

# St George's Church, Benenden

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

## Our Worship: Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> January The Third Sunday of Epiphany

**Collect:** Almighty God, whose Son revealed in signs and miracles the wonder of your saving presence: renew your people with your heavenly grace, and in all our weakness sustain us by your mighty power; 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 23<sup>rd</sup> January – The Third Sunday of Epiphany

*Readings: 1 Cor. 12.12-31a, Luke 4.14-21*

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

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

*Hymns:*    486        *Christ is the King!*  
              729        *My God, how wonderful Thou art*  
              691        *Jesus shall reign*  
              690        *Jesus is Lord*

### THE WEEK AHEAD

*(internal building work in the clergy vestry continues)*

Monday 24 <sup>th</sup>	8 am	Morning Prayer at St George's
	1 pm	Funeral of t/l Heather Trollope at St George's
	7.30 pm	Home Group at Sandhurst Mission Church
Tuesday 25 <sup>th</sup>	8 am	Morning Prayer at Sandhurst Mission Church
	10 am	Holy Communion at Sandhurst Mission Church led by Revd Ylva Blid-Mackenzie
Wednesday 26 <sup>th</sup>	8 pm	Benenden Home Group at David & Julia Collard's
	8 am	Morning Prayer at Sandhurst Mission Church
	10 am	Coffee Morning at Benenden Memorial Hall
Thursday 27 <sup>th</sup>	2 pm	Benenden Memorial AGM at the Memorial Hall
	10 am	Rhythm of Life Community Choir at St George's
Friday 28 <sup>th</sup>	8 am	Morning Prayer at St George's
	9 – 11 am	Cakes & Chaos Toddler Group at St George's

### Sunday Next: 30<sup>th</sup> January – Presentation of Christ in the Temple

*Readings: Hebrews 2.14-end, Luke 2.22-40*

**8 am**            **BENEFICE COMMUNION AT ST GEORGE'S**  
led by Revd David Commander

**10 am**           **BENEFICE COMMUNION AT ST NICHOLAS, SANDHURST**  
led by Revd David Commander & Lyn Hayes

## **Readings: Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> January – The Third Sunday of Epiphany**

### **1 Cor. 12.12-31a**

#### ***One Body with Many Members***

<sup>12</sup> For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. <sup>13</sup>For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.

<sup>14</sup> Indeed, the body does not consist of one member but of many. <sup>15</sup>If the foot were to say, 'Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body', that would not make it any less a part of the body. <sup>16</sup>And if the ear were to say, 'Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body', that would not make it any less a part of the body. <sup>17</sup>If the whole body were an eye, where would the hearing be? If the whole body were hearing, where would the sense of smell be? <sup>18</sup>But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose. <sup>19</sup>If all were a single member, where would the body be? <sup>20</sup>As it is, there are many members, yet one body. <sup>21</sup>The eye cannot say to the hand, 'I have no need of you', nor again the head to the feet, 'I have no need of you.' <sup>22</sup>On the contrary, the members of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, <sup>23</sup>and those members of the body that we think less honourable we clothe with greater honour, and our less respectable members are treated with greater respect; <sup>24</sup>whereas our more respectable members do not need this. But God has so arranged the body, giving the greater honour to the inferior member, <sup>25</sup>that there may be no dissension within the body, but the members may have the same care for one another. <sup>26</sup>If one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honoured, all rejoice together with it.

<sup>27</sup> Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it. <sup>28</sup>And God has appointed in the church first apostles, second prophets, third teachers; then deeds of power, then gifts of healing, forms of assistance, forms of leadership, various kinds of tongues. <sup>29</sup>Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? <sup>30</sup>Do all possess gifts of healing? Do all speak in tongues? Do all interpret? <sup>31</sup>But strive for the greater gifts. And I will show you a still more excellent way.

### **Luke 4.14-21**

#### ***The Beginning of the Galilean Ministry***

<sup>14</sup> Then Jesus, filled with the power of the Spirit, returned to Galilee, and a report about him spread through all the surrounding country. <sup>15</sup>He began to teach in their synagogues and was praised by everyone.

#### ***The Rejection of Jesus at Nazareth***

<sup>16</sup> When he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read, <sup>17</sup>and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written:

<sup>18</sup> 'The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,  
because he has anointed me  
to bring good news to the poor.  
He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives  
and recovery of sight to the blind,  
to let the oppressed go free,  
<sup>19</sup> to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour.'

<sup>20</sup>And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. <sup>21</sup>Then he began to say to them, 'Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.'

***Please note, next Sunday is THE FIFTH SUNDAY of the month.***

***Therefore we have the following benefice services:***

***8 am Holy Communion at St George's***

***10 am Holy Communion at St Nicholas, Sandhurst***

## Prayers:

**t/I Heather Trollope:** Heather's funeral is tomorrow, Monday 24<sup>th</sup> January. There will be a private cremation service in the morning, followed by a service at St George's Church at 1pm, to which everyone is welcome. Refreshments follow after the service at the back of church. We continue to hold Charles, Richard and Harry and Heather's brothers and sister in our prayers.

**Funeral of t/I Adrian Penny:** Adrian, son of t/I Stella Penny, passed away recently. His funeral is to be held at St George's Church on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> February, at 11am, followed by burial in the churchyard. Please hold Adrian's family in your prayers.

**Those of you who knew Marie Orson** will be sad to hear of her death, a few days ago, aged 94. Marie had lived in Benenden since 1998 and until she suffered a stroke, two years ago, was a faithful member of our congregation and of the WI. Our sympathy and prayers go out to Marie's family. May she rest in peace. Revd Rosemary

**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

## **Benefice of Benenden & Sandhurst - Toddler Groups**

*Please use the available hand sanitisers.*

*We don't charge, but a £1 donation per family would be welcome.*

### **The Drop in Café & Toddler Group in Sandhurst**

**meets at the Mission Church on Back Road, TN18 5JU,  
on Wednesdays in term time from 9 to 11am.**

### **"Cakes & Chaos" in Benenden**

**meets at St George's on Fridays in term time from 9 to 11am.**

**ALL WELCOME**

*Please contact Helen for more details.*

**Tel: 01580 240658 Email: [helenjcommander@gmail.com](mailto:helenjcommander@gmail.com))**

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<b>St George's Churchwardens</b>	<b>Mr David Collard Tel: 01580 241 944</b> <b>E-mail: <a href="mailto:julia.collard@btinternet.com">julia.collard@btinternet.com</a></b> <b>Mrs Sue Fisher Tel: 01580 241907</b> <b>E-mail: <a href="mailto:sue@undaunted.co.uk">sue@undaunted.co.uk</a></b>		
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<b>Priests</b>	<b>Revd David Commander, Rector. The Rectory, The Green, Benenden, TN17 4DL</b> <b>Tel: 01580 240 658 E-mail: <a href="mailto:revdavidcommander@gmail.com">revdavidcommander@gmail.com</a></b> <b>(NB The Rector's day off is Thursday)</b> <b>Revd Ylva Blid-Mackenzie, Curate</b> <b>Tel: 01233 820100 Mobile: 07766 711957 Email: <a href="mailto:rev.ylva@gmail.com">rev.ylva@gmail.com</a></b> <b>Revd Dr Rosemary Kobus van Wengen</b> <b>Tel: 01580 764 857 Email: <a href="mailto:rosemaryvanwengen@gmail.com">rosemaryvanwengen@gmail.com</a></b>		
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