

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 19th July

The Sixth Sunday after Trinity

Collect: Merciful God, you have prepared for those who love you such good things as pass our understanding: pour into our hearts such love toward you that we, loving you in all things and above all things, may obtain your promises, which exceed all that we can desire; 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.

Sunday 19th July Benefice Services:

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| 8am | BCP HOLY COMMUNION AT ST NICHOLAS, SANDHURST
led by Revd Rosemary Kobus van Wengen |
| 10am | C/W HOLY COMMUNION AT ST GEORGE'S, BENENDEN
led by Revd David Commander |
| 6pm | EVENING PAYER at the Rectory
(private prayer on behalf of the Benefice) |

THE WEEK AHEAD

- 8am Morning Prayer – at St George's on Monday, Wednesday & Friday
Morning Payer – at the Mission Church, Sandhurst on Tuesday
(please see notice below re the safe opening of our churches).
- 6pm Evening Prayer – every day – at the Rectory

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| Wednesday 22 nd July | 2pm | Wedding of Stephen John Robins
& Beverley Margaret Best at St George's |
| Saturday 25 th July | 2pm | Wedding of Edward Charles John Hancock
& Rebecca Ghatauray at St George's |

**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 26th July – The Seventh Sunday after Trinity

Readings: Romans 8.26-end, Matthew 13.31-33 & 44-52

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 & Lyn Hayes

Readings: Sunday 19th July – The Sixth Sunday after Trinity

Romans 8.12-25

¹² So then, brothers and sisters, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh—
¹³for if you live according to the flesh, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. ¹⁴For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. ¹⁵For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, 'Abba! Father!' ¹⁶it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, ¹⁷and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ—if, in fact, we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him.

Future Glory

¹⁸ I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. ¹⁹For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God; ²⁰for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope ²¹that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to decay and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. ²²We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labour pains until now; ²³and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. ²⁴For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen? ²⁵But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

Matthew 13.24-30

The Parable of Weeds among the Wheat

²⁴ He put before them another parable: 'The kingdom of heaven may be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field; ²⁵but while everybody was asleep, an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and then went away. ²⁶So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared as well. ²⁷And the slaves of the householder came and said to him, "Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where, then, did these weeds come from?" ²⁸He answered, "An enemy has done this." The slaves said to him, "Then do you want us to go and gather them?" ²⁹But he replied, "No; for in gathering the weeds you would uproot the wheat along with them. ³⁰Let both of them grow together until the harvest; and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Collect the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn." '

Matthew 13. 36-43

Jesus Explains the Parable of the Weeds

³⁶ Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples approached him, saying, 'Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field.' ³⁷He answered, 'The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man; ³⁸the field is the world, and the good seed are the children of the kingdom; the weeds are the children of the evil one, ³⁹and the enemy who sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels. ⁴⁰Just as the weeds are collected and burned up with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. ⁴¹The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all evildoers, ⁴²and they will throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. ⁴³Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Let anyone with ears listen!

News from Revd David:

Here is the link to last Sunday morning's 10 o'clock benefice Communion service at St Nicholas, Sandhurst. <https://youtu.be/ljtylhX138>

Thank you to those who were able to be there. Prayers continue for those who are still not able to gather in public places for us to be able to worship together.

Last Sunday we had the unexpected pleasure - and privilege - of the Archbishop, Justin Welby, with us to preach and preside. I am really sorry if you weren't able to be there. We couldn't widely advertise that the Archbishop was coming: firstly because we didn't have much notice, and secondly because of the reduced capacity due to the current restrictions.

Technology: One of the cameras we used to record the service switched off, for some reason, half way through - towards the end of the Archbishop's sermon. That resulted in a little bit of creative editing, and also meant that we only hear the intercessions rather than seeing Vicki leading them.

I do hope you enjoy/ed the service and find it meaningful and thought provoking.

Keep well. Keep safe. Keep praying.
Revd David

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