St George's Church, Benenden

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

Our Worship: Sunday 18th May Fifth Sunday of Easter

Collect: Almighty God, who through your only-begotten Son Jesus Christ have overcome death and opened to us the gate of everlasting life: grant that, as by your grace going before us you put into our minds good desires, so by your continual help we may bring them to good effect; through Jesus Christ our risen Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever

Sunday 18th May - Fifth Sunday of Easter

Readings: Acts 11.1-18, John 13.31-35
8 am HOLY COMMUNION

led by Revd David Commander

10 am SUNG EUCHARIST

led by Revd David Commander

Hymns: 506 The church's one foundation

358ii Be still, for the presence of the Lord

454 Love is his word (HC) 644 God is love

356 All nations of the world

10 am 'PAWS IN PEWS' Pet Service at St Nicholas, Sandhurst
12 noon Interment of t/I Charles Lenox-Conyngham at St George's

THE WEEK AHEAD - CHRISTIAN AID WEEK

Monday 19th		No Morning Prayer today
•	7.30 pm	Sandhurst Home Group at the Mission Church
Tuesday 20th		No Morning Prayer today
-	10 am	Holy Communion at Sandhurst Mission Church
		led by Revd Rosemary Kobus van Wengen
	7.30 pm	Home Group at Julia & David Collard's
Wednesday 21st	8 am	Morning Prayer at Sandhurst Mission Church
	7.15 pm	Deanery Synod meeting at St Laurence Church, Hawkhurst
	7.30 pm	Bellringing Practice at St George's
Thursday 22 nd	10 - 11.30 am	Community Choir at St George's
Friday 23 rd	8 am	Morning Prayer at St George's
	9 – 11 am	Cakes & Chaos Toddler Group at St George's
	2 pm	BPS Ascension Service at St George's
		followed by refreshments for parents
	5 pm	Wedding Rehearsal at St George's
Saturday 24th	2 pm	Wedding of Edward Houchin & Ellie Gilbert at St George's
·	4 pm	'CONNECT 4' - Family Service at Sandhurst Mission Church

Sunday Next: 25 th May – Rogation Sunday – Sixth Sunday of Easter			
8 am	HOLY COMMUNION		
	led by Revd Ylva Blid-Mackenzie Readings: Acts 16.9-15, John 14.23-29		
10 am	ROGATION SERVICE & MORNING WORSHIP		
	led by Revd David Commander Readings: Psalm 50.1-2 & 10-11, Mark 4.26-29		

Readings: Sunday 18th May; The Fifth Sunday of Easter

Acts 11.1-18

¹¹Now the apostles and the believers who were in Judea heard that the Gentiles had also accepted the word of God. ²So when Peter went up to Jerusalem, the circumcised believers criticized him, ³saying, "Why did you go to uncircumcised men and eat with them?" ⁴Then Peter began to explain it to them, step by step, saying, 5"I was in the city of Joppa praying, and in a trance I saw a vision. There was something like a large sheet coming down from heaven, being lowered by its four corners; and it came close to me. ⁶As I looked at it closely I saw four-footed animals, beasts of prey, reptiles, and birds of the air. 7I also heard a voice saying to me, 'Get up, Peter; kill and eat.' But I replied, 'By no means, Lord; for nothing profane or unclean has ever entered my mouth.' 9But a second time the voice answered from heaven, 'What God has made clean, you must not call profane.' 10This happened three times; then everything was pulled up again to heaven. 11At that very moment three men, sent to me from Caesarea, arrived at the house where we were. ¹²The Spirit told me to go with them and not to make a distinction between them and us. These six brothers also accompanied me, and we entered the man's house. 13He told us how he had seen the angel standing in his house and saying, 'Send to Joppa and bring Simon, who is called Peter; ¹⁴he will give you a message by which you and your entire household will be saved.' 15 And as I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell upon them just as it had upon us at the beginning. ¹⁶And I remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said, 'John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.' 17 If then God gave them the same gift that he gave us when we believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I that I could hinder God?" 18When they heard this, they were silenced. And they praised God, saying, "Then God has given even to the Gentiles the repentance that leads to life."

John 13.31-35

³¹When he had gone out, Jesus said, "Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. ³²If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. ³³Little children, I am with you only a little longer. You will look for me; and as I said to the Jews so now I say to you, 'Where I am going, you cannot come.' ³⁴I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. ³⁵By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

Wednesday 21st May - Deanery Synod meeting, 7.15pm for 7.30pm, at St Laurence Church, Hawkhurst. The guest speaker is lain Blythe, the Diocesan Secretary. If you would like to come along and hear what is involved in being a Diocesan Secretary, and engage in a Q&A session, please do come to the meeting. (Please note the current road closure in Hawkhurst. There is no vehicle access from Hawkhurst crossroads to the Moor. Please follow the diversion signs - access via Conghurst Lane).

Ascension Day Benefice Service - 7.30pm Thursday 29th May at St. George's.

Upcoming Concert at St Nicholas, Sandhurst: Friday 30th May: The Haga Motettkör is a mixed classical Choir with 20-25 members and a repertoire of both religious and secular music, from Renaissance to Contemporary. The Choir gives several concerts every year, singing Mozart, Bach, Bruckner and Stravinsky, as well as works by Rautavaara, Britten, Pärt, Tormis, Poulenc, Debussy, Brahms and Mendelssohn. They have travelled and sung inside and outside of Sweden on a number of occasions. The Choir has been led, since 2003, by Choir Director Michael Dierks, an internationally renowned organist and the Musical Director at the German Church in Stockholm.

Forthcoming Deanery Confirmation Service on Sunday 8th June. If anyone is interested in Confirmation - for themselves or for a child - then please speak to Revd David TODAY.



Come along and connect with:

family & friends - tea,coffee, cake - the Bibleworship- & God!

Refreshments throughout



Grief Talks ~ Time to share & reflect:
Saturday 31st May, 10 am - 12 noon
at the Mission Church, Back Road, Sandhurst TN18 5JU



Coming to terms with the loss of a loved one can be one of the hardest things we have to do. When someone has died, while we may feel our loved one is at peace, it can still leave us with hugely mixed emotions.

We are offering a morning to explore our grief through conversation, readings and crafting together. It will be a safe space to come to talk and share what has been going on for you. Talking to others who have been through similar experiences can be helpful, or just knowing that someone is there to listen.

For more information and to book this free workshop please contact Claire Roberts on Tel 01580 754374 or Email claireecr57@yahoo.com

TEAS IN THE CHURCHYARD AT ST NICHOLAS Sunday 1st June 2 – 5 pm



Churchyard trail. Delicious cakes.

Please come along to enjoy the spectacular views, the lovely wildflowers and the buzzing wildlife of our beautiful churchyard.

St George's 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		
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		
Parish Safeguarding Officer	lan Malaugh Tel: 01580 240 999 - E-mail: ianmal@sky.com		
	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)		
Priests	Revd Ylva Blid-Mackenzie, Associate Priest		
	Tel: 01233 820100 Mobile: 07766 711957 Email: rev.ylva@gmail.com		
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A Church Near You: St George's, Benenden	https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/12091/		