

St George's Church, Benenden

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

Our Worship: Sunday 28th January

The Presentation of Christ in the Temple

Collect: Almighty and ever-living God, clothed in majesty, whose beloved Son was this day presented in the Temple, in substance of our flesh: grant that we may be presented to you with pure and clean hearts, by your Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Sunday 28th January – The Presentation of Christ in the Temple

Readings: Hebrews 2.14-end, Luke 2.22-40

8 am HOLY COMMUNION

led by Revd David Commander

10 am MORNING WORSHIP

led by Revd Rosemary Kobus van Wengen

*Hymns: 664 How sweet the name of Jesus sounds
628 Father of heaven
634 Firmly I believe and truly
816 Thy kingdom come, O God*

THE WEEK AHEAD

Monday 29 th	8 am	Morning Prayer at St George's
	11.30 am	Interment of t/l Helen Cuthbert at St George's
	7.30 pm	Sandhurst Home Group at Sandhurst Mission Church
Tuesday 30 th	8 am	Morning Prayer at Sandhurst Mission Church
	10 am	Holy Communion at Sandhurst Mission Church led by Revd David Commander
	1.45 – 4 pm	BGS Exhibition set up No Benenden Home Group this week
	8 am	Morning Prayer at Sandhurst Mission Church
Wednesday 31 st	2 pm	Benenden Memorial Hall AGM - at the Memorial Hall
	4 – 5 pm	BGS Exhibition set up
	6 pm	Benenden Girls' School Centenary Event at St George's
	7.30 – 9 pm	Bellringing Practice at St George's
Thursday 1 st	10–11.30 am	Community Choir at St George's
	7 pm	Choir Practice at St George's
Friday 2 nd	8 am	Morning Prayer at St George's
	9–11 am	Cakes & Chaos Toddler Group at St George's
	2 – 3 pm	BPS Christingle Service at St George's

Sunday Next: 4th February – The Second Sunday before Lent

Readings: Colossians 1.15-20, John 1.1-14

8 am HOLY COMMUNION

led by Revd Rosemary Kobus van Wengen

10 am ALL AGE COMMUNION

led by Revd David Commander

5 pm CHORAL EVENSONG

led by Revd David Commander

Readings: 28th January – The Presentation of Christ in the Temple

Hebrews 2.14-end

¹⁴ Since, therefore, the children share flesh and blood, he himself likewise shared the same things, so that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, ¹⁵and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by the fear of death. ¹⁶For it is clear that he did not come to help angels, but the descendants of Abraham. ¹⁷Therefore he had to become like his brothers and sisters in every respect, so that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make a sacrifice of atonement for the sins of the people. ¹⁸Because he himself was tested by what he suffered, he is able to help those who are being tested.

Luke 2.22-40

Jesus Is Presented in the Temple

²² When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, they brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord ²³(as it is written in the law of the Lord, 'Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord'), ²⁴and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, 'a pair of turtle-doves or two young pigeons.'

²⁵ Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him. ²⁶It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Messiah. ²⁷Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the law, ²⁸Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying,

²⁹ 'Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace,
according to your word;

³⁰ for my eyes have seen your salvation,

³¹ which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples,

³² a light for revelation to the Gentiles
and for glory to your people Israel.'

³³ And the child's father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. ³⁴Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, 'This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed ³⁵so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed—and a sword will pierce your own soul too.'

³⁶ There was also a prophet, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, having lived with her husband for seven years after her marriage, ³⁷then as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshipped there with fasting and prayer night and day. ³⁸At that moment she came, and began to praise God and to speak about the child to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem.

The Return to Nazareth

³⁹ When they had finished everything required by the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. ⁴⁰The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favour of God was upon him.

Ash Wednesday: 14th February

Ashing Service at St George's - at 7.30 pm

Please could we ask that any Palm Crosses be returned by Sunday 11th February in order to make the ashes for this service.

Collection baskets will be at the back in all three churches.

Prayers:

We pray for the family and friends of **t/I Helen Cuthbert**. Helen's interment is at St George's on Monday 29th January.

t/I Michael Whiteley, late husband of organist, Jane Whiteley. A Thanksgiving Service for Michael's life will take place at St Mildred's Church, Tenterden, at 2 pm on Friday 9th February. Jane would be delighted if any members of our congregation could attend the service. Please continue to hold Jane in your prayers.

t/I Martyn Gregory. There will be a private family funeral service at Charing Crematorium on Tuesday 6th February. This will be followed by a Memorial Service at St George's Church at 12 noon on Friday 8th March. Please continue to hold dear Aurea in your prayers, and Martyn's brothers, Adrian and Clive, and their families.

Revd David

Benenden Home Group – Please note there is no Home Group in Benenden this Tuesday, 30th January. David Collard

Benenden Girls' School - Centenary Event Exhibition at St George's

As part of Benenden's School Centenary celebrations an exhibition is being held at St George's Church over two weeks, with a **launch event, in church, on Wednesday 31st January at 6pm.**

Members of the local community, staff and pupils will be attending and we would very much like to welcome members of the church family. The exhibition is themed around the people, places and history of the school in the village covering the last one hundred years, up to the present day, with refreshments and music to mark the occasion.

If you would like to attend, please email Nick Rendall nmr@benenden.school

PLANNED GIVING - TIME TO REVIEW?

Not too long ago our Planned Giving covered our Parish Share contribution.

In the last few years our Planned Giving has dropped by some 20%, albeit it has stabilised recently and in the same period our Parish Share has risen by 40% resulting in a deficit of £18,000. Of our regular givers, less than 5% have reviewed their payments in the last two years. Like many of us, St George's has been facing the challenge of how to meet rising costs. This is why we are asking any of you who make regular gift payments by standing order to review the level and increase it by as much as you feel able.

At the same time, for those of you who have signed a Gift Aid Declaration, please note that for it to remain valid you need to be paying as least as much UK income or capital gains as St George's claims on your behalf, ie 25% of your annual contribution.

If your tax status has changed or if you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to contact Paul Hewitt via Email: phewitt1203@gmail.com or Tel 07703 532744.

UPCOMING CHOIR PRACTICES AT ST GEORGE'S (All practices from 7 to 8 pm)

Thursday 1st February

No choir practices on Thursday 15th and Thursday 29th February


Thursday 14th March

No choir practice on Maundy Thursday, 28th February (Communion service)

Thursday 11th April

Thursday 25th April

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
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
	StNicholasSandhurst StGeorgesBenenden