

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 16th August

The Tenth Sunday after Trinity

Collect: Let your merciful ears, O Lord, be open to the prayers of your humble servants; and that they may obtain their petitions make them to ask such things as shall please you; 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 16th August - Benefice Services:

Readings: Romans 11:1-2a & 29-32, Matthew 15:21-28

8am HOLY COMMUNION AT ST NICHOLAS, SANDHURST
led by Revd David Commander & Vicki Young

10am HOLY COMMUNION AT ST GEORGE'S, BENENDEN
led by Revd David Commander & Vicki Young

THE WEEK AHEAD

8am Morning Prayer – at St George's on Monday, Wednesday & Friday. At the Mission Church, Sandhurst on Tuesday.
(please see notices below re the safe opening of our churches).

6pm Evening Prayer – every day except Thursday

Sunday Next: Sunday 23rd August – The Eleventh Sunday after Trinity

Readings: Romans 12:1-8, Matthew 16:13-20

8am HOLY COMMUNION AT GEORGE'S, BENENDEN
led by Revd Iori Price

10am HOLY COMMUNION AT ST NICHOLAS, SANDHURST
led by Revd Iori Price

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/>

Facebook Pages: @StGeorgesBenenden @StNicholasSandhurst

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

Readings: Sunday 16th August – 10th Sunday after Trinity

Romans 11:1-2a

Israel's Rejection Is Not Final

¹¹I ask, then, has God rejected his people? By no means! I myself am an Israelite, a descendant of Abraham, a member of the tribe of Benjamin. ^{2a}God has not rejected his people whom he foreknew.

Romans 11:29-32

²⁹for the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable. ³⁰Just as you were once disobedient to God but have now received mercy because of their disobedience, ³¹so they have now been disobedient in order that, by the mercy shown to you, they too may now receive mercy. ³²For God has imprisoned all in disobedience so that he may be merciful to all.

Matthew 15:21-28

The Canaanite Woman's Faith

²¹Jesus left that place and went away to the district of Tyre and Sidon. ²²Just then a Canaanite woman from that region came out and started shouting, 'Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David; my daughter is tormented by a demon.' ²³But he did not answer her at all. And his disciples came and urged him, saying, 'Send her away, for she keeps shouting after us.' ²⁴He answered, 'I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.' ²⁵But she came and knelt before him, saying, 'Lord, help me.' ²⁶He answered, 'It is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs.' ²⁷She said, 'Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters' table.' ²⁸Then Jesus answered her, 'Woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish.' And her daughter was healed instantly.

Want to meet our new Curate?

Ylva Blid-Mackenzie will be starting with us on Sunday 30th August. Ylva will be at the 8 o'clock service at St. Nicholas and the 10 o'clock service at St. George's on that Sunday.

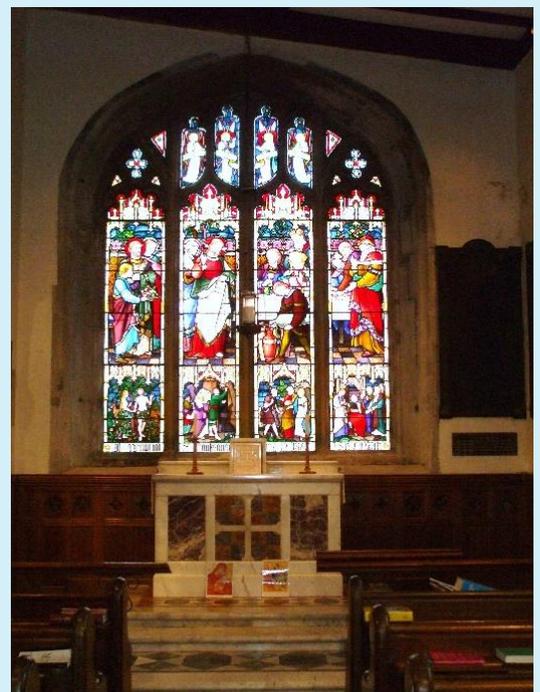
It will be strange introducing Ylva when we are all having to maintain social distancing, but I know that you will make her very welcome. - Want to know more about Ylva before then? See the August editions of the village magazines

Revd David

St. George's Church – Annual Meeting

Now the church is open again after the Coronavirus lockdown, it is time to get back to our church work. The annual church meeting in April was cancelled so it is now being held on 23rd September 2020 in St. George's Church, starting at 7:30pm. At this meeting we hold our elections and give reports on what has been happening to our church family since the last annual meeting. This year Tracy Claridge is standing down as Churchwarden after six years, the Deanery Synod representatives need electing and there are spaces on our Parochial Church Council. There will also be reports from Revd David Commander and other groups connected to the church. So please do come along. We cannot offer refreshments this year, but you will get a warm welcome.

Julia Collard, PCC Secretary



Bellringing at St George's: Regular weekly bellringing practice at St George's has resumed on a Wednesday evening. This usually takes place from 7 to 9pm but likely practice times are 7.30 to 8.30pm whilst Covid regulations are in place.

Friday bellringing will be confirmed on a weekly basis but is generally 7.45 to 9pm.

All necessary Covid19 government regulations re social distancing and the wearing of masks etc will be adhered to.



Coronavirus (COVID-19) guidance for churches

Last updated:

Wednesday 5 August at 17:38

WHO NEEDS TO WEAR A FACE COVERING DURING SERVICES?

We understand that the Government intends to issue the following guidance in the coming days, subject to final approval:

In England, face coverings are currently required by law to be worn in shops, supermarkets, indoor transport hubs, indoor shopping centres, banks, building societies, post offices and on public transport.

From 8 August, face coverings are also required by law to be worn in a greater number of public indoor settings including places of worship, museums, galleries, cinemas and public libraries.

*There are valid exemptions for some individuals and groups not to wear a face covering in these settings. In particular, **those who are leading services** or events in a place of worship, and those who assist them (for instance by **reading, preaching, or leading prayer**) do not always need to wear a face covering, although one should be worn especially if physical distancing cannot be maintained (i.e. distributing consumables). This exemption does not apply to worshippers, who should wear face coverings consistent with the requirements for any other public space.*

We will update our detailed guidance documents once the government has published the revised regulations and guidance.

(downloaded from the Church of England website: 06 09 20)

St. George's and St Nicholas Church are open for public worship "Praise the Lord!"

But we are not "back to normal"; there are many restrictions:

- Everyone must hand sanitise on entry and exit.
- Everyone is strongly advised to wear a face mask (available in church) **NB: FACEMASKS MUST be worn by the congregation in church from 8th August 2020.**
- 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 leaving. 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.)

Our 8am and 10am Sunday services continue to alternate weekly between St. George's and St Nicholas. Hopefully each week we will have some bells rung for 15 minutes prior to the 10 o'clock service at the relevant church.

The Risk Assessment is available on the website, should you wish to read the detail. This will be reviewed, and if necessary amended, as required.

I look forward to worshipping God with you.

Revd David