

The Benefice of St George's, Benenden

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

& St Nicholas, Sandhurst

Our Worship: Sunday 5th July

The Fourth Sunday after Trinity

Collect: O God, the protector of all who trust in you, without whom nothing is strong, nothing is holy: increase and multiply upon us your mercy; that with you as our ruler and guide we may so pass through things temporal that we lose not our hold on things eternal; grant this, heavenly Father, for our Lord Jesus Christ's sake, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

8am BCP HOLY COMMUNION AT ST NICHOLAS, SANDHURST

led by Revd David Commander,
Revd Rosemary Kobus van Wengen preaching

10am C/W HOLY COMMUNION AT ST GEORGE'S, BENENDEN

led by Revd David Commander,
Revd Rosemary Kobus van Wengen preaching

THE WEEK AHEAD

**8am Morning Prayer – at St George's on Monday, Wednesday & Friday.
At the Mission Church on Tuesday**

(please see notice below re the safe opening of our churches).

6pm Evening Prayer – every day

Evening prayer is conducted by Revd David at the Rectory.
Thursday's Morning Prayer is conducted by Revd Rosemary at her home.

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.

PLEASE KEEP AN EYE ON THE CHURCH WEBSITES AND / OR FACEBOOK PAGES FOR THE LATEST INFORMATION REGARDING OUR CHURCH SERVICES

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

Church Facebook Pages: @StGeorgesBenenden
@StNicholasSandhurst

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

Sunday Next: Sunday 12th July – The Fifth Sunday after Trinity

8am C/W HOLY COMMUNION AT ST GEORGE'S, BENENDEN
led by Revd David Commander

10am BCP HOLY COMMUNION AT ST NICHOLAS, SANDHURST
led by Revd David Commander

Readings: Sunday 5th July – The Fourth Sunday after Trinity

Romans 7.15-25a

¹⁵I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate. ¹⁶Now if I do what I do not want, I agree that the law is good. ¹⁷But in fact it is no longer I that do it, but sin that dwells within me. ¹⁸For I know that nothing good dwells within me, that is, in my flesh. I can will what is right, but I cannot do it. ¹⁹For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I do. ²⁰Now if I do what I do not want, it is no longer I that do it, but sin that dwells within me.

²¹ So I find it to be a law that when I want to do what is good, evil lies close at hand. ²²For I delight in the law of God in my inmost self, ²³but I see in my members another law at war with the law of my mind, making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members.

²⁴Wretched man that I am! Who will rescue me from this body of death? ²⁵Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord!

So then, with my mind I am a slave to the law of God, but with my flesh I am a slave to the law of sin.

Matthew 11.16-19

¹⁶ 'But to what will I compare this generation? It is like children sitting in the market-places and calling to one another,

¹⁷ "We played the flute for you, and you did not dance; we wailed, and you did not mourn."

¹⁸For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, "He has a demon"; ¹⁹the Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, "Look, a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax-collectors and sinners!" Yet wisdom is vindicated by her deeds.'

Matthew 11.25-end

Jesus Thanks His Father

²⁵ At that time Jesus said, 'I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and the intelligent and have revealed them to infants;

²⁶yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. ²⁷All things have been handed over to me by my Father; and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.

²⁸ 'Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. ²⁹Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. ³⁰For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.'

St. George's and St Nicholas Church are open for public worship from tomorrow, Sunday 5th July. "Praise the Lord!"

But it will not be "back to normal"; there are many restrictions:

- Everyone must hand sanitise on entry and exit
- Everyone must 2m social distance at all times. "Households" can sit together.
- Use alternate pews (Marked with "green tick" and "red cross")
- A register of names of people attending is being kept for 21 days
- If someone is in the "70+" or another "vulnerable, at risk" group, they are advised not to come to church. But it is your choice; you will be very welcome if you do come. (But as part of the Government guidelines we have to advise of the increased risk in an indoor public gathering.)
- Organ music, but no hymns, at the 10 o'clock service
- Communion distribution (wafer only) standing at the chancel step; plus one-way system to return. The priest will wear a face visor during distribution. (Only the priest to receive the wine.)
- Service Booklet to basket when leave. These will be quarantined for at least 48hrs.
- No refreshments or fellowship time after the service, in church nor in the churchyard.
- Exit: St. George's - north and west doors; St. Nicholas - west door.
- Numbers will also be limited. (We estimate that St. George's can seat 60 people in "households" and St. Nicholas 40 at the 2m social distance.)
- Next Sunday, 12th: 8am at St. George's, 10am at St. Nicholas
- A video recording will be made of the live 10 o'clock service; this will be available on YouTube later in the day.

Hopefully we will have some bells rung for 15 minutes before the 10 o'clock service.

I will be leading and presiding and Revd Rosemary will be preaching at both services.

The Risk Assessment will be available on the website, should you wish to read the detail. This will be reviewed, and if necessary amended, after our first services.

I look forward to worshipping God with you.

Revd David

Sad News and Prayers

David Presgrave:

We are sad to report the death of David Presgrave of Eaton Farm, who died in Pembury Hospital on 21st June, aged 90. Although in recent years David had had poor health, he had previously been, for many years, a very active member of the community and will be remembered by many people for his energetic commitment to various aspects of village life. David's funeral will be at Tunbridge Wells Crematorium on Thursday 9th July. Please hold David's family in your prayers.

Ruth Tolhurst:

It is also with great sadness that we heard of the death of Ruth Tolhurst on 24th June. Ruth had been ill for only a couple of weeks, lovingly cared for by members of her family, and died at home in Grange Cottage, in the very same house where she was born 94 years ago. Ruth's funeral service will take place at Tunbridge Wells Crematorium on Friday 10th June. Our prayers and sympathy are with Ruth's large and close-knit family.

Revd Rosemary Kobus van Wengen