

St George's Church, Benenden

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

Our Worship: 12th March The Third Sunday of Lent

Collect: Almighty God, whose most dear Son went not up to joy but first he suffered pain, and entered not into glory before he was crucified: mercifully grant that we, walking in the way of the cross, may find it none other than the way of life and peace; 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 12th March – The Third Sunday of Lent

Readings: Romans 5.1-11, John 4.5-42

8 am HOLY COMMUNION
by Revd David Commander

10 am MORNING WORSHIP
led by Lyn Hayes

Hymns: 2 *Christ, whose glory fill the skies*
634 *Firmly I believe and truly (v5 U)*
704 *Let all the world in every corner sing*
761 *Praise the Lord! Ye heavens, adore him*

1 – 3 pm 'Warm Welcome Space' at Benenden Memorial Hall

THE WEEK AHEAD

Monday 13 th	8 am	Morning Prayer at St George's <i>No Sandhurst Home Group until after Easter</i>
Tuesday 14 th	8 am	Morning Prayer at Sandhurst Mission Church
	10 am	Holy Communion at Sandhurst Mission Church led by Revd Ylva Blid-Mackenzie <i>No Benenden Home Group until after Easter</i>
Wednesday 15 th	8 am	Morning Prayer at Sandhurst Mission Church
	10 – 11.30 am	Coffee Morning at Benenden Memorial Hall – all welcome
	7 pm	Central Weald 'Filling Station' at Benenden Primary School
	7.30 pm	Lent Course – Week 3 – at Sandhurst Mission Church
Friday 17 th	8 am	Morning Prayer at St George's
	9 – 11 am	Cakes & Chaos Toddler Group at St George's
	1 – 3 pm	'Warm Welcome Space' at Benenden Memorial Hall
	7.30 pm	Bellringing – Quarter Peal Attempt at St George's
Saturday 18 th	7.30 pm	Wealden Consort - Concert at St George's (FoSG)

Sunday Next: 19th March – The Fourth Sunday of Lent - MOTHERING SUNDAY

Readings: 2 Corinthians 1.3-7, John 19.25b-27

8 am HOLY COMMUNION
led by Revd David Commander

10 am ALL AGE COMMUNION - MOTHERING SUNDAY SERVICE
led by Revd David Commander

2 pm *Colourstrings Concert at St George's*

1 – 3 pm 'Warm Welcome Space' at Benenden Memorial Hall

Bible Readings – Sunday 12th March – The Third Sunday of Lent

Romans 5.1-11 Results of Justification

⁵Therefore, since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, ²through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. ³And not only that, but we also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, ⁴and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, ⁵and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.

⁶ For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. ⁷Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die. ⁸But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us. ⁹Much more surely then, now that we have been justified by his blood, will we be saved through him from the wrath of God. ¹⁰For if while we were enemies, we were reconciled to God through the death of his Son, much more surely, having been reconciled, will we be saved by his life. ¹¹But more than that, we even boast in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

John 4.5-42

⁵So he came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. ⁶Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired out by his journey, was sitting by the well. It was about noon.

⁷ A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, 'Give me a drink'. ⁸(His disciples had gone to the city to buy food.) ⁹The Samaritan woman said to him, 'How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?' (Jews do not share things in common with Samaritans.) ¹⁰Jesus answered her, 'If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, "Give me a drink", you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water.' ¹¹The woman said to him, 'Sir, you have no bucket, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water?' ¹²Are you greater than our ancestor Jacob, who gave us the well, and with his sons and his flocks drank from it?' ¹³Jesus said to her, 'Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, ¹⁴but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life.' ¹⁵The woman said to him, 'Sir, give me this water, so that I may never be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water.'

¹⁶ Jesus said to her, 'Go, call your husband, and come back.' ¹⁷The woman answered him, 'I have no husband.' Jesus said to her, 'You are right in saying, "I have no husband"; ¹⁸for you have had five husbands, and the one you have now is not your husband. What you have said is true!' ¹⁹The woman said to him, 'Sir, I see that you are a prophet. ²⁰Our ancestors worshipped on this mountain, but you say that the place where people must worship is in Jerusalem.' ²¹Jesus said to her, 'Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. ²²You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. ²³But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father seeks such as these to worship him. ²⁴God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth.' ²⁵The woman said to him, 'I know that Messiah is coming' (who is called Christ). 'When he comes, he will proclaim all things to us.' ²⁶Jesus said to her, 'I am he, the one who is speaking to you.' ²⁷ Just then his disciples came. They were astonished that he was speaking with a woman, but no one said, 'What do you want?' or, 'Why are you speaking with her?' ²⁸Then the woman left her water-jar and went back to the city. She said to the people, ²⁹'Come and see a man who told me everything I have ever done! He cannot be the Messiah, can he?' ³⁰They left the city and were on their way to him.

³¹ Meanwhile the disciples were urging him, 'Rabbi, eat something.' ³²But he said to them, 'I have food to eat that you do not know about.' ³³So the disciples said to one another, 'Surely no one has brought him something to eat?' ³⁴Jesus said to them, 'My food is to do the will of him who sent me and to complete his work. ³⁵Do you not say, "Four months more, then comes the harvest"? But I tell you, look around you, and see how the fields are ripe for harvesting. ³⁶The reaper is already receiving wages and is gathering fruit for eternal life, so that sower and reaper may rejoice together. ³⁷For here the saying holds true, "One sows and another reaps." ³⁸I sent you to reap that for which you did not labour. Others have laboured, and you have entered into their labour.'

³⁹ Many Samaritans from that city believed in him because of the woman's testimony, 'He told me everything I have ever done.' ⁴⁰So when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with them; and he stayed there for two days. ⁴¹And many more believed because of his word. ⁴²They said to the woman, 'It is no longer because of what you said that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is truly the Saviour of the world.'

The Electoral Roll opened for revision on 5th March and will close on 26th March. If you would like to join the Roll there are application forms at the back of the church, please fill one out and leave it at the back of the church marked for the attention of David Collard.

Church Annual Meeting: St George's Annual Parochial Church Meeting is on TUESDAY 18th April 2023 in the Memorial Hall at 7.30 pm. Everyone is invited to attend but only those on the Electoral Roll are entitled to vote. This year we have many vacancies for the PCC as well as electing our Churchwardens and the Deanery Synod Representatives who attend Deanery Synod meetings on our behalf. As Revd David is to be our new Area Dean we would especially like three people to come forward to serve at Deanery. The PCC meets six times a year and the Deanery about three times a year. Deanery Representatives automatically serve on the PCC. We hope you will seriously think about serving St George's in this way. Please see your Churchwardens or myself for more information. Julia Collard

Canterbury Cathedral Precincts Pass. If you hold one of these free passes, which allowed Canterbury Diocese church members free access to the cathedral and grounds, then you should be aware that it expired at the end of last month. The replacement is called the Cathedral Pass and will cost £6 for five years. Full information is available on the Cathedral website or on 01227 762862. RF

Common Chalice: At some point it is my sincere hope that we will return to using the "common chalice" – ie drinking the wine from "the one cup". We stopped doing so during Covid when we came out of lock-down and were able to return to worshipping together in church. Covid has not gone away, but we are vaccinated, and we are learning to live with it. I would be interested to know how your thoughts about returning to using the chalice for the distribution of Communion wine. Please let me know how you feel about this over coffee after a service, or by dropping me an email. Do if we feel ready, as a church family, to do this; is anyone with strong feelings about not doing so; and how we might make Communion distribution work for everyone? Revd David

"Technology help" needed please! Having taken on this new role of Area Dean, there are some things that I need to find others to help with at St George's. One of these is for someone to take on looking after the technology at St George's Church. (eg the AV system, including mics/batteries and connection of laptops to the projector; the Wi-Fi router and Sum-Up machine; resetting lighting circuits if they trip; issues with the heating system.) Computer and cloud-drive knowledge would also be very useful when there are problems with the church office computer, or with my work computer, or synching with the cloud-drive. Is this a gift that you have and could share? If so, please, please get in touch with me. Revd David (Tel 240658, Mob 07710 416978)

The Wealden Consort - Spring Concert at St George's - Saturday 18th March at 7:30 pm The varied programme will include Haydn's Little Organ Mass. Tickets —£15 including refreshments — will support the Friends of St George's restoration and repair initiatives. Tickets available in advance from Benenden's Shop and Tim Bentley. Or on the door.

HYBRID LAY WORSHIP LEADING COURSE APRIL - JULY 2023: Please see fliers and posters in church for full details of this year's course, which takes place on Tuesday evenings (online) and some Saturdays (in Canterbury). Or please email benendenchurch@gmail.com for details and an application form.

Confirmation

We are arranging a Confirmation Service, led by Bishop Rose Hudson-Wilkin, in the Weald Deanery. This is likely to be on Sunday 2nd July, at a church in the Deanery. It would be lovely to have some candidates from our benefice to be confirmed at the service. The Confirmation service is, as an adult, teenager or child, an opportunity to make a public declaration for yourself to follow Christ and his teachings in your life. If you, or a member of your family, would like to be confirmed, please let me know; we will then organise an appropriate form of Confirmation preparation. Revd David

TICKETS £15

The Wealden Consort
Presents a

Concert of Spring Music

To include
Haydn's Little Organ Mass

SAT 18TH MARCH 2023 AT 7.30PM
ST GEORGE'S CHURCH, BENENDEN TN17 4DL

Ticket price to include interval refreshments,
available from Benenden Community Shop or at the Door.
The Concert is being held in support of the
FRIENDS OF ST GEORGE

www.wealdenconsort.org.uk

Nourish
Community Foodbank Charity Number: 1194716

St George's 'Give Up A Meal For Lent'

Meal A MONTH (with £3 icon)

Throughout the season of Lent, we are asking those that are able to give, to consider donating a much needed item to the Nourish Foodbank on a weekly basis.

Each Sunday we will focus on a particular food type that is short in supplies.


- 5th March: Pasta sauce jars
- 12th March: Baked beans
- 19th March: Tinned potatoes
- 26th March: Tinned fruit
- 2nd April: Tinned spaghetti
- Easter Sunday: Tinned fish

Contact: Gemma Coupland 07548 262509 gemma.louhunter@gmail.com

<http://www.nourishcommunityfoodbank.org.uk>

01892 548 892
07785 987 532



'IN HIS SERVICE'

Growing together in Lent:
Our Lent Course continues at the Mission Church on Wednesdays March 15th, 22nd and 29th. All welcome.

Contacts: St George's Church, Benenden			
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		
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, 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		
	StGeorgesBenenden StNicholasSandhurst	St George's Website	www.benendenchurch.org