

Benefice of St George's Church, Benenden & St Nicholas Church, Sandhurst

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

Our Worship: Sunday 31st December The First Sunday of Christmas

Collect: Almighty God, who wonderfully created us in your own image and yet more wonderfully restored us through your Son Jesus Christ: grant that, as he came to share in our humanity, so we may share the life of his divinity; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Sunday 31st December – The First Sunday of Christmas

Readings: Galatians 4.4-7, Luke 2.15-21

8 am BENEFICE HOLY COMMUNION AT ST GEORGE'S

led by Revd Ylva Blid-Mackenzie

10 am BENEFICE HOLY COMMUNION AT ST NICHOLAS

led by Revd Ylva Blid-Mackenzie

Hymns: 440 *See him lying on a bed of straw (The Calypso Carol)*
 532 *We have a gospel to proclaim*
 388 *O praise ye the Lord*
 422 *Praise my soul the King of heaven*

THE WEEK AHEAD

Revd David is currently on holiday, returning on Wednesday 3rd January.

Should you require the services of a priest during this time

please contact your Churchwardens:

Benenden: David Collard Tel: 01580 241 944, Sue Fisher Tel: 01580 241 907

Sandhurst: Bob Houlden Tel: 01580 850 278, Catherine Elliott Tel: 01580 850 300

Monday 1 st		<i>Bank Holiday</i>
Tuesday 2 nd	8 am	Morning Prayer at Sandhurst Mission Church
	10 am	Holy Communion at Sandhurst Mission Church led by Revd Rosemary Kobus van Wengen <i>No Benenden Home Group this week – restarts 9th January.</i>
Wednesday 3 rd	8 am	Morning Prayer at Sandhurst Mission Church
	9 – 11am	Drop in Café & Toddler Group at Sandhurst Mission Church
Thursday 4 th	10 – 11.30 am	Community Choir at St George's
	7 – 8 pm	Choir Practice at St George's
Friday 5 th	8 am	Morning Prayer at St George's
	9 – 11 am	Cakes & Chaos Toddler Group at St George's
	1.30 pm	Funeral of t/l Robert Cyster at St George's

Sunday Next: 7th January – Epiphany / The Baptism of Christ

Readings: Ephesians 3.1-12, Matthew 2.1-12

- 8 am** **HOLY COMMUNION AT ST GEORGE'S**
led by Revd Rosemary Kobus van Wengen
- 8 am** **1662 BCP HOLY COMMUNION AT ST NICHOLAS**
led by Revd David Commander
- 10 am** **ALL-AGE HOLY COMMUNION AT ST GEORGE'S**
led by Revd David Commander
- 5 pm** **CHORAL EVENSONG AT ST GEORGE'S**
led by David Harmsworth
Psalm 98. Readings: Isaiah 60.1-9, John 2.1-11

Readings: Sunday 31st December- The First Sunday of Christmas

Galatians 4.4-7

⁴But when the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, ⁵in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children. ⁶And because you are children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, 'Abba! Father!' ⁷So you are no longer a slave but a child, and if a child then also an heir, through God.

Luke 2.15-21

¹⁵When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, 'Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.' ¹⁶So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. ¹⁷When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; ¹⁸and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. ¹⁹But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. ²⁰The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

Jesus Is Named

²¹ After eight days had passed, it was time to circumcise the child; and he was called Jesus, the name given by the angel before he was conceived in the womb

Prayers:

St George's:

We pray for **t/I Robert Cyster** and all family and friends. Robert's funeral is at St George's on Friday 5th January at 1.30pm

We pray for **t/I Michael Goodsell** and all family and friends. Michael's funeral service, for the family, is on the morning of Friday 12th January at the Crematorium. Michael's memorial service follows at St George's at 1pm that afternoon.

St Nicholas:

t/I Jean Rummery: Jean's funeral service takes place on Monday 8th January at 12.15pm, at the Kent & Sussex Crematorium in Tunbridge Wells. The service is also being live-streamed. If you would like the link, please email Revd David or either of the Churchwardens.


Following the service at the Crematorium, there will be a reception at The New Swan, Sandhurst, at around 1.45 / 2 pm.

Everyone in the church family is very welcome to the reception as well as the funeral service.

Revd David

Home Groups restart next week: Monday 8th January, 7.30 pm, at the Mission Church in Sandhurst and Tuesday 9th January, 8 pm, at David & Julia Collard's in Benenden.

Sandhurst: Christian Aid – Donations in lieu of Christmas cards. Our Christmas card idea did not do so well this year but there is still time to make a donation. If you would like to do so, please speak to Katherine O'Neil in the next week or so.

Church Contacts:	
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 Churchwardens	Mr David Collard Tel: 01580 241 944 - E-mail: d.collard49@btinternet.com Mrs Sue Fisher Tel: 01580 241 907 - E-mail: sue@undaunted.co.uk
St George's Parish Safeguarding Officer	Ian Malaugh Tel: 01580 240 999 - E-mail: ianmal@sky.com
St Nicholas Churchwardens	Bob Houlden Tel: 01580 850 278 - E-mail: bob.houlden@btinternet.com Catherine Elliott Tel: 01580 850 300 E-mail: Elliotts@sandhurstcross.co.uk
St Nicholas Parish Safeguarding Officer	Anne Tylden-Wright Tel: 01580 850 281 - E-mail: tyldenwright@btinternet.com
Priests	Revd David Commander, Rector. The Rectory, The Green, Benenden TN17 4DL_ Tel: 01580 240 658 E-mail: revdavidcommander@gmail.com <i>(NB The Rector's day off is Thursday)</i> Revd Ylva Blid-Mackenzie, Associate Priest 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
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