

# St George's Church, Benenden

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

## Our Worship: Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> December The Third Sunday of Advent

**Collect:** God for whom we watch and wait, you sent John the Baptist to prepare the way of your Son: give us courage to speak the truth, to hunger for justice, and to suffer for the cause of right, with Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

### **Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> December – The Third Sunday of Advent**

*Readings: James 5.7-10, Matthew 11.2-11*

**8 am**                   **1662 BCP HOLY COMMUNION**

led by Revd Rosemary Kobus van Wengen

**10 am**                   **MORNING WORSHIP**

led by David Harmsworth

*Hymns:*           9     *When morning gilds the skies (omit vv2 & 3)*  
                 284     *For the fruits of all creation*  
                 51     *The Lord will come and not be slow*  
                 475     *Forth in the peace of Christ we go*

### **The Week Ahead:**

Monday 15 <sup>th</sup>	8 am	Morning Prayer at St George's
	7.30 pm	Sandhurst Home Group <i>at the Rectory</i>
Tuesday 16 <sup>th</sup>	8 am	Morning Prayer at Sandhurst Mission Church
	10 am	Holy Communion at Sandhurst Mission Church
		led by Revd David Commander
Wednesday 17 <sup>th</sup>	8 am	Morning Prayer at Sandhurst Mission Church
	11 am	Funeral & Burial of t/l Steve Weekes at St George's
	7.30 pm	Bellringing Practice at St George's
Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup>	10 – 11.30 am	Community Choir at St George's
	7 pm	Choir Practice at St George's
Friday 19 <sup>th</sup>	8 am	Morning Prayer at St George's
	9 – 11 am	Cakes & Chaos Toddler Group at St George's
	from 1.15 pm	<i>BPS Refreshments in church</i>
	1.45 pm	BPS Christmas Service at St George's
	7.30 pm	Bellringing Quarter Peal attempt at St George's

### **Sunday Next: 21<sup>st</sup> December – The Fourth Sunday of Advent**

*Readings: Romans 1.1-7, Matthew 1.18-end*

**8 am**                   **HOLY COMMUNION**

led by Revd Ylva Blid-Mackenzie

**10 am**                   **SUNG EUCHARIST**

led by Sarah Emanuel & Revd David Commander

## **Readings: Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> December – The Third Sunday of Advent**

### **James 5.7-10**

<sup>7</sup> Be patient, therefore, beloved until the coming of the Lord. The farmer waits for the precious crop from the earth, being patient with it until it receives the early and the late rains. <sup>8</sup>You also must be patient. Strengthen your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is near. <sup>9</sup>Beloved, do not grumble against one another, so that you may not be judged. See, the Judge is standing at the doors! <sup>10</sup>As an example of suffering and patience, beloved, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.

### **Matthew 11.2-11**

<sup>2</sup> When John heard in prison what the Messiah was doing, he sent word by his disciples <sup>3</sup>and said to him, ‘Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?’ <sup>4</sup>Jesus answered them, ‘Go and tell John what you hear and see: <sup>5</sup>the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them. <sup>6</sup>And blessed is anyone who takes no offence at me.’

<sup>7</sup> As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John: “What did you go out into the wilderness to look at? A reed shaken by the wind? <sup>8</sup>What then did you go out to see? Someone dressed in soft robes? Look, those who wear soft robes are in royal palaces. <sup>9</sup>What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. <sup>10</sup>This is the one about whom it is written,

“See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you,  
who will prepare your way before you.”

<sup>11</sup>Truly I tell you, among those born of women no one has arisen greater than John the Baptist; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.

### **Prayers:**

Please hold these families in your prayers in the coming weeks, especially over this Christmas season:

The family of t/l **Bridget Brissenden**; Bridget's funeral took place at St George's last Monday, 8<sup>th</sup> December.

The family of t/l **Steve Weekes**; Steve's funeral takes place at St George's at 11am on Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> December. Please particularly remember his mother, Mary, his sister, Sally, and partner for a number of years, Deirdre.

The family of t/l **Richard Daniel**; Richard's funeral takes place at St George's on Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> December.

And **Tim Cole and his sister**, Amanda, following the death of their mother, **Ann Cole**, peacefully at home on Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> December. Ann's funeral is at 2pm on Friday 9<sup>th</sup> January.

### **Home Groups:**

**Sandhurst**: Meets on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> December at the Rectory.

**Benenden**: Next meets at 7.30pm on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> January at David & Julia Collard's.

**Christmas Day lunch**: We are inviting guests who would otherwise be on their own, to join us in the Memorial Hall for a traditional Christmas Lunch (no charge). As in previous years the various food items are being donated. If you are able to donate a bottle of wine that would be great.

Donations towards the cost of the turkey would also be appreciated. Any surplus funds will again be sent to Catching Lives in Canterbury.

If you know of anyone who might otherwise be on their own, let me know and I can invite them. Or if they would like to contact me directly, they would be most welcome. Helen Tel 01580 240658

We shall be preparing St George's for Christmas on Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> December, starting at 9am. If you would like to join us on this enjoyable occasion, you would be very welcome. DH

**Wanted! Someone to play the piano/keyboard** for the hymns at the two 10 am Morning Worship services for the St George's congregation, once we start worshipping at Benenden Primary school in mid January 2026. For more information, please contact Sue Fisher. Tel 241 907

## **St George's: Restore, Renew, Rejoice!**

**Your Community Needs You! Do you, or a family member or a friend, have any of the following skills and experience?**

**Digital Marketing | Quantity Surveying | Treasury & Financial Planning | Community Infrastructure Levy**

**The St George's RRR Project Fundraising Team would love to hear from you.  
Please contact Paul Hewitt 07703 532 744 [phewitt1203@gmail.com](mailto:phewitt1203@gmail.com)**

**Parish Carol Service  
Nine Lessons & Carols  
at St George's  
Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> December  
at 7:30pm**



**Benenden 2025 Campaign  
12 'Foods' of Christmas  
Donation Point: St Georges  
Church, Benenden**

Collections can be arranged.

Contact: Gemma Coupland 07548 262509  
[gemma.louhunter@gmail.com](mailto:gemma.louhunter@gmail.com)

<http://www.nourishcommunityfoodbank.org.uk>

During Advent, please can you consider donating the most needed food items to support those in most need at this time of year?

**Long life milk, Pasta, Rice pudding, Tinned fruit, Noodles, Spreads: Jam, peanut butter, Marmite, Tins of fish, Tinned potatoes, Tinned pulses, Tinned baked beans & spaghetti, Tins of fruit, Soup**

Nourish would also greatly appreciate your Christmas non perishable leftovers in the new year!

# Christmas & New Year Services at St George's



## DECEMBER

Friday 19 <sup>th</sup>	1.45 pm	BPS Carol Service
Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup>	<b>7.30 pm</b>	<b>Parish Candle-Lit Carol Service</b>
<b>Christmas Eve</b>	3 pm 11.30 pm	Crib Service First Communion of Christmas
<b>Christmas Day</b>	8 am 10 am	Holy Communion Morning Worship <i>followed by Holy Communion</i>
Sunday 28 <sup>th</sup> - First Sunday of Christmas	8 am 10 am	Holy Communion Morning Worship

*NB: No midweek Communion on Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> December*

## JANUARY

Sunday 4 <sup>th</sup> - Epiphany	8 am 10 am 5 pm	Holy Communion All Age Communion Evening Prayer
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## 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: 01580 240 999 - 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> ( <i>NB The Rector's day off is Thursday</i> ) 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>
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