

St George's Church, Benenden

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

Our Worship: Sunday 15th May

The Fifth Sunday of Easter

Collect: Almighty God, who through your only-begotten Son Jesus Christ have overcome death and opened to us the gate of everlasting life: grant that, as by your grace going before us you put into our minds good desires, so by your continual help we may bring them to good effect; through Jesus Christ our risen Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Sunday 15th May – The Fifth Sunday of Easter

Readings: Acts 11.1-18, John 13.31-35

8 am	HOLY COMMUNION led by Revd Ylva Blid-Mackenzie
10 am	SUNG EUCHARIST led by Revd Ylva Blid-Mackenzie
	Hymns: 194 Alleluia! Alleluia! Hearts to heaven and voices raise
	212 Now the green blade riseth
	453 Lord, enthroned in heavenly splendour
	748 O Jesus, I have promised (omit v 2)
12.30 pm	Interment of t/l Trish Evans at St George's

THE WEEK AHEAD - Christian Aid Week

Monday 16 th	8 am	Morning Prayer at St George's
	7.30 pm	Sandhurst Home Group at the Rectory (this week only)
Tuesday 17 th	8 am	Morning Prayer at Sandhurst Mission Church
	10 am	Holy Communion at Sandhurst Mission Church led by Revd Ylva Blid-Mackenzie
	12 noon	Christian Aid Hunger Lunch at Sandhurst Mission Church
	2 pm	Funeral of t/l William 'Bernard' Phillips at St George's
	8 pm	Home Group at David & Julia Collard's
Wednesday 18 th	8 am	Morning Prayer at Sandhurst Mission Church
	10 am	Coffee Morning at the Memorial Hall
	7 pm	Central Weald 'Filling Station' at Benenden Primary School - meeting info from Wes Hinsley Tel 01580 715483
Thursday 19 th	10 am	Rhythm of Life Community Choir at St George's
Friday 20 th	8 am	Morning Prayer at St George's
	9 - 11 am	Cakes & Chaos Toddler Group at St George's
	2 pm	Interment at St George's
	4 pm	Wedding Rehearsal
Saturday 21 st	9.45 am	Local Pilgrimage. Walk departing from St Nicholas Church, Sandhurst at 10 am
	2.30 pm	Wedding of Annabelle McGregor & Xander Georgetti
	5.30 pm	Wedding Rehearsal

Sunday Next: 22nd May – The Sixth Sunday of Easter

Readings: Acts 16.9-15, John 14.23-29

8 am	HOLY COMMUNION led by Revd David Commander
10 am	MORNING WORSHIP & Baptism of Charlotte Fowler led by Revd David Commander
1 pm	Wedding of Emily Fisher & Oli Smith

Readings: The Fifth Sunday of Easter – 15th May

Acts 11.1-18

Peter's Report to the Church at Jerusalem

¹¹Now the apostles and the believers who were in Judea heard that the Gentiles had also accepted the word of God. ²So when Peter went up to Jerusalem, the circumcised believers criticized him, ³saying, 'Why did you go to uncircumcised men and eat with them?' ⁴Then Peter began to explain it to them, step by step, saying, ⁵'I was in the city of Joppa praying, and in a trance I saw a vision. There was something like a large sheet coming down from heaven, being lowered by its four corners; and it came close to me. ⁶As I looked at it closely I saw four-footed animals, beasts of prey, reptiles, and birds of the air. ⁷I also heard a voice saying to me, "Get up, Peter; kill and eat." ⁸But I replied, "By no means, Lord; for nothing profane or unclean has ever entered my mouth." ⁹But a second time the voice answered from heaven, "What God has made clean, you must not call profane." ¹⁰This happened three times; then everything was pulled up again to heaven. ¹¹At that very moment three men, sent to me from Caesarea, arrived at the house where we were. ¹²The Spirit told me to go with them and not to make a distinction between them and us. These six brothers also accompanied me, and we entered the man's house. ¹³He told us how he had seen the angel standing in his house and saying, "Send to Joppa and bring Simon, who is called Peter; ¹⁴he will give you a message by which you and your entire household will be saved." ¹⁵And as I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell upon them just as it had upon us at the beginning. ¹⁶And I remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said, "John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit." ¹⁷If then God gave them the same gift that he gave us when we believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I that I could hinder God?' ¹⁸When they heard this, they were silenced. And they praised God, saying, 'Then God has given even to the Gentiles the repentance that leads to life.'

John 13.31-35

The New Commandment

³¹ When he had gone out, Jesus said, 'Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. ³²If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. ³³Little children, I am with you only a little longer. You will look for me; and as I said to the Jews so now I say to you, "Where I am going, you cannot come." ³⁴I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. ³⁵By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.'

Prayers:

I am sad to say that **Philip Message** passed away on 27th April. Please remember Miriam, Stephen and the family in your prayers. Philip's funeral is on Wednesday 25th May at 2pm. The service is taking place at the Baptist Church at Bounds Cross.(The full address is: Ebenezer Baptist Chapel, Bounds Cross, Biddenden, Kent TN27 8JZ) Everyone is welcome to attend.

Tracy Claridge: Please continue to hold Deborah, Tracy's daughters Emily and Alice, and Deborah's daughters Harriet and Anna in your prayers. There will be a private Committal service the morning of Friday 27th May. This will be followed, the same day, by a service at St George's Church at 1.30pm.

Everyone is invited to the church service, and the reception following the service. Revd David

Benenden Fete 18th June: Raffle tickets are for sale at both The Bull, Benenden and Benenden's, the village shop. They are £1 each and sold in books of 5 tickets.

Project 20/20: Please take time to look at the Project 20/20 display, and the marking out on the floor, at the back of church. The sub-group of the PCC would welcome all your comments, ideas, suggestions or questions so that we can amend, if necessary, the concept before an informal discussion with the DAC. Please address any questions/comments to Richard Stubbings, who is coordinating this, via Cathy Baker; Email: benendenchurch@gmail.com (Make the subject of your email "Project 20/20"). Alternatively, a hard copy of your comments may be given to any member of the sub-group.

Following an informal meeting with the DAC, other changes to the concept may be necessary. We will then put forward a full proposal to the church family and community for consideration.
Revd David

Local Pilgrimages – a new way to connect with yourself and the landscape

As spring is truly upon us – why not come and explore it with us on a Spring Pilgrimage? Pilgrimage is not just something for intrepid wanderers, willing to cross borders and endure hardship, but can be for just about anybody, willing to explore and discover something new about themselves, about the landscape, about the spirit and the earth. This year we are offering a series of guided walks of differing length and complexity through the beautiful and tranquil landscape of the surrounding countryside. All the walks will offer ample opportunities to stop, contemplate and connect with our deepest selves and with the natural world and the universe. We will do this via poetry, short readings, silence and other creative and imaginative invitations to discover something new or unexpected.

We will start with a **4.5-mile Spring Pilgrimage next Saturday 21st May 2022**, starting from **St Nicholas Church at 9:45 for 10 am**, taking in babbling streams and ancient oaks, hopfields and vineyards, as well as a windmill, and finishing with coffee/tea, cake and our packed lunches in the churchyard at around 1pm. We will also look in at the Historic Exhibition of old Sandhurst photos and memorabilia in the Mission Church on our way.

The walking pace will be leisurely, but some of the ground might be uneven. Stout foot wear, a good coat and a small folding chair/shooting stick, if you are in need of support while stopping for a rest, is all that is needed. Please bring a packed lunch.

We would love to walk with you!

Lyn Hayes and Revd Ylva Blid-Mackenzie (Mob. 07766-711957)

Benenden Fete – Saturday 18th June from 12 noon to 4 pm.

The donation drop-off is now open!

We would be extremely grateful - and pleased - for any of your spring clear outs to be donated to the fete! Please leave donations in the gazebo at the Scout hut (opposite Benenden's).

Items must be clean and intact please.

14th Annual RBD Sandhurst Memorial Musicals for Hospice in the Weald.

Welcome to our 14th season, which has a distinctly French feeling.

The garden party in aid of Hospice in the Weald will be, as always – **the final Saturday in July, the 30th. at 3pm.** Hugo Philipeau will be making his English debut with a lovely selection of music, including Chopin, Debussy and Ravel.

The September Hospice recital will be **3pm on Tuesday September 6th.** Sasha Karpeyev will be playing with François Pineau-Benois, our first violinist who is coming over from Paris. Sasha tells me that they are exploring the `Belaieff` composers, which thrills me – is that inspired by Richard`s book, I wonder? They will be playing Rachmaninov, Prokofiev, Glazunov etc.

Tickets will only be sold in advance starting in May.
Please contact Gillian on 01580-850384 for reservations or
email: gillian@wimbourne.com

Bell-ringing Practice at St George's (usual weekly timetable)

Mondays: 3.30 to 4.30 pm - Learners' practice
Tuesdays: 6.30 to 7.30 pm - Simulator practice
Wednesdays: 7.30 to 9 pm - Weekly Bell-ringing Practice (shutters open)
Thursdays: 4.30 to 5.30 pm - Simulator practice
Fridays: 9 to 10.30 am - Simulator practice

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: julia.collard@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 (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		
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