

St George's Church, Benenden

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

Our Worship: Sunday 16th February The Third Sunday before Lent

Collect: Almighty God, who alone can bring order to the unruly wills and passions of sinful humanity: give your people grace so to love what you command and to desire what you promise, that, among the many changes of this world, our hearts may surely there be fixed where true joys are to be found; 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 16th February – The Third Sunday before Lent

Readings: 1 Corinthians 15.12-20, Luke 6:17-26

8 am **HOLY COMMUNION**
led by Revd Rosemary Kobus van Wengen

10 am **SUNG EUCHARIST**
led by Revd David Commander & Victoria Bray

Hymns: 676 *Immortal, invisible, God only wise*
 204 *If Christ had not been raised from death*
 629 *Father, hear the prayer we offer*
 (HC) 253 *Love of the Father, Love of God the Son*
 765 *Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation*

THE WEEK AHEAD

Monday 17 th	8 am	Morning Prayer at St George's
	11 am	Interment of t/l Brian Daw at St George's <i>No Sandhurst Home Group today</i>
Tuesday 18 th	7.30 pm	Benenden Worship Group meeting at the Rectory <i>No Morning Prayer today</i>
	10 am	Holy Communion at Sandhurst Mission Church led by Revd Ylva Blid-Mackenzie
Wednesday 19 th	7.30 pm	Home Group at David & Julia Collard's <i>No Morning Prayer today</i>
	7 pm	Central Weald 'Filling Station' at Staplehurst Free Church
Thursday 20 th	7.30 – 9.15 pm	Bell Ringing Practice at St George's
	10 – 11.30 am	Community Choir at St George's
Friday 21 st		<i>No Morning Prayer today</i>
	7.30 – 9 pm	Bellringing – Quarter Peal attempt – at St George's

Sunday Next: 23rd February – The Second Sunday before Lent

Readings: Revelation 4, Luke 8.22-25

8 am **HOLY COMMUNION**
led by Revd David Commander

10 am **MORNING WORSHIP**
led by David Harmsworth

Readings: Sunday 16th February – Third Sunday before Lent

1 Corinthians 15.12-20

¹² Now if Christ is proclaimed as raised from the dead, how can some of you say there is no resurrection of the dead? ¹³If there is no resurrection of the dead, then Christ has not been raised; ¹⁴and if Christ has not been raised, then our proclamation has been in vain and your faith has been in vain. ¹⁵We are even found to be misrepresenting God, because we testified of God that he raised Christ—whom he did not raise if it is true that the dead are not raised. ¹⁶For if the dead are not raised, then Christ has not been raised. ¹⁷If Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins. ¹⁸Then those also who have died in Christ have perished. ¹⁹If for this life only we have hoped in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied.

²⁰ But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have died.

Luke 6.17-26

¹⁷ He came down with them and stood on a level place, with a great crowd of his disciples and a great multitude of people from all Judea, Jerusalem, and the coast of Tyre and Sidon. ¹⁸They had come to hear him and to be healed of their diseases; and those who were troubled with unclean spirits were cured. ¹⁹And all in the crowd were trying to touch him, for power came out from him and healed all of them.

²⁰ Then he looked up at his disciples and said:

‘Blessed are you who are poor,
for yours is the kingdom of God.

²¹ ‘Blessed are you who are hungry now,
for you will be filled.

‘Blessed are you who weep now,
for you will laugh.

²² ‘Blessed are you when people hate you, and when they exclude you, revile you, and defame you on account of the Son of Man. ²³Rejoice on that day and leap for joy, for surely your reward is great in heaven; for that is what their ancestors did to the prophets.

²⁴ ‘But woe to you who are rich,
for you have received your consolation.

²⁵ ‘Woe to you who are full now,
for you will be hungry.

‘Woe to you who are laughing now,
for you will mourn and weep.

²⁶ ‘Woe to you when all speak well of you, for that is what their ancestors did to the false prophets.

Prayers & Sad news:

t/I Dick Dengate, former Rector of St Nicholas Church, Sandhurst, passed away peacefully on Thursday 30th January. Dick’s funeral will be on Friday 28th February, at 2pm, at St Peter & St Paul’s Church, Peasmarsh TN31 6XE. This will be a church funeral service followed by burial in the churchyard. A social within the church may follow but details are to be confirmed. Revd David

Date for the Diary: Churchyard Working Party at St George’s - Saturday 1st March from 9.30 am to noon. Please do join us if you are able. Dick Hill

Our Ash Wednesday is on Wednesday, 5th March at St George’s at 7.30pm. Please return last year’s palm crosses to Revd David by Sunday 2nd March. There will be a collection basket at the back of church

Central Weald Filling Station – 7 pm, Wednesday 19th February: VENUE CHANGE! The primary school are unable to host us this month. Our friends at Staplehurst Free Church have kindly agreed to host us. We are very excited to have **Graham Kendrick** and a team of musicians with us again to lead a time of praise, worship and encountering God for our February meeting, a year on from their first visit. We will have a great, inspiring time – with extra pizza. **For February only, we meet STAPLEHURST FREE CHURCH**, Station Road, Staplehurst TN12 0QQ. We hope to see you there!

Selection of next Archbishop of Canterbury: Elections to ‘Vacancy in See Committee’: The ‘Vacancy in See Committee’ is a statutory committee, which has a permanent existence but only meets during a vacancy. The committee assists in the procedure of appointing a new Archbishop of Canterbury or Bishop of Dover. You do not have to be a member of Diocesan Synod to stand. **Nominations are welcomed – by no later than midday on 24th February 2025.** Please do pick up a leaflet, detailing further information and a nomination form, from the back of church if you are interested in standing.

‘CONNECT FOUR’

Our informal family service

We next meet - 4pm - Saturday 1st March

at Sandhurst Mission Church, Back Road TN18 5JU



Come along and connect with:

***- family and friends - tea, coffee, cake - the Bible – worship - and God!
Refreshments throughout***

(NB February date moved due to half term holidays)

**Loss & Grief Café
Time to share & reflect**



**Saturday 15th March - 10 am to 12 noon
at the Mission Church, TN18 5JU**

We are offering a morning to explore our grief through conversation, readings and crafting together. Talking to others who have been through similar experiences can be helpful, or just knowing that someone is there to listen. For more information and to book this free workshop please contact Claire Roberts on 01580 754374 or email clairecr57@yahoo.com

Fun Chicago Bridge Afternoon

in aid of St Nicholas Church

Wednesday 19th March

at the Mission Church, Back Road, Sandhurst TN18 5JU

1.40 for 2pm start; play will finish at 5pm

Tea, delicious cakes prizes and a raffle. Tables of four £24.

Please bring your own bridge cloth, cards, pencils and bidding boxes, if you have them.

To book tables or for further information please contact:

Anne Tylden-Wright Tel: 01580 850281 Email: tyldenwright@gmail.com



Lent Course 2025

A Pilgrimage through Prayer

This year's Lent course uses the theme of Pilgrimage to help us explore different aspects of prayer to hopefully gain a sense of travelling together, enriching our own prayer life along the way.

During the course we will often be referring to one of the best known pilgrim routes in Europe, the Camino de Santiago de Compostela.

The Camino has a long history with many different starting points and many different routes, but all leading to the same destination.

We would love to journey with you as we discover new and different ways of praying or to enhance our own personal prayer practices & habits.

The course begins on Wednesday 12th March for 5 weeks and will be held at the Mission Church, Back Road, Sandhurst from 7.30pm.

Refreshments will be available.
Buen Camino!

St George's 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
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
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, 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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A Church Near You: St George's, Benenden	https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/12091/