

# The Parish of St George's, Benenden

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

## Our Worship: Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> September The Sixteenth Sunday after Trinity

**Collect:** O Lord, we beseech you mercifully to hear the prayers of your people who call upon you; and grant that they may both perceive and know what things they ought to do, and also may have grace and power faithfully to fulfil them; 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 27<sup>th</sup> September - Benefice Services:

- 8am**            **HOLY COMMUNION AT ST GEORGE'S, BENENDEN**  
led by Revd David Commander  
*Readings: Philippians 2.1-13 Matthew 21.23-32*
- 10am**           **HARVEST FESTIVAL**  
**HOLY COMMUNION AT ST NICHOLAS, SANDHURST**  
led by Revd David Commander  
*Readings: Deut. 26.1-11, John 4.27-38*

### THE WEEK AHEAD

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|----------------------------------|--|---|
| <b>Monday 28<sup>th</sup></b>    | <b>8am</b><br><b>7.30pm</b>                | <b>Morning Prayer at St George's</b><br><b>Benenden PCC meeting at St George's</b>  |
| <b>Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup></b>   | <b>8am</b><br><b>10am</b><br><b>6.30pm</b> | <b>Morning Prayer at Sandhurst Mission Church</b><br><b>Holy Communion at Sandhurst Mission Church</b><br><b>Bell Ringing – simulator practice at St George's</b> |
| <b>Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup></b> | <b>8am</b><br><b>7.30pm</b>                | <b>Morning Prayer at St George's</b><br><b>Bell Ringing – general practice at St George's</b>   |
| <b>Friday 2<sup>nd</sup></b>     | <b>8am</b>                                 | <b>Morning Prayer at St George's</b>  |
| <b>Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup></b>   | <b>9.30am</b><br><b>– noon</b>             | <b>Churchyard Working Party at St George's</b>  |

### Sunday Next: Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> October – The Seventeenth Sunday after Trinity

- 8am**            **HOLY COMMUNION AT ST NICHOLAS, SANDHURST**  
led by Revd David Commander  
*Readings: Philippians 3.4b-14, Matthew 21.33-end*
- 10am**           **HARVEST FESTIVAL**  
**HOLY COMMUNION AT ST GEORGE'S, BENENDEN**  
led by Revd Ylva Blid-Mackenzie & Revd David Commander  
*Readings: Genesis 1.26-2.3, Matthew 13.3-9*

**Readings: Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> September – 16<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity**

**8am Service at St George's**

***Philippians 2.1-13***

***Imitating Christ's Humility***

<sup>2</sup>If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, <sup>2</sup>make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. <sup>3</sup>Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. <sup>4</sup>Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. <sup>5</sup>Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,

<sup>6</sup> who, though he was in the form of God,  
did not regard equality with God  
as something to be exploited,

<sup>7</sup> but emptied himself,  
taking the form of a slave,  
being born in human likeness.

And being found in human form,

<sup>8</sup> he humbled himself  
and became obedient to the point of death—  
even death on a cross.

<sup>9</sup> Therefore God also highly exalted him  
and gave him the name  
that is above every name,

<sup>10</sup> so that at the name of Jesus  
every knee should bend,  
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,

<sup>11</sup> and every tongue should confess  
that Jesus Christ is Lord,  
to the glory of God the Father.

***Shining as Lights in the World***

<sup>12</sup> Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence, but much more now in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; <sup>13</sup>for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

***Matthew 21.23-32***

***The Authority of Jesus Questioned***

<sup>23</sup> When he entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching, and said, 'By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?' <sup>24</sup>Jesus said to them, 'I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. <sup>25</sup>Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?' And they argued with one another, 'If we say, "From heaven", he will say to us, "Why then did you not believe him?" <sup>26</sup>But if we say, "Of human origin", we are afraid of the crowd; for all regard John as a prophet.' <sup>27</sup>So they answered Jesus, 'We do not know.' And he said to them, 'Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things.

***The Parable of the Two Sons***

<sup>28</sup> 'What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, "Son, go and work in the vineyard today." <sup>29</sup>He answered, "I will not"; but later he changed his mind and went. <sup>30</sup>The father went to the second and said the same; and he answered, "I go, sir"; but he did not go. <sup>31</sup>Which of the two did the will of his father?' They said, 'The first.' Jesus said to them, 'Truly I tell you, the tax-collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. <sup>32</sup>For John came to you in the way of righteousness and you did not believe him, but the tax-collectors and the prostitutes believed him; and even after you saw it, you did not change your minds and believe him.

## **Congratulations to Ylva!**

- Ordained Deacon on Saturday (yesterday) at Canterbury Cathedral - and now the Reverend Ylva Blid-Mackenzie.

Please pray for Ylva as she begins this new, exciting, and scary ministry! We pray that God will bless her, and that we will be as much a blessing to her as she is to us. Revd David.

## **Harvest produce – St George's and St Nicolas:**



**We would be grateful to receive any non-perishable food produce in tins, bottles, cartons or packets at our Harvest services:  
at St Nicholas - on Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> September at 10am  
at St George's - on Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> October at 10am**

**All the donations will - 72 hours after the service on Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> October at St George's - be passed on to Nourish, a Food Bank charity in Tunbridge Wells that covers this area. Due to Covid restrictions we are unable to distribute perishable food or any food-stuffs that can be directly handled.**

**IDEN GREEN  
CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH**  
would like to invite you to the  
commissioning service of  
**TOBIN BIRD**  
as Pastor of the church. The service  
will be held on **Saturday 10th  
October at 3pm**. If you would like  
to attend (*please, face masks must be  
worn*) you **MUST** contact NIGEL  
GRAY at 07881 952 880 or  
info@idengreen.org.uk

**The St George's Churchyard Working Party:** Meets next Saturday, 3rd October from 9.30am to noon. Please do join us if you are able. Dick Hill.

**Track and Trace:** You will have heard of the launch of the NHS "Track and Trace" app. If you have a smartphone, please consider downloading and using this app. It is not a solution to our problems, but another tool to help fight the virus along with "Hands. Face. Space"..... hand sanitising; wearing a face covering; and maintaining 2m social distancing.

Each of our three churches has been registered, and a QR code/poster is displayed in the entrances. If you use your app and the QR code when you enter church we do not need to keep a paper record of your name and contact details. You can download the app from the "Apple App Store" or "Google Play". Revd David.

## COVID19 - UPDATE FROM THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND

Last updated Thursday 24 September at 15:50

***Below are some extracts from the guidance published on the Church of England website:***

### **How does the 'rule of 6' affect churches?**

Public worship can continue. There is an exemption that covers places of worship making it possible for more than six people to gather for acts of communal worship. However, it is not a blanket exemption. People must not be part of a group of more than six unless they are from the same household or support bubble.

### **Are places of worship exempt from the 'rule of 6'?**

There is an exemption that covers places of worship making it possible for more than six people to gather there. The exemption covers church services and as well as some other activities that take place in church buildings.

However, it is not a blanket exemption. People must not be part of a group of more than six unless they are from the same household or support bubble.

### **Can Bible study groups and home groups now meet in person?**

A group can meet in someone's home as long as there are no more than six people in the house in total, including those not taking part in the group at that time.

Groups can meet on church premises under the same conditions as apply to services of worship – for example, people attending must not be part of a group of more than six unless they are from the same household or support bubble.

### **Government guidance states:**

*"However, activities and social groups where there is a significant likelihood of groups mixing and socialising (and where it will be difficult to prevent mingling and therefore breaking the law) should not take place in a community facility."*

Please take this into consideration.

***For full and extensive details, regularly updated, please refer to:***

***<https://www.churchofengland.org/more/media-centre/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-churches>***

### **Contacts – The Benefice of Benenden & Sandhurst**

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