The Parish of St George's, Benenden Our Mission: "To know and love Jesus and make his love known to all" Our Worship: 8th March The Second Sunday of Lent

Collect: Almighty God, you show to those who are in error the light of your truth, that they may return to the way of righteousness: grant to all those who are admitted into the fellowship of Christ's religion, that they may reject those things that are contrary to their profession, and follow all such things as are agreeable to the same; through our Lord Jesus Christ, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Bible Readings: Romans 4.1-5, 13-17 John 3.1-17

8.00 am 1662 BCP HOLY COMMUNION

led by Revd David Commander

10.00 am MORNING WORSHIP

led by David Harrmsworth

Hymns		
584	All my hope on God is founded	
806 (omit v 3)	There's a wideness in God's mercy	
624	Faith overcomes	
753	O praise Ye the Lord	

5.00 pm TAIZE SERVICE AT SANDHURST MISSION CHURCH led by Lyn Hayes

Psalm 135. Readings: Numbers 21.4-9, Luke 14.27-33

The Week Ahead

Monday 9 th 8 am	Morning Prayer at St George's
Tuesday 10 th 8 am	Morning Prayer at Sandhurst Mission Church
10 am	Holy Communion at Sandhurst Mission Church
	led by Revd David Commander
11.45 am – 12.45 pm	Visiting Bellringers – East Malling
3.30 – 4.30 pm	St George's Bellringing Learners' practice
4 – 6 pm	Blend Youth Group at Sandhurst Mission Church
	No Tuesday Home Group during Lent (we are following
	the Wednesday Lent course)
Wednesday 11 th 8 am	Morning Prayer at Sandhurst Mission Church
10 am	Coffee Shop at the Memorial Hall
7 – 9 pm	Bellringing practice
7.30 pm	Sandhurst & Benenden Home Groups – Lent Course
	at Sandhurst Mission Church
Friday 13 th 8 am	Morning Prayer at St George's
9 – 11 am	Cakes & Chaos at St George's
3.30 – 4.30 pm	St George's Bellringing Learners' practice
6.45 – 7.45 pm	Choir practice
Saturday 14 th 10 – 11am	Sound system familiarisation at St George's

Sunday Next: 15th March: The Third Sunday of Lent

Readings: Romans 5.1-11, John 4.5-42

8.00 am Holy Communion led by Revd Rosemary Kobus van Wengen
10.00 am Benefice Sung Eucharist at St George's led by Bishop Rose & Revd David Commander

<u>Readings: Sunday 8th March</u>

Romans 4.1-5, 13-17 The Example of Abraham

⁴What then are we to say was gained by Abraham, our ancestor according to the flesh? ²For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. ³For what does the scripture say? 'Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness.' ⁴Now to one who works, wages are not reckoned as a gift but as something due. ⁵But to one who without works trusts him who justifies the ungodly, such faith is reckoned as righteousness.

God's Promise Realized through Faith

¹³ For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. ¹⁴If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. ¹⁵For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation.

¹⁶ For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, ¹⁷as it is written, 'I have made you the father of many nations')—in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist.

John 3.1-17

Nicodemus Visits Jesus

³Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. ²He came to Jesus by night and said to him, 'Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God.' ³Jesus answered him, 'Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above.' ⁴Nicodemus said to him, 'How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother's womb and be born?' ⁵Jesus answered, 'Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. ⁶What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. ⁷Do not be astonished that I said to you, "You must be born from above." ⁸The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.' ⁹Nicodemus said to him, 'How can these things be?' ¹⁰Jesus answered him, 'Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things?

¹¹ 'Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. ¹²If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? ¹³No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. ¹⁴And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, ¹⁵that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

¹⁶ 'For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

¹⁷ 'Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.

Coronavirus / Communion: Until the risk of infection has passed, the priests will use hand-gel before conducting the Eucharist at any of our churches. If you would prefer to dip your wafer in the wine rather than drinking from the chalice, then please do so; but please ensure that your fingers do not contact the wine as this too can cause the transfer of germs. I know that force-of-habit will mean it is all too easy to forget *in the moment of receiving*, but if we can remember it will reduce the risk of any potential transfer of infection. Thank you. Revd David

Home Groups: During Lent both Home Groups are following the Wednesday Lent course held at the Mission Church, Back Road, Sandhurst TN18 5JU. This starts at 7.30pm each week. The Tuesday Home Group reconvenes after Easter.



Sound System: There is a short session on Saturday 15th March, starting at 10am, in St George's for those who are interested in the new St George's sound system. This may be of interest to those who are sidesmen, to those who lead worship but also to those in the congregation. Please do come along if you are interested to learn the basics. Revd David

Bishop Rose Hudson-Wilkin, our new Bishop of Dover, will be preaching and presiding at the 10am Sung Eucharist service at St George's Church on Sunday 15th March.

The service is a benefice service; everyone is very welcome to attend and meet our new Bishop over refreshments after the service.



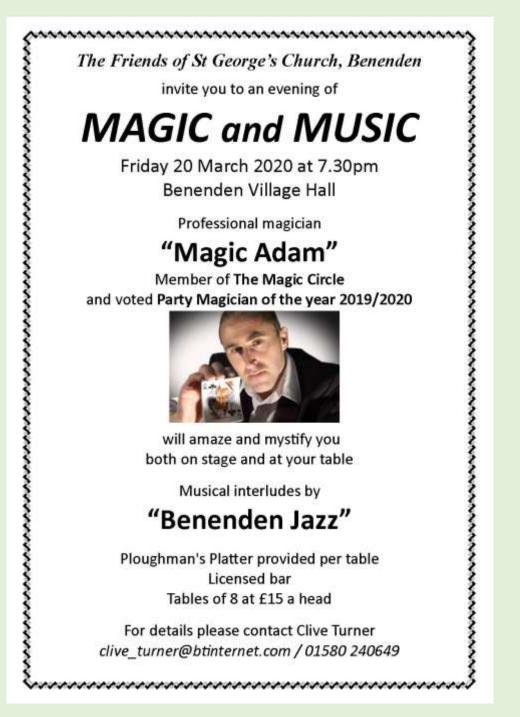
The Friends of St George's Church invite you to an evening with

LYRA - A VOCAL ENSEMBLE FROM ST PETERSBURG

Friday 8 May 2020 at 7.30pm St George's Church

The choir will perform Russian Orthodox, classical and folk music. More details to follow.

cfgparkinson@gmail.com



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Priests	Revd David Commander, Rector The Rectory, The Green, Benenden, Kent TN17 4DL Tel: 01580 240 658 E-mail: revdavidcommander@gmail.com (N.B. The Rector's day off is Thursday) Revd Dr Rosemary Kobus van Wengen				
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