

# St George's Church, Benenden

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

## Our Worship: Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> January Epiphany

**Collect:** O God, who by the leading of a star manifested your only Son to the peoples of the earth: mercifully grant that we, who know you now by faith, may at last behold your glory face to face; 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: 2<sup>nd</sup> January - Epiphany**

*Readings: Ephesians 3.1-12, Matthew 2.1-12*

- |              |  |
|--------------|--|
| <b>8 am</b>  | <b>HOLY COMMUNION</b><br>led by Revd Ylva Blid-Mackenzie   |
| <b>10 am</b> | <b>ALL AGE COMMUNION</b><br>led by Revd David Commander & Revd Ylva Blid-Mackenzie                             |
| <b>5 pm</b>  | <b>CHORAL EVENSONG</b><br><i>Readings: Psalm 98, Isaiah 60.1-9, John 2.1-11</i><br>led by Revd David Commander |

### **THE WEEK AHEAD**

Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup>		<b>Bank Holiday</b>
Tuesday 4 <sup>th</sup>	8 am	Morning Prayer at Sandhurst Mission Church
	10 am	Holy Communion at Sandhurst Mission Church led by Revd Ylva Blid-Mackenzie
Wednesday 5 <sup>th</sup>	8 pm	Benenden Home Group at David & Julia Collard's
	8 am	Morning Prayer at Sandhurst Mission Church
Friday 7 <sup>th</sup>	8 am	Morning Prayer at St George's
	9 – 11 am	Cakes & Chaos Toddler Group at St George's

### **Sunday Next: 9<sup>th</sup> January – The Baptism of Christ**

*Readings: Acts 8.14-17, Luke 3.15-17, 21-22*

- |              |   |
|--------------|---|
| <b>8 am</b>  | <b>HOLY COMMUNION</b><br>led by Revd David Commander & David Harmsworth |
| <b>10 am</b> | <b>MORNING WORSHIP &amp; BAPTISM</b><br>led by Revd David Commander     |

## **Readings: Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> January - Epiphany**

### ***Ephesians 3.1-12***

#### ***Paul's Ministry to the Gentiles***

<sup>3</sup>This is the reason that I Paul am a prisoner for Christ Jesus for the sake of you Gentiles— <sup>2</sup>for surely you have already heard of the commission of God's grace that was given to me for you, <sup>3</sup>and how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I wrote above in a few words, <sup>4</sup>a reading of which will enable you to perceive my understanding of the mystery of Christ. <sup>5</sup>In former generations this mystery was not made known to humankind, as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit: <sup>6</sup>that is, the Gentiles have become fellow-heirs, members of the same body, and sharers in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel.

<sup>7</sup> Of this gospel I have become a servant according to the gift of God's grace that was given to me by the working of his power. <sup>8</sup>Although I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given to me to bring to the Gentiles the news of the boundless riches of Christ, <sup>9</sup>and to make everyone see what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things; <sup>10</sup>so that through the church the wisdom of God in its rich variety might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. <sup>11</sup>This was in accordance with the eternal purpose that he has carried out in Christ Jesus our Lord, <sup>12</sup>in whom we have access to God in boldness and confidence through faith in him.

### ***Matthew 2.1-12***

#### ***The Visit of the Wise Men***

<sup>2</sup>In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, <sup>2</sup>asking, 'Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage.' <sup>3</sup>When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; <sup>4</sup>and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. <sup>5</sup>They told him, 'In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet:

<sup>6</sup> "And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,  
are by no means least among the rulers of Judah;  
for from you shall come a ruler  
who is to shepherd my people Israel." '

<sup>7</sup> Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. <sup>8</sup>Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, 'Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage.' <sup>9</sup>When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. <sup>10</sup>When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. <sup>11</sup>On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure-chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. <sup>12</sup>And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

**Prayers:** It is with great sadness that I have to pass on the news that our dear Heather Trollope passed away on Thursday afternoon, with her family at her side. Please hold Charles and their sons Richard and Henry and their families in your prayers; also Heather's brothers and sister. Details of Heather's funeral will, of course, be made known once arrangements have been put in place. Revd David

**Covid Guidelines: AS AT 10<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER 2021**

**Please continue to hand sanitise on entry to and exit from church.**

**You are encouraged to use the NHS Track and Trace QR Code, or record your attendance in the register,** but this is not mandatory.

***Face coverings are now mandatory in places of worship, unless you are exempt from wearing one.*** These should be worn throughout the service, including when singing, please. The choir, as they will be socially distanced from one another and from the congregation, can remove their face coverings to sing if they wish. Anyone reading or leading intercessions from the front of church can remove their face covering at the lectern - and replace it before returning to their pew.

**Seating:** you are encouraged to respect the concerns of others and sit socially distanced from other households.

**Communion:** we will maintain simultaneous administration, and distribute standing at the altar rail.

The church will be sanitised between services/events that are less than 48 hours apart.

I realise that this is all very tiresome, and that some will agree and others will not. Some will think this is going too far; some will think it is not going far enough. We do, however, all have a duty to take care of one another. I would prefer that we worship together in a way that reduces the risk of spreading Covid to someone who becomes seriously ill. I will be wearing my face covering to protect others; I encourage you to do the same.

Many thanks. Revd David

**Contacts: St George's Church, Benenden**

<p align="center"><b>Church Office</b></p>	<p><b>Cathy Baker, Benefice Administrator. The Mission Church, Back Road, Sandhurst TN18 5JU Tel: 01580 850 849</b>  <b>E-mail: <a href="mailto:benendenchurch@gmail.com">benendenchurch@gmail.com</a></b></p>		
<p align="center"><b>St George's Churchwardens</b></p>	<p><b>Mr David Collard Tel: 01580 241 944</b>  <b>E-mail: <a href="mailto:julia.collard@btinternet.com">julia.collard@btinternet.com</a></b>  <b>Mrs Sue Fisher Tel: 01580 241907</b>  <b>E-mail: <a href="mailto:sue@undaunted.co.uk">sue@undaunted.co.uk</a></b></p>		
<p align="center"><b>St George's Parish Safeguarding Officer</b></p>	<p><b>Ian Malaugh Tel: 01580 240 999</b>  <b>E-mail: <a href="mailto:ianmal@sky.com">ianmal@sky.com</a></b></p>		
<p align="center"><b>Priests</b></p>	<p><b>Revd David Commander, Rector. The Rectory, The Green, Benenden, TN17 4DL</b>  <b>Tel: 01580 240 658 E-mail: <a href="mailto:revdavidcommander@gmail.com">revdavidcommander@gmail.com</a></b>  <b>(NB The Rector's day off is Thursday)</b>  <b>Revd Ylva Blid-Mackenzie, Curate</b>  <b>Tel: 01233 820100 Mobile: 07766 711957 Email: <a href="mailto:rev.ylva@gmail.com">rev.ylva@gmail.com</a></b>  <b>Revd Dr Rosemary Kobus van Wengen</b>  <b>Tel: 01580 764 857 Email: <a href="mailto:rosemaryvanwengen@gmail.com">rosemaryvanwengen@gmail.com</a></b></p>		
<p align="center"></p>	<p><a href="#">StGeorgesBenenden</a>  <a href="#">StNicholasSandhurst</a></p>	<p align="center"><b>Websites</b></p>	<p><a href="http://www.benendenchurch.org">www.benendenchurch.org</a>  <a href="https://stnicholassandhurst.org">https://stnicholassandhurst.org</a></p>