

St George's Church, Benenden

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

Our Worship: Sunday 6th February The Fourth Sunday before Lent

Collect: O God, you know us to be set in the midst of so many and great dangers, that by reason of the frailty of our nature we cannot always stand upright: grant to us such strength and protection as may support us in all dangers and carry us through all temptations; 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 6th February - The Fourth Sunday before Lent

Readings: 1 Corinthians 15.1-11, Luke 5.1-11

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

10 am **ALL AGE COMMUNION & BAPTISM OF MIRABELLE COX**

led by Revd David Commander

***We welcome Mirabelle and her family and friends
to St George's this morning***

Hymns: 676 *Immortal, invisible*
 696 *Jesus, where'er thy people meet*
 729 *My God, how wonderful thou art*
 (HC) 594 *Be still, my soul*
 588 *And can it be*

5 pm **CHORAL EVENSONG** led by David Harmsworth

Readings: Hosea 1, Colossians 3.1-22. Psalm 2

Hymns: 486 *Christ is the king!*
 820 *When all thy mercies (omit v4)*
 475 *Forth in the peace of Christ we go*

THE WEEK AHEAD

Monday 7 th	8 am	Morning Prayer at St George's
	11 am	Funeral of t/l Adrian Penny at St George's
	7.30 pm	Home Group at Sandhurst Mission Church
Tuesday 8 th	8 am	Morning Prayer at Sandhurst Mission Church
	10 am	Holy Communion at Sandhurst Mission Church led by Revd Rosemary Kobus van Wengen
Wednesday 9 th	8 pm	Benenden Home Group at David & Julia Collard's
	8 am	Morning Prayer at Sandhurst Mission Church
	10 am	Coffee Morning at the Memorial Hall
Thursday 10 th	10 am	Rhythm of Life Community Choir at St George's
Friday 11 th	8 am	Morning Prayer at St George's
	9 – 11 am	Cakes & Chaos Toddler Group at St George's
Saturday 12 th	11 am	Memorial Service t/l Lesley Attwood at St George's

Sunday Next: Sunday 13th February – The Third Sunday before Lent

Readings: 1 Corinthians 15.12-20, Luke 6.17-26

8 am **1662 BCP HOLY COMMUNION** led by Revd David Commander

10 am **MORNING WORSHIP** led by Richard & Sue Fisher

Readings: Sunday 6th February – The Fourth Sunday before Lent

1 Corinthians 15.1-11

The Resurrection of Christ

¹⁵Now I should remind you, brothers and sisters, of the good news that I proclaimed to you, which you in turn received, in which also you stand, ²through which also you are being saved, if you hold firmly to the message that I proclaimed to you—unless you have come to believe in vain.

³For I handed on to you as of first importance what I in turn had received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the scriptures, ⁴and that he was buried, and that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the scriptures, ⁵and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. ⁶Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers and sisters at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have died. ⁷Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. ⁸Last of all, as to someone untimely born, he appeared also to me. ⁹For I am the least of the apostles, unfit to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. ¹⁰But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace towards me has not been in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them—though it was not I, but the grace of God that is with me. ¹¹Whether then it was I or they, so we proclaim and so you have come to believe.

Luke 5.1-11

Jesus Calls the First Disciples

⁵Once while Jesus was standing beside the lake of Gennesaret, and the crowd was pressing in on him to hear the word of God, ²he saw two boats there at the shore of the lake; the fishermen had gone out of them and were washing their nets. ³He got into one of the boats, the one belonging to Simon, and asked him to put out a little way from the shore. Then he sat down and taught the crowds from the boat. ⁴When he had finished speaking, he said to Simon, 'Put out into the deep water and let down your nets for a catch.' ⁵Simon answered, 'Master, we have worked all night long but have caught nothing. Yet if you say so, I will let down the nets.' ⁶When they had done this, they caught so many fish that their nets were beginning to break. ⁷So they signalled to their partners in the other boat to come and help them. And they came and filled both boats, so that they began to sink. ⁸But when Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus' knees, saying, 'Go away from me, Lord, for I am a sinful man!' ⁹For he and all who were with him were amazed at the catch of fish that they had taken; ¹⁰and so also were James and John, sons of Zebedee, who were partners with Simon. Then Jesus said to Simon, 'Do not be afraid; from now on you will be catching people.' ¹¹When they had brought their boats to shore, they left everything and followed him.

Funerals and prayers:

We have a number of funerals coming up in the next few weeks.

Please hold these people and their families in your prayers:

t/l **Adrian Penny**; Funeral: Monday 7th February, 11am at St George's

t/l **Ken Slater**; Funeral: Wednesday 9th February, 12pm at Sandhurst Baptist Church. The service is to be live-streamed; the Zoom link is:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83623934150?pwd=a0JtV1VqS3F4UEQ4Qk5ldJkMkdWUT09>

Meeting ID: 836 2393 4150 Passcode: 092944

t/l **Tom Pugh**; Funeral: Thursday 10th February, 2pm at St Nicholas

t/l **Lesley Attwood**; Thanksgiving Service: Saturday 12th February, 11am, at St George's, followed by refreshments at the back of church and the interment.

t/l **Penny Crawford**; Funeral: Monday 14th February, 12pm at St George's

t/l **John Hare**; Funeral: Saturday 19th February, 11.30am at St George's

t/l **Marie Orson**; Funeral: Wednesday 23rd February, 11.30am at St George's

t/l **Colin Morrison**; Thursday 24th February: Burial circa 12.15pm at St George's. (The funeral service is to take place at St Andrew's, Tenterden earlier in the day.)

We continue to hold Charles, Richard and Henry Trollope in our prayers, following the passing of dear Heather.

Palm Crosses: Can you please let me have your old palm crosses back, ready for creating the ashes for the Ash Wednesday service on 2nd March. (The service is at 7.30pm at St George's Church.) There will be a basket at the back of the church. Please let me have your old palm crosses by Sunday 27th February. Thank you. Revd David

Revd David - Sabbatical: The Diocese have granted me a three-month sabbatical this year. A sabbatical is a time of being able to step off the treadmill of parish ministry long enough to be renewed and refreshed. For me, it is simply a time of renewal, and a time of reconnecting with God. "It's stepping completely out of the current ministry situation and freed to embark on a holy trek!" And that is exactly what I have planned - a holy trek! Combining a love of the outdoors, walking, and Celtic spirituality. It will involve retreat times in the Christian communities on Iona and at Lindisfarne; and walking the Great Glen Way, the St Cuthbert's Way and the North Berwickshire Coastal Path. In addition, it will include some time out in spiritual spaces in the Orkneys and the Outer Hebrides.

In my preparation for the sabbatical, I have been doing some reading; one piece that I read said, "The very nature of being an effective pastor (priest) involves continual spiritual growth": I have been aware that has not been happening. The prospect is very exciting; and I am so grateful for the forthcoming opportunity. I will be taking the sabbatical in July, August and September this year. During that period, the parish will be well supported by the members of the Ministry Leadership Team and the Churchwardens; and I am very grateful for their support. I am trusting that this will be a time of renewal and encouragement for all of us. Helen will be with me some of the time, and also with our family; but will continue to lead the Toddler Groups in both parishes. Your prayers for this time for Helen and I, and for the parishes would be greatly appreciated. If you would like to know more, just ask! Revd David

Covid guidelines in public worship

You will be aware of the latest relaxing of the Covid guidelines by the Government. This is the line we are taking at St George's:

Hands: Please sanitise on entry and exit

Face: Face coverings are optional once again.

It's about looking after one another and being respectful.


Space: Respect others; create space; make use of the whole church

NHS Track & Trace: Please use the QR Code or Register.

Congregational Singing - will still take place. The "Safe zone" will continue to be made available, when possible, on south side of church.

Communion: distribution will continue by "simultaneous administration" (ie intinction of the wafer immediately before distribution.) Refreshments will be served after the 10 o'clock service - please take your refreshments sitting down, as you would if you were in a cafe.

Contacts: St George's Church, Benenden

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<p align="center">St George's Churchwardens</p>	<p>Mr David Collard Tel: 01580 241 944 E-mail: julia.collard@btinternet.com Mrs Sue Fisher Tel: 01580 241907 E-mail: sue@undaunted.co.uk</p>		
<p align="center">St George's Parish Safeguarding Officer</p>	<p>Ian Malaugh Tel: 01580 240 999 E-mail: ianmal@sky.com</p>		
<p align="center">Priests</p>	<p>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</p>		
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