

# The Parish of St George's, Benenden

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

## Our Worship: Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> October

### The Seventeenth Sunday after Trinity - Harvest

**Collect:** Eternal God, you crown the year with your goodness and you give us the fruits of the earth in their season: grant that we may use them to your glory, for the relief of those in need and for our own well-being; 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. Amen.

#### Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> October - Benefice Services:

**8am HOLY COMMUNION AT ST NICHOLAS, SANDHURST**

led by Revd David Commander

*Readings: Philippians 3.4b-14, Matthew 21.33-end*

**10am HARVEST FESTIVAL**

**HOLY COMMUNION AT ST GEORGE'S, BENENDEN**

led by Revd Ylva Blid-Mackenzie & Revd David Commander

*Readings: Genesis 1.26-2.3, Matthew 13.3-9*

**Harvest retiring collection:** *The collection at today's service is going to the work of Water Aid - providing fresh, clean drinking water to millions around the world who are not as fortunate as we are. Please, even though these are difficult times, give generously to support the work of this charity.*

#### THE WEEK AHEAD

**Monday 5<sup>th</sup> 8am Morning Prayer at St George's**

**Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> 8am Morning Prayer at Sandhurst Mission Church**  
**6.30pm Bell Ringing – simulator practice at St George's**

**Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> 8am Morning Prayer at St George's**  
**7.30pm Bell Ringing – general practice at St George's**

**Friday 9<sup>th</sup> 8am Morning Prayer at St George's**  
**2pm Funeral of t/l Tessa Welsby at St George's**

#### **Sunday Next: Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> October – The Eighteenth Sunday after Trinity**

**8am HOLY COMMUNION AT ST GEORGE'S, BENENDEN**  
led by Lyn Hayes & Revd Rosemary Kobus van Wengen  
*Readings: Philippians 4.1-9, Matthew 22.1-14*

**10am HOLY COMMUNION AT ST NICHOLAS, SANDHURST**  
led by Lyn Hayes & Revd Rosemary Kobus van Wengen  
*Readings: Philippians 4.1-9, Matthew 22.1-14*

**Readings: Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> October – Harvest Service at St George's**

**Genesis 1.26-2.3**

<sup>26</sup> Then God said, 'Let us make humankind in our image, according to our likeness; and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the wild animals of the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth.'

<sup>27</sup> So God created humankind in his image,  
in the image of God he created them;  
male and female he created them.

<sup>28</sup> God blessed them, and God said to them, 'Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth and subdue it; and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the air and over every living thing that moves upon the earth.' <sup>29</sup> God said, 'See, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is upon the face of all the earth, and every tree with seed in its fruit; you shall have them for food. <sup>30</sup> And to every beast of the earth, and to every bird of the air, and to everything that creeps on the earth, everything that has the breath of life, I have given every green plant for food.' And it was so. <sup>31</sup> God saw everything that he had made, and indeed, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.

<sup>2</sup> Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all their multitude. <sup>2</sup> And on the seventh day God finished the work that he had done, and he rested on the seventh day from all the work that he had done. <sup>3</sup> So God blessed the seventh day and hallowed it, because on it God rested from all the work that he had done in creation.

**Matthew 13.3-9**

<sup>3</sup> And he told them many things in parables, saying: 'Listen! A sower went out to sow. <sup>4</sup> And as he sowed, some seeds fell on the path, and the birds came and ate them up. <sup>5</sup> Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of soil. <sup>6</sup> But when the sun rose, they were scorched; and since they had no root, they withered away. <sup>7</sup> Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. <sup>8</sup> Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. <sup>9</sup> Let anyone with ears listen!'

***Harvest produce – St George's***



***We would be grateful to receive any non-perishable food produce in tins, bottles, cartons or packets at our Harvest service:***

***All the donations will - 72 hours after the service - be passed on to Nourish, a Food Bank charity in Tunbridge Wells that covers this area. Due to Covid restrictions we are unable to distribute perishable food or any food-stuffs that can be directly handled.***

**Congratulations to Ylva!**

Ordained Deacon at Canterbury Cathedral on Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> September  
and now the Reverend Ylva Blid-Mackenzie.

Please pray for Ylva as she begins this new, exciting, and scary ministry!  
We pray that God will bless her, and that we will be as much a blessing to her  
as she is to us. Revd David.

**Prayers:**

Please pray for t/l **Tessa Welsby** and her family. Tessa passed away on the 19<sup>th</sup> September, with some of her family beside her. Her funeral will take place on Friday 9<sup>th</sup> October, 2pm, at St George's Church; followed by a burial in the churchyard. Regrettably, due to the Covid restrictions, the family can only invite a maximum of 30 people to the service. Please hold Tessa, Caroline, Mark and Rob in your prayers.

I am sorry to pass on the news that **Pauline Chantler** passed away on Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> September following a stroke the week before. Please hold Pauline, her family and her close friends in your prayers. Details of Pauline's funeral will be made known in due course; at present I do not know if this will be a church service or not. Revd David.

**Track and Trace:** You will have heard of the launch of the NHS "Track and Trace" app. If you have a smartphone, please consider downloading and using this app. It is not a solution to our problems, but another tool to help fight the virus along with "Hands. Face. Space"..... hand sanitising; wearing a face covering; and maintaining 2m social distancing.

Each of our three churches has been registered, and a QR code/poster is displayed in the entrances. If you use your app and the QR code when you enter church we do not need to keep a paper record of your name and contact details. You can download the app from the "Apple App Store" or "Google Play". Revd David.

**Commemoration of the Faithful Departed:** Our annual service this year will be at St George's on **Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> November at 7.30pm** led by Revd Rosemary. This will be a benefice service. If you would like to request a name to be read out, please email [benendenchurch@gmail.com](mailto:benendenchurch@gmail.com).

**IDEN GREEN  
CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH**  
Would like to invite you to the  
Commissioning service of  
**TOBIN BIRD**  
As Pastor of the church.  
The service will be held on  
**SUNDAY 11<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER AT 5.30pm**  
*(please note revised date and time)*  
If you would like to attend (please note, facemasks must be worn)  
you **MUST** contact **NIGEL GRAN**  
Tel 07881 952 880 or [info@idengreen.org.uk](mailto:info@idengreen.org.uk)

**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>

# COVID19 - UPDATE FROM THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND

Last updated Friday 2 October at 11.07

Whilst Government guidance has been revised to allow certain activities to take place in church buildings, it is still vital that the necessary hygiene and social distancing precautions are kept in place in order to protect the NHS and save lives.

The information on the Church of England's page is regularly updated, so please check that for the latest guidance. When major changes are made, updates will be published through the Church of England Twitter and Facebook accounts.

Please read the detailed guidance to ensure all activities are conducted in a safe and hygienic way.

## **Below are some extracts from the guidance published on the Church of England website:**

### **How does the 'rule of 6' affect churches?**

Public worship can continue. There is an exemption that covers places of worship making it possible for more than six people to gather for acts of communal worship. However, it is not a blanket exemption. People must not be part of a group of more than six unless they are from the same household or support bubble.

### **Are places of worship exempt from the 'rule of 6'?**

There is an exemption that covers places of worship making it possible for more than six people to gather there. The exemption covers church services and as well as some other activities that take place in church buildings.

However, it is not a blanket exemption. People must not be part of a group of more than six unless they are from the same household or support bubble.

### **Can Bible study groups and home groups now meet in person?**

A group can meet in someone's home as long as there are no more than six people in the house in total, including those not taking part in the group at that time.

Groups can meet on church premises under the same conditions as apply to services of worship – for example, people attending must not be part of a group of more than six unless they are from the same household or support bubble.

### **Government guidance states:**

*"However, activities and social groups where there is a significant likelihood of groups mixing and socialising (and where it will be difficult to prevent mingling and therefore breaking the law) should not take place in a community facility."*

Please take this into consideration.

## **Contacts – The Benefice of Benenden & Sandhurst**

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