

St George's Church, Benenden

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

Our Worship: Sunday 7th January Epiphany

Collect: O God, who by the leading of a star manifested your only Son to the peoples of the earth: mercifully grant that we, who know you now by faith, may at last behold your glory face to face; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Sunday 7th January – Epiphany / The Baptism of Christ

Readings: Ephesians 3.1-12, Matthew 2.1-12

8 am	HOLY COMMUNION AT ST GEORGE'S led by Revd Rosemary Kobus van Wengen
10 am	ALL-AGE HOLY COMMUNION AT ST GEORGE'S led by Revd David Commander <i>Hymns:</i> 96 <i>Brightest and best</i> 103 <i>O worship the Lord</i> 99 <i>Hail to the Lord's anointed (omit v5)</i> 104 <i>Songs of thankfulness (omit v4)</i>
5 pm	CHORAL EVENSONG AT ST GEORGE'S led by David Harmsworth <i>Readings: Isaiah 60.1-9, John 2.1-11. Psalm 98.</i> <i>Hymns:</i> 94 <i>As with gladness</i> 88 <i>What child is this?</i> 68 <i>In the bleak mid-winter</i> 105 <i>We three kings</i>

THE WEEK AHEAD

Monday 8 th	8 am	Morning Prayer at St George's
	7.30 pm	Sandhurst Home Group at Sandhurst Mission Church
Tuesday 9 th	8 am	Morning Prayer at Sandhurst Mission Church
	10 am	Holy Communion at Sandhurst Mission Church led by Revd Rosemary Kobus van Wengen
	12.30 pm	Funeral of t/l Jean Paige at St George's
	8 pm	Home Group at David & Julia Collard's
	8 pm	St George's Fete meeting at the Bull, Benenden
Wednesday 10 th	8 am	Morning Prayer at Sandhurst Mission Church
Thursday 11 th	10–11.30 am	Community Choir at St George's
Friday 12 th	8 am	Morning Prayer at St George's
	9–11 am	Cakes & Chaos Toddler Group at St George's
	1 pm	Memorial Service t/l Michael Goodsell at St George's
Saturday 13 th	10 am–2.30 pm	Bellringing - full peal attempt by the Society of Cumberland Youth

Sunday Next: 14th January – Second Sunday of Epiphany

Readings: Revelation 5.1-10, John 1.43-end

8 am **1662 BCP HOLY COMMUNION**
led by Revd Rosemary Kobus van Wengen

10 am **MORNING WORSHIP**
led by David Harmsworth

Readings: Sunday 7th January – Epiphany

Ephesians 3.1-12

Paul's Ministry to the Gentiles

³This is the reason that I Paul am a prisoner for Christ Jesus for the sake of you Gentiles—²for surely you have already heard of the commission of God's grace that was given to me for you, ³and how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I wrote above in a few words, ⁴a reading of which will enable you to perceive my understanding of the mystery of Christ. ⁵In former generations this mystery was not made known to humankind, as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit: ⁶that is, the Gentiles have become fellow-heirs, members of the same body, and sharers in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel.

⁷Of this gospel I have become a servant according to the gift of God's grace that was given to me by the working of his power. ⁸Although I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given to me to bring to the Gentiles the news of the boundless riches of Christ, ⁹and to make everyone see what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things; ¹⁰so that through the church the wisdom of God in its rich variety might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. ¹¹This was in accordance with the eternal purpose that he has carried out in Christ Jesus our Lord, ¹²in whom we have access to God in boldness and confidence through faith in him.

Matthew 2.1-12

The Visit of the Wise Men

²In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, ²asking, 'Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage.' ³When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; ⁴and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. ⁵They told him, 'In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet:

⁶ "And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,
are by no means least among the rulers of Judah;
for from you shall come a ruler
who is to shepherd my people Israel." '

⁷ Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. ⁸Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, 'Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage.' ⁹When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. ¹⁰When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. ¹¹On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure-chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. ¹²And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

Prayers:

We pray for **t/I Jean Paige** and all family and friends. Jean's funeral is on Tuesday 9th January at 12.30pm at St George's.

We pray for **t/I Michael Goodsell** and all family and friends. Michael's funeral service, for the family, is on the morning of Friday 12th January at the Crematorium. Michael's memorial service follows at St George's at 1pm.

Home Groups restart this coming week: Monday 8th January, 7.30 pm, at the Mission Church in Sandhurst and Tuesday 9th January, 8 pm, at David & Julia Collard's in Benenden.

'CONNECT FOUR'

Our informal family service

**4pm - Saturday 27th January
at Sandhurst Mission Church,
Back Road TN18 5JU**




Refreshments throughout.

Come along and connect with:

- family and friends***
- tea, coffee, cake***
- the Bible***
- worship***
- and God!***

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
St George's 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
St George's 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 <i>(NB The Rector's day off is Thursday)</i> 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
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