

The Benefice of St George's, Benenden & St Nicholas, Sandhurst Our Worship: Sunday 12th April Easter Day

Collect: Lord of all life and power, who through the mighty resurrection of your Son overcame the old order of sin and death to make all things new in him: grant that we, being dead to sin and alive to you in Jesus Christ, may reign with him in glory; to whom with you and the Holy Spirit be praise and honour, glory and might, now and in all eternity.

10am 'CHRIST IS RISEN' COMMUNION SERVICE

led by Revd David Commander at the Rectory

Service available on-line Sunday morning via the church websites

<http://www.benendenchurch.org/>

<https://stnicholassandhurst.org/>

5pm EVENING PRAYER

led by Revd David Commander at the Rectory

THE WEEK AHEAD

Services conducted Monday to Saturday by Revd David at the Rectory during church closure.

8am Morning Prayer

5pm Evening Prayer

**Please also take a look at the church websites and Facebook pages for
Daily Scripture and Reflection**

Sunday Next: Sunday 19th April – The Second Sunday of Easter

Readings: Acts 2.14a, 22-32, John 20.19-end

10am COMMUNION SERVICE

5pm EVENING PRAYER

We trust you are keeping well in these extraordinary times, and you are surviving the lock-down period. Holy Week has been very different this year; we hope you have been able to engage with the on-line services. We look forward to being able to meet again to worship our living, loving God together in person. In the meantime, Helen and I wish you a very happy Easter. God bless. Revd David

Readings: Sunday 12th April

Acts 10.34-43

Gentiles Hear the Good News

³⁴ Then Peter began to speak to them: 'I truly understand that God shows no partiality, ³⁵but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. ³⁶You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. ³⁷That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: ³⁸how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. ³⁹We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; ⁴⁰but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, ⁴¹not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. ⁴²He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. ⁴³All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.'

Matthew 28.1-10

The Resurrection of Jesus

²⁸After the sabbath, as the first day of the week was dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. ²And suddenly there was a great earthquake; for an angel of the Lord, descending from heaven, came and rolled back the stone and sat on it. ³His appearance was like lightning, and his clothing white as snow. ⁴For fear of him the guards shook and became like dead men. ⁵But the angel said to the women, 'Do not be afraid; I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. ⁶He is not here; for he has been raised, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. ⁷Then go quickly and tell his disciples, "He has been raised from the dead, and indeed he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him." This is my message for you.' ⁸So they left the tomb quickly with fear and great joy, and ran to tell his disciples. ⁹Suddenly Jesus met them and said, 'Greetings!' And they came to him, took hold of his feet, and worshipped him. ¹⁰Then Jesus said to them, 'Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee; there they will see me.'

Benenden Sad News - Gordon Reynolds: Can you please hold all the family of Gordon in your prayers. Gordon very sadly passed away on the morning of Maundy Thursday, the 9th April. Crissie and Lucy were with him. The end came very peacefully and calmly. Gordon now rests without any more pain, where he should be - safe in the loving arms of our heavenly Father. Once all the restrictions are lifted, we will gather as their church family and give thanks for Gordon's life and his service to our community. Revd David.

PLEASE KEEP AN EYE ON THE CHURCH WEBSITES AND / OR FACEBOOK PAGES FOR THE LATEST INFORMATION REGARDING SERVICES HELD ON LINE AT THE RECTORY. PLEASE JOIN REVD DAVID FOR THESE SERVICES 'IN SPIRIT'.

Church Websites: <http://www.benendenchurch.org/>
<https://stnicholassandhurst.org/>

Church Facebook Pages: @StGeorgesBenenden
 @StNicholasSandhurst

A Church Near You: <https://www.achurchnearyou.com/>

Our church buildings may be closed – but our church is alive and active.

Prayer:

Although the buildings are closed, **it is important that you know that prayer is still happening every day.** I will be saying Morning Prayer at 8am and Evening Prayer at 5pm, Monday to Saturday, at the Rectory. Please join me *"in spirit"* to pray for our community, our nation, and the world. I will be using this resource: "Worship at Home"; follow this link: https://www.churchofengland.org/sites/default/files/2020-03/midweek_worship_at_home_0.pdf for a copy of the Daily Prayer. **If there is something particular you would like prayer for, please send me an email or give me a call.**

On Sunday I will be taking Communion on our behalf – at the Rectory. I encourage you to join me "in spirit". My hope is that we will all be able to gather in our own homes, at 10 o'clock and share, remotely, the Eucharist.

Care:

***"Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength . . . Love your neighbour as yourself. There is no commandment greater than these."* (Mark 12:30-31)**

Now really is the time to care for your neighbour. Please, pick up the phone, speak to them. We are a strong community, a caring community. Together we will get through this.

Finally, I encourage you to use these prayers when you get up and when you go to bed:

A prayer in the morning:

Lord Jesus Christ, you said to your disciples, 'I am with you always'.

Be with me today, as I offer myself to you.

Hear my prayers for others and for myself, and keep me in your care. **Amen.**

A prayer in the evening:

God our Father, by whose mercy the world turns safely into darkness and returns again to light: we place in your hands our unfinished tasks, our unsolved problems, and our unfulfilled hopes, knowing that only what you bless will prosper.

To your love and protection we commit each other and all those we love, knowing that you alone are our sure defender, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Revd David