

The Parish of St George's, Benenden

Our Mission: "To know and love Jesus and make his love known to all"

Our Worship: Sunday 17th May

The Sixth Sunday of Easter

Collect: God our redeemer, you have delivered us from the power of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of your Son: grant, that as by his death he has recalled us to life, so by his continual presence in us he may raise us to eternal joy; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

10am ON-LINE COMMUNION SERVICE

led by Revd David Commander at the Rectory

Service available On-line on Sunday morning via the church website:

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

Immediately after our 10 o'clock service this Sunday we have "virtual coffee time" via Zoom. Time to share some fellowship together, with a cup of something, as we usually do at the back of church. To join the meeting click the link on the Church website or Facebook pages. Or type in:

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/78744883141?pwd=MDZvaEQxVDI3RjczWmdraG1sOFc0Zz09>

Meeting ID: 787 4488 3141

Password: 9wf4wG

6pm EVENING PRAYER

led by Revd David Commander at the Rectory

THE WEEK AHEAD

8am Morning Prayer – every day

6pm Evening Prayer – every day

7.30pm Thursday 21st May – ASCENSION – ON-LINE SERVICE

Service link will available via the church website and Facebook page

Prayer services are conducted Monday to Saturday by Revd David at the Rectory. Thursday Prayer is also conducted by Revd Rosemary at her home on behalf of the Benefice.

Daily Scripture and Reflection is posted on the St Nicholas & St George's church websites and Facebook pages every day of the week. Please take a look.

Sunday Next: Sunday 24th May – The Seventh Sunday of Easter

Readings: Acts 1.6-14, John 17.1-11

10am COMMUNION SERVICE

led by Revd David Commander at the Rectory

Service available on-line Sunday morning via the church website, as above

6pm EVENING PRAYER

We trust you are keeping well in these extraordinary times, and you are surviving the lock-down period. We look forward to being able to meet again to worship our living, loving God together in person. God bless. Revd David

Readings: Sunday 17th May

Acts 17.22-31

^{17.22} Then Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, ‘Athenians, I see how extremely religious you are in every way. ²³For as I went through the city and looked carefully at the objects of your worship, I found among them an altar with the inscription, “To an unknown god.” What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. ²⁴The God who made the world and everything in it, he who is Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands, ²⁵nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mortals life and breath and all things. ²⁶From one ancestor he made all nations to inhabit the whole earth, and he allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of the places where they would live, ²⁷so that they would search for God and perhaps grope for him and find him—though indeed he is not far from each one of us. ²⁸For “In him we live and move and have our being”; as even some of your own poets have said, “For we too are his offspring.” ²⁹Since we are God’s offspring, we ought not to think that the deity is like gold, or silver, or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of mortals. ³⁰While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now he commands all people everywhere to repent, ³¹because he has fixed a day on which he will have the world judged in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed, and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead.’

John 14.15-21

The Promise of the Holy Spirit

^{14.15} ‘If you love me, you will keep my commandments. ¹⁶And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you for ever. ¹⁷This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, because he abides with you, and he will be in you. ¹⁸ ‘I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. ¹⁹In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. ²⁰On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. ²¹They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me; and those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them.’

Ascension Day, Thursday 21st May. There will be an on-line service to celebrate the Ascension. This will be available from 7:30pm on Thursday. Revd Rosemary will be preaching. I do hope you will be able to join in with this worship. DJC

Sad News & Prayers: You may have heard of the passing of Margaret Sampson (she used to live in Standen Street) on the 6th May. Margaret’s funeral will take place as a committal service in the churchyard at 11am on Tuesday 26th May. Please hold the family in your prayers.

Sunday Cash Collections (*From our Treasurer*)

Since the lockdown there have been no cash plate/bag collections and, as expected, our collection income has dropped. (By approx. £2200 over 11 weeks.) If you are usually a cash contributor or a one-off white envelope donor and would like to continue your donations then please consider making a BACs transfer. The St George's Church PCC bank account details are as follows:

Benenden PCC Planned Giving
Sort Code 60 06 18
A/c No 59034742

White Envelope (Gift Aid) donors can download a form (attached) and send it to Clive Turner clive_turner@btinternet.com

Your continued support of our church and the work we do is greatly appreciated. Thank you.



Christian Aid Week 10-16 May

IT IS NOT TOO LATE TO MAKE A DONATION!

Due to the restrictions it has not been possible to do house-to-house collections as we normally would.

However, their work will be even more vital this year.

To make a donation, please use our JustGiving site for Christian Aid:

<http://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/benenden-idengreencaw>

News and Notices from Revd David:

Email notifications re church services and updates: At present I update 110 people re our online church services via email. If you, or someone you know in the church family would like to be on this email list please do let me know.

"Daily Hope": The Church of England have launched a resource called "Daily Hope"; this is for folk who cannot access the internet. Full details are on our St George's and St Nicholas websites.....but it relies on us passing the information on verbally to those who do not use email or the internet! So please check out our website, find the information about Daily Hope, and pass it on as where you know there is a need.

Revd David. E-mail: revdavidcommander@gmail.com

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

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