

# The Parish of St George's, Benenden

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

## Our Worship: Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> December The Second Sunday of Advent

**Collect:** O Lord, raise up, we pray, your power and come among us, and with great might succour us; that whereas, through our sins and wickedness we are grievously hindered in running the race that is set before us, your bountiful grace and mercy may speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, to whom with you and the Holy Spirit, be honour and glory, now and for ever.

### Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> December – The Second Sunday of Advent

*Readings: 2 Peter 3.8-15a, Mark 1.1-8*

8am	<b>BCP HOLY COMMUNION PATRONAL SERVICE AT ST NICHOLAS, SANDHURST</b> led by Revd Ylva Blid-Mackenzie & Revd David Commander
10am	<b>HOLY COMMUNION AT ST GEORGE'S</b> led by Revd Ylva Blid-Mackenzie & Revd David Commander
5pm	<b>ADVENT SERVICE OF LIGHT AT ST GEORGE'S</b> led by Revd David Commander

### THE WEEK AHEAD

Monday 7 <sup>th</sup>	8am	Morning Prayer at St George's
	10am	Funeral of t/l Andrew Prentice
	7.30pm	Benenden PCC meeting at St George's
Tuesday 8 <sup>th</sup>	8am	Morning Prayer at the Mission Church, Sandhurst
	10am	Holy Communion at the Mission Church, Sandhurst led by Revd Rosemary Kobus van Wengen
	7.30pm	Recording of Readings at St George's
Wednesday 9 <sup>th</sup>	8am	Morning Prayer at St George's
	6.50pm	Choir Practice & Recording at St George's
Friday 11 <sup>th</sup>	8am	Morning Prayer at St George's

### Sunday Next: Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> December – The Third Sunday of Advent

*Readings: 1 Thess. 5.16-24, John 1.6-8 & 19-28*

8am	<b>BCP HOLY COMMUNION AT ST GEORGE'S</b> led by Lyn Hayes & Revd David Commander
10am	<b>HOLY COMMUNION AT ST NICHOLAS</b> led by Lyn Hayes & Revd David Commander

**Readings: Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> December**

**2 Peter 3.8-15a**

<sup>8</sup> But do not ignore this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like one day. <sup>9</sup>The Lord is not slow about his promise, as some think of slowness, but is patient with you, not wanting any to perish, but all to come to repentance. <sup>10</sup>But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a loud noise, and the elements will be dissolved with fire, and the earth and everything that is done on it will be disclosed.

<sup>11</sup> Since all these things are to be dissolved in this way, what sort of people ought you to be in leading lives of holiness and godliness, <sup>12</sup>waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be set ablaze and dissolved, and the elements will melt with fire? <sup>13</sup>But, in accordance with his promise, we wait for new heavens and a new earth, where righteousness is at home.

***Final Exhortation and Doxology***

<sup>14</sup> Therefore, beloved, while you are waiting for these things, strive to be found by him at peace, without spot or blemish; <sup>15</sup>and regard the patience of our Lord as salvation. So also our beloved brother Paul wrote to you according to the wisdom given to him.

**Mark 1.1-8**

***The Gospel According to Mark***

***The Proclamation of John the Baptist***

<sup>1</sup>The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

<sup>2</sup> As it is written in the prophet Isaiah,

‘See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you,  
who will prepare your way;

<sup>3</sup> the voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

“Prepare the way of the Lord,  
make his paths straight” ’,

<sup>4</sup>John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. <sup>5</sup>And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. <sup>6</sup>Now John was clothed with camel’s hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. <sup>7</sup>He proclaimed, ‘The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. <sup>8</sup>I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.’

**ADVENT SERVICE OF LIGHT**

**TONIGHT Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> December 5pm**

**at St George’s**

**PLEASE NOTE:**

The effect of going into Tier 3 (from lockdown) is:

- the churches are open for public worship
- but we are not allowed "to mingle" before or after a service

**Please remember: "Hands. Face. Space" and to keep within your social bubble.**

Thank you! Revd David

## Prayers:

**Andrew Prentice** has sadly passed away. His funeral will be on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> December at 10am at St George's. Please hold Andrew's family in your prayers.

## CHRISTMAS SERVICES IN BENENDEN

- Advent "Service of Light" on Sun 6<sup>th</sup> Dec at 5pm.
- Benefice Carol Service streamed on-line on Mon 21<sup>st</sup> Dec at 7:30pm.
- 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**

To book tickets for the 9.30 or 10.45 Christmas Day family services, please contact Cathy Baker, our Benefice Administrator, confirming the number of tickets required and the number and names of people in any social bubble/s.

**Please note, tickets will be reserved on a first come, first served basis.**

Email: [benendenchurch@gmail.com](mailto:benendenchurch@gmail.com) Tel 07971 459 592 (Cathy Baker)



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.

**Daily Scripture and Reflection is posted on the St George's Church website and Facebook page every day of the week.**

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

## **Coronavirus (COVID-19) guidance for churches**

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

Live services in church resume on 2<sup>nd</sup> 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.

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. Revd David

### **EXTRACT FROM UK GOV RMENT REGULATIONS:**

#### **Summarising the position for places of worship**

People must follow the restrictions on social mixing set out by their area's local restriction tier and adhere to social distancing between households. In Tier 2 and Tier 3 areas, people must not mingle indoors with anyone they do not live with or have formed a support bubble with.

Whilst engaging in an activity in the place of worship, or surrounding grounds, **all parties should adhere to social distancing guidelines at all times**, even within a group of six or where a specific activity-based exemption is applicable. This means people should be 2 metres apart or more than 1 metre apart as well as taking extra steps to stay safe (such as wearing face coverings) to reduce the risk of transmission.

Full details at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-guidance-for-the-safe-use-of-places-of-worship-during-the-pandemic-from-4-july/covid-19-guidance-for-the-safe-use-of-places-of-worship-from-2-december>

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