

# The Benefice of St George's Church, Benenden & St Nicholas Church, Sandhurst

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

## Our Worship: Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> December The First Sunday of Christmas

**Collect:** Almighty God, who wonderfully created us in your own image and yet more wonderfully restored us through your Son Jesus Christ: grant that, as he came to share in our humanity, so we may share the life of his divinity; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

### Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> December – The First Sunday of Christmas

*Readings: Hebrews 2.10-end, Matthew 2.13-end*

8 am	<b>HOLY COMMUNION AT ST GEORGE'S</b> led by Revd Ylva Blid-Mackenzie
10 am	<b>MORNING WORSHIP AT ST GEORGE'S</b> led by David Harmsworth <i>Hymns:</i> 59 Angels from the realms of glory 589 Angel-voices ever singing 83 See, amid the winter's snow 715 Lord, for the years your love has kept and guided
10 am	<b>SUNG EUCHARIST AT ST NICHOLAS</b> led by Revd David Commander <i>Hymns:</i> 182 Good Christians all, rejoice 439 See amid the winter's snow 2 A great and mighty wonder 183 Good King Wenceslas 376 O little one sweet, O little one mild

### The Week Ahead

**Revd David is on annual leave from Monday 29<sup>th</sup> December to Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> January inclusive.  
Should you require the services of a Priest during this time, please contact your Churchwardens:**

**Benenden:** Sue Fisher Tel: 01580 241 907, Cathy Presgrave Tel: 07500 119 189

**Sandhurst:** Bob Houlden Tel: 01580 850 278, Catherine Elliott Tel: 01580 850 300

*Monday 29<sup>th</sup> December to Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> January – No midweek services or Home Groups this week.*

### Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> January – Epiphany

*Readings: Ephesians 3.1-12, Matthew 2.1-12*

8 am	<b>HOLY COMMUNION AT ST GEORGE'S</b> led by Revd Ylva Blid-Mackenzie
8 am	<b>1662 BCP HOLY COMMUNION AT ST NICHOLAS</b> led by Revd David Commander
10 am	<b>ALL AGE COMMUNION AT ST GEORGE'S</b> led by Revd David Commander
5 pm	<b>EVENING PRAYER AT ST GEORGE'S</b> led by Revd David Commander <i>Readings: Isaiah 60.1-9, John 2.1-11. Psalm 98</i>

**Readings: Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> December – The First Sunday of Christmas**

**Hebrews 2.10-end**

<sup>10</sup> It was fitting that God, for whom and through whom all things exist, in bringing many children to glory, should make the pioneer of their salvation perfect through sufferings. <sup>11</sup>For the one who sanctifies and those who are sanctified all have one Father. For this reason Jesus is not ashamed to call them brothers and sisters, <sup>12</sup>saying,

‘I will proclaim your name to my brothers and sisters,  
in the midst of the congregation I will praise you.’

<sup>13</sup>And again,

‘I will put my trust in him.’

And again,

‘Here am I and the children whom God has given me.’

<sup>14</sup> 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, <sup>15</sup>and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by the fear of death. <sup>16</sup>For it is clear that he did not come to help angels, but the descendants of Abraham. <sup>17</sup>Therefore 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. <sup>18</sup>Because he himself was tested by what he suffered, he is able to help those who are being tested.

**Matthew 2.13-end**

<sup>13</sup> Now after they had left, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, ‘Get up, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you; for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him.’ <sup>14</sup>Then Joseph<sup>a</sup> got up, took the child and his mother by night, and went to Egypt, <sup>15</sup>and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfil what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet, ‘Out of Egypt I have called my son.’

<sup>16</sup> When Herod saw that he had been tricked by the wise men, he was infuriated, and he sent and killed all the children in and around Bethlehem who were two years old or under, according to the time that he had learned from the wise men. <sup>17</sup>Then was fulfilled what had been spoken through the prophet Jeremiah:

<sup>18</sup> ‘A voice was heard in Ramah,

wailing and loud lamentation,

Rachel weeping for her children;

she refused to be consoled, because they are no more.’

<sup>19</sup> When Herod died, an angel of the Lord suddenly appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt and said, <sup>20</sup>‘Get up, take the child and his mother, and go to the land of Israel, for those who were seeking the child’s life are dead.’ <sup>21</sup>Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother, and went to the land of Israel. <sup>22</sup>But when he heard that Archelaus was ruling over Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there. And after being warned in a dream, he went away to the district of Galilee. <sup>23</sup>There he made his home in a town called Nazareth, so that what had been spoken through the prophets might be fulfilled, ‘He will be called a Nazorean.’

**Benenden Prayers:**

**t/I Ann Cole** - Please continue to hold Tim Cole and his sister, Amanda, in your prayers. Ann's funeral is at 2pm on Friday 9<sup>th</sup> January.

**Home Groups:**

**Sandhurst:** Next meets at 7.30 pm on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> January, at the Rectory.

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

***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)*

**Christmas Day Lunch at the Memorial Hall - Thank you...** to everyone who contributed to the Christmas lunch. 21 people, from across the benefice, sat down for a delicious lunch and lovely time together. And as a bonus we will be donating £170 to Catching Lives, the homeless charity in Canterbury.

**Thank you** also to everyone who set us cards and gifts. Happy Christmas and a good New Year to you all. Revd David and Helen.

### 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> (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>

### St Nicholas 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>
St Nicholas Churchwardens	Bob Houlden Tel: 01580 850 278 E-mail: <a href="mailto:bob.houlden@btinternet.com">bob.houlden@btinternet.com</a> Catherine Elliott Tel: 01580 850 300 E-mail: <a href="mailto:Elliotts@sandhurstcross.co.uk">Elliotts@sandhurstcross.co.uk</a>
St Nicholas Parish Safeguarding Officer	Anne Tylden-Wright Tel: 01580 850 281 - E-mail: <a href="mailto:tyldenwright@btinternet.com">tyldenwright@btinternet.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/StNicholasSandhurst">StNicholasSandhurst</a>
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