

St George's Church, Benenden

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

Our Worship: Sunday 4th February The Second Sunday before Lent

Collect: Almighty God, you have created the heavens and the earth and made us in your own image: teach us to discern your hand in all your works and your likeness in all your children; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who with you and the Holy Spirit reigns supreme over all things, now and for ever.

Sunday 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

*Hymns: 676 Immortal, invisible
764 Peace, perfect peace
630 Father, Lord of all creation
810 Thou, whose almighty word*

5 pm CHORAL EVENSONG

led by Revd David Commander

Psalms 65. Readings: Genesis 2.4b-end, Luke 8.22-35

*Hymns: 706 Let us, with a gladsome mind
710 Light's abode, celestial Salem (omit v 4&5)
532 All creatures of our God and King (omit v 5&6)
754 O worship the King*

THE WEEK AHEAD

Monday 5 th	8 am	Morning Prayer at St George's
	7.30 pm	Sandhurst Home Group at Sandhurst Mission Church
Tuesday 6 th	8 am	Morning Prayer at Sandhurst Mission Church
	10 am	Holy Communion at Sandhurst Mission Church led by Revd Rosemary Kobus van Wengen No Benenden Home Group this week - Restarts 6th March
Wednesday 7 th	8 am	Morning Prayer at Sandhurst Mission Church
	7.30 – 9 pm	Bellringing Practice at St George's
Thursday 8 th	10–11.30 am	Community Choir at St George's
	7 pm	Choir Practice at St George's
Friday 9 th	8 am	Morning Prayer at St George's
	9–11 am	Cakes & Chaos Toddler Group at St George's
	11.15 am	Benenden Churchwardens' meeting at St George's

Sunday Next: 11th February – The Sunday next before Lent

Readings: 2 Corinthians 4.3-6, Mark 9.2-9

8 am 1662 BCP HOLY COMMUNION

led by Revd David Commander

10 am MORNING WORSHIP

led by Vicki Young

Readings: 4th February – The Second Sunday before Lent

Colossians 1.15-20

The Supremacy of Christ

¹⁵ He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation; ¹⁶for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers—all things have been created through him and for him. ¹⁷He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. ¹⁸He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything. ¹⁹For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, ²⁰and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross.

John 1.1-14

The Gospel According to John

The Word Became Flesh

¹In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ²He was in the beginning with God. ³All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being ⁴in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. ⁵The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

⁶ There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. ⁸He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. ⁹The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

¹⁰ He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. ¹¹He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. ¹²But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, ¹³who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

¹⁴ And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

Ash Wednesday: 14th February
Ashing Service at St George's - at 7.30 pm

Thank you for all the Palm Crosses returned so far.

Please could we ask that any more be returned

by Sunday 11th February

in order to make the ashes for this service.

Collection baskets are in all three churches.

Prayers:

t/l Martyn Gregory. Martyn's private family funeral service is at Charing Crematorium this 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

t/l Terence (Terry) Jones. We pray for the family of t/l Terry Jones, a long-term resident of Benenden, who died on 2nd January. Terry's funeral will be held on Tuesday 13th February at 1 pm at St George's. Revd Ylva

Benenden Home Group – Please note there will be no Home Group in Benenden until Tuesday 6th March. David Collard

■ ● Vicki Young - Curacy Announcement ● ■

We are delighted to announce that Bishop Rose has agreed that Vicki will be serving her title post in the Benefice of Marden as Curate from the end of June 2024.

Vicki currently worships in the Benefice of Benenden and Sandhurst, and she has trained for ministry through St Augustine's College of Theology.

Vicki will be ordained to the diaconate in a service at Canterbury Cathedral on 29th June. It is hoped that Vicki will be able to move to Marden prior to ordination.

We pray for Vicki as she finishes her training course and prepares to move home, and church. We pray also for good beginnings in a new place, and for her continued training and development as she continues to follow God's call on her life in ordination to the priesthood through her curacy in Marden.

Revd David

LENT COURSE 2024

'At the Foot of the Cross A Lenten Journey with Julian of Norwich'

5 week course, starting Tuesday 20th February
7.30 - 9pm
at Benenden Memorial Hall

led by Revd Ylva Blid-Mackenzie and Lyn Hayes. *All are welcome.*

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

Thursday 14th March
Thursday 4th April
Thursday 18th April

ie **no practice** on 15th & 29th February
or 28th March (Maundy Thursday – Communion service)

Benenden Girls' School Centenary Exhibition at St George's

On now! – until 13th February

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.

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 <i>(NB The Rector's day off is Thursday)</i> 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