

The Parish of St George's, Benenden

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

Our Worship: Sunday 22nd November Christ the King (The Sunday Next before Advent)

Collect: God the Father, help us to hear the call of Christ the King and to follow in his service, whose kingdom has no end; for he reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, one glory.

Sunday 22nd November – Christ the King

Readings: Ephesians 1.15-end, Matthew 25.31-end

10.00am **ON LINE HOLY COMMUNION SERVICE**
followed by coffee and chat on Zoom

Links to all Sunday services and Zoom meetings are posted on the church website, Facebook and A Church Near You pages shortly before the service.

Website: <http://www.benendenchurch.org/>
Facebook Page: [@StGeorgesBenenden](https://www.facebook.com/StGeorgesBenenden)
A Church Near You: <https://www.achurchnearyou.com>

THE WEEK AHEAD

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| Monday 23rd | 8am | Morning Prayer at St George's (closed service) |
| Tuesday 24th | 8am | Morning Prayer at the Mission Church (closed service) |
| Wednesday 25th | 8am | Morning Prayer at St George's (closed service) |
| Friday 27th | 8am | Morning Prayer at St George's (closed service) Funeral of t/l Diana St John (private service) |

Sunday Next: Sunday 29th November – The First Sunday of Advent

Readings: 1 Corinthians 1.3-9, Mark 13.24-end

10am **ON LINE HOLY COMMUNION SERVICE**
followed by coffee and chat on Zoom

**Due to the Covid lockdown, there is no public worship in church during November. However, please make use the church though for individual private prayer whenever you want to.
Prayer resources are available in Church.**

Readings: Sunday 22nd November

Ephesians 1.15-end

Paul's Prayer

¹⁵ I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love towards all the saints, and for this reason ¹⁶I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. ¹⁷I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, ¹⁸so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, ¹⁹and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. ²⁰God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, ²¹far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. ²²And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, ²³which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

Matthew 25.31-end

The Judgement of the Nations

³¹ 'When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. ³²All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, ³³and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. ³⁴Then the king will say to those at his right hand, "Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; ³⁵for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, ³⁶I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me." ³⁷Then the righteous will answer him, "Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? ³⁸And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? ³⁹And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?" ⁴⁰And the king will answer them, "Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me." ⁴¹Then he will say to those at his left hand, "You that are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; ⁴²for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, ⁴³I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me." ⁴⁴Then they also will answer, "Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not take care of you?" ⁴⁵Then he will answer them, "Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me." ⁴⁶And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.'

Prayers:

Diana St John passed away recently in Hastings. Her funeral is to take place at St George's on Friday 27th November followed by burial in the churchyard. Please hold her daughter, Caroline, in your prayers.

Sheila Clarke passed away on the 9th November. Her funeral is to take place at St George's on Wednesday 2nd December, followed by a Committal service at Tunbridge Wells Crematorium. Please hold John, her husband, and the family in your prayers.

CHRISTMAS SERVICES IN BENENDEN

We hope to hold the following actual services:

- Advent "Service of Light" on Sun 6th Dec at 5pm.
- Benefice Carol Service [streamed on-line](#) on Mon 21st Dec at 7:30pm.
- A Nativity Service on Christmas Eve at the top of The Green at 3pm.
- Midnight service on Christmas Eve at 11.30pm.
- Christmas Day: 8am Communion, followed by **two** short family services, **ticketed with numbers restricted to 100**, at 9:30am, and at 10:45am

Further details, including how to reserve tickets, will be confirmed and published in December.



Comfort and Joy is the Church of England's Christmas campaign for 2020.

It holds together the hope that Christmas will bring joy and celebration after a uniquely difficult year with an acknowledgement that – for those who have lost loved ones or livelihoods, or who are potentially still not able to be together with loved ones – it may be the Church's role, both nationally and locally, to provide consolation, rather than assume everyone will be ready to join in jubilation.

We also have to anticipate there may be further spikes.

This Christmas the Church will need, in the words of St Paul in Romans 12.15, to 'Rejoice with those who rejoice; weep with those who weep'. We will aim to celebrate where we can together in one place – but also embrace a wider community that wants to join in the celebration but may not be physically able – or emotionally ready – to do so. We hope that Comfort and Joy will enable us to build a campaign that both enables us to reconnect with the rich and joyous traditions of the past and to offer God's consoling love in the present.

PLEASE KEEP AN EYE ON THE CHURCH WEBSITE AND FACEBOOK PAGE FOR THE LATEST INFORMATION REGARDING OUR CHURCH SERVICES

Website: <http://www.benendenchurch.org/>
Facebook Page: @StGeorgesBenenden
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Coronavirus (COVID-19) guidance for churches
Last updated: Wednesday 4 November

We are registered with the NHS "Track and Trace", please make use of this if you have downloaded the app to your smartphone.

Sadly, there will be no live services in church (except funerals) until 2 December, We are open for individual private prayer every day.

**If you come into church please remember:
"Hands. Face. Space."**

Please hand sanitise on entry and exit. Wear a face covering. And maintain 2m social distancing from others not in your household or social bubble. Please do not come to church if you have Covid-19 symptoms.

We follow the guidelines issued by the Church of England. If you wish to read these in full, they are available on the CoE website:

<https://www.churchofengland.org/more/media-centre/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-churches>

(More information available on the Coronavirus page of our website.)

There are prayer resources available as you come into church. (Please take them away with you when you leave if you use them.) If you wish to read some scripture when you come to church for private prayer, please bring your Bible with you. Keep safe. Keep well. Keep praying. And God bless you.

Revd David

| Contacts: St George's Church, Benenden | |
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| Church Office | Cathy Baker, Benefice Administrator. The Mission Church, Back Road, Sandhurst TN18 5JU Tel: 01580 850 849 E-mail: benendenchurch@gmail.com |
| St George's Churchwarden | Mr David Collard Tel: 01580 241 944 E-mail: julia.collard@btinternet.com |
| St George's Parish Safeguarding Officer | Ian Malaugh Tel: 01580 240 999 E-mail: ianmal@sky.com |
| Priests | Revd David Commander, Rector. The Rectory, The Green, Benenden, TN17 4DL Tel: 01580 240 658 E-mail: revdavidcommander@gmail.com (NB The Rector's day off is Thursday) Revd Ylva Blid-Mackenzie, Curate Tel: 01233 820100 Mobile: 07766 711957 Email: rev.ylva@gmail.com Revd Dr Rosemary Kobus van Wengen Tel: 01580 764 857 Email: rosemaryvanwengen@gmail.com |