



**Readings: Sunday 3<sup>d</sup> May – The Fifth Sunday of Easter**

**Acts 7.55-end**

<sup>55</sup>But filled with the Holy Spirit, he gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. <sup>56</sup>'Look,' he said, 'I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!' <sup>57</sup>But they covered their ears, and with a loud shout all rushed together against him. <sup>58</sup>Then they dragged him out of the city and began to stone him; and the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul. <sup>59</sup>While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, 'Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.' <sup>60</sup>Then he knelt down and cried out in a loud voice, 'Lord, do not hold this sin against them.' When he had said this, he died.

**John 14.1-14**

<sup>14</sup>'Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. <sup>2</sup>In my Father's house there are many dwelling-places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? <sup>3</sup>And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. <sup>4</sup>And you know the way to the place where I am going.' <sup>5</sup>Thomas said to him, 'Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?' <sup>6</sup>Jesus said to him, 'I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. <sup>7</sup>If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.' <sup>8</sup> Philip said to him, 'Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied.' <sup>9</sup>Jesus said to him, 'Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, "Show us the Father"? <sup>10</sup>Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own; but the Father who dwells in me does his works. <sup>11</sup>Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; but if you do not, then believe me because of the works themselves. <sup>12</sup>Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. <sup>13</sup>I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. <sup>14</sup>If in my name you ask me<sup>e</sup> for anything, I will do it.

**Home Groups:**

**Sandhurst:** Next meets **on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> May**, at 7.30 pm, at the Mission Church.

**Benenden:** Next meets **on Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> May** at 7.30 pm at David & Julia Collard's.

**ST GEORGE'S CHURCH  
ANNUAL MEETING OF PARISHIONERS  
& ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING**

**Monday 18<sup>th</sup> May at 7.30 pm  
at Benenden Memorial Hall**

Copies of the 2025-2026 annual reports are available for collection  
at the 8 am and 10 am services.

For an electronic copy, please email [benendenchurch@gmail.com](mailto:benendenchurch@gmail.com).

## Dingleden Open Gardens

TN17 4JU

**Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> & Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> May 2026**

**10 am - 4 pm each day**

**Entry £5. Parking available**

in aid of

**St George's Church, Benenden:  
'Restore: Renew: Rejoice' project  
& the deaf health charity SignHealth**

Judy Williams, Peter & Sylvia Kellett & Steve &  
Angie Lambert will be opening their gardens.

A unique opportunity to visit these private gardens  
on the High Weald Landscape Trail.

**The Laurels Nursery & private garden:  
A stunning collection of standard wisteria will  
be in bloom.**

**Barnhill Cottage, garden & vegetable patch:  
Light refreshments here.**

**No 3 New Buildings:  
The hidden treasure.**

Fundraising in aid of:

<https://signhealth.org.uk/>

<https://stgeorgeschurchbenenden.co.uk/>

**Christian Aid Week: 10<sup>th</sup> -16<sup>th</sup> May:** Please give generously during Christian Aid Week to support Beacon of Hope, a life-changing project in Kenya that helps people feed their families and generate income selling their produce on market stalls through cultivation of small, unused city spaces. You can donate easily online, please either scan the QR code or go to [caw.christianaid.org.uk/envelope-2026/Benenden/iden-green](http://caw.christianaid.org.uk/envelope-2026/Benenden/iden-green) Let's help make a difference. Thank you. Deborah Jenkins.

## ***Ascension Day Service***

***Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> May at 7:30 pm***

***at St Nicholas***

**Benenden Village Fete in support of St George's Church**

**Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> June, 12 - 4 pm**

Help is required, please, on Friday 12<sup>th</sup> June, throughout the whole day, to set up, starting at 9 am. Revd David



**Archdeacons' Visitation Service  
Choral Evensong  
at Canterbury Cathedral  
5.30pm on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> June**

*At this service your Churchwardens elected on 18<sup>th</sup> May will be sworn into office. Please consider supporting them and put this date in your diary.*

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: <a href="mailto:benendenchurch@gmail.com">benendenchurch@gmail.com</a>
Churchwardens	Sue Fisher Tel: 01580 241 907 - E-mail: <a href="mailto:sue@undaunted.co.uk">sue@undaunted.co.uk</a> Cathy Presgrave Tel: 07500 119 189 - E-mail: <a href="mailto:cathy.presgrave@gmail.com">cathy.presgrave@gmail.com</a>
Parish Safeguarding Officer	Ian Malaugh Tel: 07538 778790- E-mail: <a href="mailto:ianmal@sky.com">ianmal@sky.com</a>
Priests	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> (NB The Rector's day off is Thursday) Revd Ylva Blid-Mackenzie, Associate Priest 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>
	<a href="https://www.facebook.com/StGeorgesBenenden">StGeorgesBenenden</a>
Websites	<a href="https://benendenchurch.org/">https://benendenchurch.org/</a> <a href="https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/12091/">https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/12091/</a>