

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 12th July

The Fifth Sunday after Trinity

Collect: Almighty and everlasting God, by whose Spirit the whole body of the Church is governed and sanctified: hear our prayer which we offer for all your faithful people, that in their vocation and ministry they may serve you in holiness and truth to the glory of your name; through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

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

6pm EVENING PAYER at the Rectory

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 19th July – The Sixth Sunday after Trinity

Readings: Romans 8.12-25, Matthew 13.24-30 & 36-43

8am BCP HOLY COMMUNION AT ST NICHOLAS, SANDHURST
led by Revd David Commander

10am C/W HOLY COMMUNION AT ST GEORGE'S, BENENDEN
led by Revd David Commander

Readings: Sunday 12th July - The Fifth Sunday after Trinity

Romans 8.1-11

Life in the Spirit

⁸There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. ²For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death. ³For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do: by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and to deal with sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, ⁴so that the just requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. ⁵For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. ⁶To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. ⁷For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law—indeed it cannot, ⁸and those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

⁹But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. ¹⁰But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. ¹¹If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

Matthew 13.1-9

The Parable of the Sower

¹³That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the lake. ²Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach. ³And he told them many things in parables, saying: 'Listen! A sower went out to sow. ⁴And as he sowed, some seeds fell on the path, and the birds came and ate them up. ⁵Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of soil. ⁶But when the sun rose, they were scorched; and since they had no root, they withered away. ⁷Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. ⁸Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. ⁹Let anyone with ears listen!'

Matthew 13.18-23

The Parable of the Sower Explained

¹⁸ 'Hear then the parable of the sower. ¹⁹When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what is sown in the heart; this is what was sown on the path. ²⁰As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy; ²¹yet such a person has no root, but endures only for a while, and when trouble or persecution arises on account of the word, that person immediately falls away. ²²As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the lure of wealth choke the word, and it yields nothing. ²³But as for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty.'

**St. George's and St Nicholas Church are open for public worship
"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, 19th: 8am at St. Nicholas, 10am at St. George's
- 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.

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