

St George's Church, Benenden

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

Our Worship: Sunday 1st February Presentation of Christ in the Temple

Collect: Almighty and ever-living God, clothed in majesty, whose beloved Son was this day presented in the Temple, in substance of our flesh: grant that we may be presented to you with pure and clean hearts, by your Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Sunday 1st February – Presentation of Christ in the Temple

Readings: Hebrews 2:14-end, Luke 2:22-40

8 am	HOLY COMMUNION in the Chancel at St George's led by Revd David Commander
10 am	ALL AGE COMMUNION at Benenden Primary School led by Revd David Commander
	<i>Hymns:</i> 719 <i>Lord, the light of your love is shining</i> 702 <i>Lead us, heavenly Father, lead us</i> 713 <i>Lord of all hopefulness, Lord of all joy</i> (HC) 434 <i>Christ bids us break the bread</i> 677 <i>In a world where people walk in darkness</i>
5 pm	EVENING PRAYER in the Chancel at St George's led by David Harmsworth <i>Psalm 132. Readings: Haggai 2.1-9, John 2.18-22</i>

The Week Ahead

Monday 2 nd	8 am	Morning Prayer at the Rectory
	7.30 pm	Sandhurst Home Group at Sandhurst Mission Church
Tuesday 3 rd	8 am	Morning Prayer at Sandhurst Mission Church
	10 am	Holy Communion at Sandhurst Mission Church led by Revd Rosemary Kobus van Wengen
	7.30 pm	Benenden Home Group at David & Julia Collard's
	7.30 pm	Fete Meeting at the Bull
Wednesday 4 th	8 am	Morning Prayer at Sandhurst Mission Church
	7.15 pm	Weald Deanery Synod Meeting – at Sandhurst Mission Church – Guest speaker Iain Blythe, Diocesan Secretary
	7.30 pm	Bellringing Practice at St George's
Thursday 5 th	10 – 11.30 am	Rhythm of Life Community Choir at Sandhurst Mission Church
Friday 6 th	8 am	Morning Prayer at the Rectory
	9 – 11 am	Cakes & Chaos Toddler Group at Sandhurst Mission Church

Sunday Next: 8th February – Second Sunday before Lent

Readings: Romans 8.18-25, Matthew 6.25-end

8 am	1662 BCP HOLY COMMUNION in the Chancel at St George's led by Revd Rosemary Kobus van Wengen
10 am	MORNING WORSHIP at Benenden Primary School led by Revd David Commander <i>Revd Estella Last, Archdeacon of Maidstone, attending</i>
5 – 6.30 pm	Friends of St George's Beer & Hymns at the Bull

Readings: Sunday 1st February – Presentation of Christ in the Temple

Hebrews 2.14-end

^{2.14} Since, therefore, the children share flesh and blood, he himself likewise shared the same things, so that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, ¹⁵and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by the fear of death. ¹⁶For it is clear that he did not come to help angels, but the descendants of Abraham. ¹⁷Therefore he had to become like his brothers and sisters in every respect, so that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make a sacrifice of atonement for the sins of the people. ¹⁸Because he himself was tested by what he suffered, he is able to help those who are being tested.

Luke 2.22-40

^{2.22} When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, they brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord ²³(as it is written in the law of the Lord, 'Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord'), ²⁴and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, 'a pair of turtle-doves or two young pigeons.'

²⁵ Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him. ²⁶It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Messiah. ²⁷Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the law, ²⁸Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying,

²⁹ 'Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace, according to your word; ³⁰ for my eyes have seen your salvation, ³¹ which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, ³² a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel.'

³³ And the child's father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. ³⁴Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, 'This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed ³⁵so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed—and a sword will pierce your own soul too.'

³⁶ There was also a prophet, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, having lived with her husband for seven years after her marriage, ³⁷then as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshipped there with fasting and prayer night and day. ³⁸At that moment she came, and began to praise God and to speak about the child to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem.

³⁹ When they had finished everything required by the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. ⁴⁰The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favour of God was upon him.

Home Groups:

Sandhurst: Meets at 7.30 pm on Mondays at Sandhurst Mission Church.

Benenden: Meets at 7.30 pm on Tuesdays at David & Julia Collard's.

Next Sunday - 8th February - is an opportunity to meet our newly installed Archdeacon of Maidstone, Revd Estella Last, at the 10 o'clock service at Benenden Primary School. Estella is happy to do a Q&A whilst she is with us. So, if you would like to know more about our new Archdeacon, please have a think about what you might like to ask her. Revd David

Palm Crosses: Please return any Palm Crosses to Revd David by Sunday 15th February. These will be used to prepare the ashes for the **Ash Wednesday service at St Nicholas on 18th February at 7.30pm.** - Please bring these either to St George's at the 8am, or to the Primary School at the 10am services.

IMPORTANT NOTICE – BENENDEN PRIMARY SCHOOL is a "Nut-free" School. No nuts, of any kind, are to be brought into School on, or in, cakes or as personal snacks please. Revd David

PCC Secretary: Julia Collard will be stepping down as our PCC Secretary at this year's APCM in May. (Monday 18th May - an advanced date for your diary!) Julia has carried out this role with dedication for many years; for which we are very grateful. With Julia stepping down, it does mean though that we need to begin thinking about who might take up this role. Is this a way that you might serve our church? If you are wondering what is involved, then please speak to Julia, or to David Collard (David has served as PCC Secretary in the past), or to one of the Churchwardens or myself. Please give this some prayer and thought. Thank you. Revd David.

STILL WANTED! Someone to play the piano/keyboard for the hymns at 10am services in Benenden Primary, even occasionally. For more information, please contact a Churchwarden or email benendenchurch@gmail.com



Diocese of Canterbury
CHANGED LIVES ➔ CHANGING LIVES

Weald Deanery Synod Open meeting

**Wednesday 4th February – 7.15 for 7.30pm
at The Mission Church,
Back Road, Sandhurst TN18 5JU**

**Our guest speaker is
Iain Blythe, Diocesan Secretary**

This is an opportunity to meet Iain and to develop a more personal relationship rather than just referring to 'the Diocesan Secretary'.

Iain will be answering some questions about himself, his role, and, maybe, his thoughts on things within Canterbury Diocese and the Church of England.

The evening is an opportunity for you to get to know the person who is our Diocesan Secretary, and build a closer, more personal, relationship with him.

We look forward to seeing you there. Refreshments served from 7.15pm.

The Friends of St George's

Join us for an evening of

BEER AND HYMNS

Sunday 8th February at 5pm - in The Bull, Benenden

Please let us know your favourite hymns and join the singalong.

Email your hymn requests to joanne.clube@gmail.com

ALL ARE WELCOME!

Grief Talks ~ Time to share & reflect

Saturday 28th February

10am – 12noon


@ 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 Lyn Hayes
on 07792 332 904 or email lindapin@aol.com

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	Sue Fisher Tel: 01580 241 907 - E-mail: sue@undaunted.co.uk Cathy Presgrave Tel: 07500 119 189 - E-mail: cathy.presgrave@gmail.com
Parish Safeguarding Officer	Ian Malaugh Tel: 01580 240 999 - E-mail: ianmal@sky.com
Priests	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) Revd Ylva Blid-Mackenzie, Associate Priest Tel: 01233 820100 Mobile: 07766 711957 Email: rev.ylva@gmail.com Revd Dr Rosemary Kobus van Wengen Tel: 01580 764 857 Email: rosemaryvanwengen@gmail.com
	StGeorgesBenenden
Websites	https://benendenchurch.org/ https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/12091/