Safeguarding Officer	Ian Malaugh Tel: 01580 240 999 E-mail: ianmal@sky.com		
Churchwardens	Mr David Collard Tel: 01580 241 944 E-mail: julia.collard@btinternet.com Mr Tracy Claridge Tel: 01580 240 454 E-mail: maisonsicheluk@tclaridge.co.uk (Please note revised email address)		
Priests	Revd David Commander, Rector The Rectory, The Green, Benenden, Kent TN17 4DL Tel: 01580 240 658 E-mail: revdavidcommander@gmail.com (N.B. The Rector's day off is Thursday) Revd Dr Rosemary Kobus van Wengen Tel: 01580 764 857 Email: rosemaryvanwengen@gmail.com		
	StGeorgesBenenden StNicholasSandhurst	Websites	www.benendenchurch.org https://stnicholassandhurst.org