

# St George's Church, Benenden

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

## Our Worship: 5<sup>th</sup> 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 5<sup>th</sup> February – The Third Sunday before Lent

*Readings: 1 Corinthians 2.1-12, Matthew 5.13-20*

**8 am HOLY COMMUNION**  
led by Revd Ylva Blid-Mackenzie

**10 am ALL AGE COMMUNION**  
led by Revd David Commander

*Hymns:* 486 *Christ is the King!*  
545 *Morning has broken*  
390 *Thanks to God*  
488 *Church of God*

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

**5 pm CHORAL EVENSONG AT ST GEORGE'S**  
led by Revd David Commander

*Hymns* 569 *The kingdom of God*  
721 *Love divine*  
580 *Judge eternal*  
810 *Thou whose almighty word*

### THE WEEK AHEAD

**Revd David will be on holiday from Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> to Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> February inclusive.**

**Should you require the services of a Priest during this time, please contact your**

**Churchwardens: David Collard Tel 241 944; Sue Fisher Tel 241 907**

Monday 6 <sup>th</sup>	8 am	Morning Prayer at St George's
	7.30 pm	Home Group at Sandhurst Mission Church
Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup>	8 am	Morning Prayer at Sandhurst Mission Church
	10 am	Holy Communion at Sandhurst Mission Church led by Revd David Commander
	11.15 am	MLT Meeting at Sandhurst Mission Church
	8 pm	Benenden Home Group at David & Julia Collard's
Wednesday 8 <sup>th</sup>	8 am	Morning Prayer at Sandhurst Mission Church
	10 – 11.30 am	Coffee Morning at Benenden Memorial Hall – all welcome
	2 pm	Memorial Service for t/l Iain Thomson
	7.30 – 9.15 pm	Bellringing at St George's
Thursday 9 <sup>th</sup>	10 am	Community Choir at St George's
Friday 10 <sup>th</sup>		<i>No Morning Prayer today</i>
	9 – 11 am	Cakes & Chaos Toddler Group at St George's
	1 – 3 pm	'Warm Welcome Space' at Benenden Memorial Hall

## **Sunday Next: 12<sup>th</sup> February – The Second Sunday before Lent**

*Readings: Romans 8.18-25, Matthew 6.25-end*

**8 am**            **1662 BCP HOLY COMMUNION**  
led by Revd Rosemary Kobus van Wengen

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

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

## **Bible Readings – Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> February – The Third Sunday before Lent**

### **1 Corinthians 2.1-12**

#### ***Proclaiming Christ Crucified***

<sup>2</sup>When I came to you, brothers and sisters, I did not come proclaiming the mystery of God to you in lofty words or wisdom. <sup>2</sup>For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ, and him crucified. <sup>3</sup>And I came to you in weakness and in fear and in much trembling. <sup>4</sup>My speech and my proclamation were not with plausible words of wisdom, but with a demonstration of the Spirit and of power, <sup>5</sup>so that your faith might rest not on human wisdom but on the power of God.

#### ***The True Wisdom of God***

<sup>6</sup> Yet among the mature we do speak wisdom, though it is not a wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are doomed to perish. <sup>7</sup>But we speak God's wisdom, secret and hidden, which God decreed before the ages for our glory. <sup>8</sup>None of the rulers of this age understood this; for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. <sup>9</sup>But, as it is written, 'What no eye has seen, nor ear heard,

nor the human heart conceived,  
what God has prepared for those who love him'—

<sup>10</sup>these things God has revealed to us through the Spirit; for the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. <sup>11</sup>For what human being knows what is truly human except the human spirit that is within? So also no one comprehends what is truly God's except the Spirit of God. <sup>12</sup>Now we have received not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit that is from God, so that we may understand the gifts bestowed on us by God.

### **Matthew 5.13-20**

#### ***Salt and Light***

<sup>13</sup> 'You are the salt of the earth; but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything, but is thrown out and trampled under foot.

<sup>14</sup> 'You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hidden. <sup>15</sup>No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. <sup>16</sup>In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.

#### **The Law and the Prophets**

<sup>17</sup> 'Do not think that I have come to abolish the law or the prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfil. <sup>18</sup>For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth pass away, not one letter, not one stroke of a letter, will pass from the law until all is accomplished. <sup>19</sup>Therefore, whoever breaks one of the least of these commandments, and teaches others to do the same, will be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. <sup>20</sup>For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.

**Prayers:**

**t/I Iain Thomson:** Iain's Memorial service is on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> February at 2pm at St George's. We hold Anne, Sarah, Robert and Skye and their family and friends in our prayers.

**t/I Barbara Sheffield:** For those of you who may remember Barbara, I pass on the news that she died on the 14<sup>th</sup> January; her funeral will take place at St George's Church on Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> February at 11 am. The service will be followed by burial in the churchyard with her late husband, Derek Sheffield. Please hold Barbara's family in your prayers.

**"Learning and Sharing the Faith" group:** This is a benefice group, drawn from people from both church families, who discuss and arrange things relating to... how we learn about our faith, and how we share our faith. The group has been "sleeping" since the lockdowns imposed by Covid; it is time to reinvigorate the work of this group. If you are interested in moving forward our mission, our outreach, our learning - then please speak to me and think about joining the group. We have a meeting scheduled for Monday 20<sup>th</sup> February, 7pm, at The Rectory. If you want to see what it is about: come along. If you have ideas for mission: come along and share them. Revd David

**Palm Crosses:** Would you please let Revd David have your old palm crosses back, ready for creating the ashes for the Ash Wednesday service on 22<sup>nd</sup> February. (The service is at 7.30pm at St George's Church.) There will be a basket at the back of the church. Please return any old palm crosses by Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> February. Thank you!

**Weald Deanery – Area Dean**

Revd David is to be commissioned as the next Area Dean for the Weald Deanery. Archdeacon Andrew Sewell will conduct the commissioning at the Choral Evensong service at St. George's Benenden on Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> March, 5pm. Refreshments and social after the service.

**Come in from the cold  
and keep warm this winter**



**Fridays and Sundays, 1-3pm**

(From Friday 6<sup>th</sup> January)

**The Memorial Hall, Benenden**

(N.B. There is also the Coffee Shop on a Wednesday, 10-11:30am)

Come to a warm community space; enjoy a warm drink; have a chat.  
Don't sit at home feeling alone, or being cold. There is no charge.  
Everyone is welcome. (Under 18's must be accompanied by an adult.)

Revd David E: [revdavidcommander@gmail.com](mailto:revdavidcommander@gmail.com) (T: 240658) or  
Cathy Presgrave E: [cathy.presgrave@gmail.com](mailto:cathy.presgrave@gmail.com)

**Contacts: St George's Church, Benenden**

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<b>St George's Churchwardens</b>	Mr David Collard Tel: 01580 241 944 E-mail: <a href="mailto:julia.collard@btinternet.com">julia.collard@btinternet.com</a> and <a href="mailto:d.collard49@btinternet.com">d.collard49@btinternet.com</a> Mrs Sue Fisher Tel: 01580 241 907 E-mail: <a href="mailto:sue@undaunted.co.uk">sue@undaunted.co.uk</a>	
<b>St George's Parish Safeguarding Officer</b>	Ian Malaugh Tel: 01580 240 999 E-mail: <a href="mailto:ianmal@sky.com">ianmal@sky.com</a>	
<b>Priests</b>	Revd David Commander, Rector. The Rectory, The Green, Benenden, TN17 4DL Tel: 01580 240 658 E-mail: <a href="mailto:revdavidcommander@gmail.com">revdavidcommander@gmail.com</a> <i>(NB The Rector's day off is Thursday)</i>  Revd Ylva Blid-Mackenzie, Curate Tel: 01233 820100 Mobile: 07766 711957 Email: <a href="mailto:rev.ylva@gmail.com">rev.ylva@gmail.com</a>  Revd Dr Rosemary Kobus van Wengen Tel: 01580 764 857 Email: <a href="mailto:rosemaryvanwengen@gmail.com">rosemaryvanwengen@gmail.com</a>	
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