St George's Church, Benenden Our Mission: "To know and love Jesus and make his love known to all" Our Worship: Sunday 5th December The Second Sunday of Advent

Collect: O Lord, raise up, we pray, your power and come among us, and with great might succour us; that whereas, through our sins and wickedness we are grievously hindered in running the race that is set before us, your bountiful grace and mercy may speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, to whom with you and the Holy Spirit, be honour and glory, now and for ever.

Sunday 5 th December - The Second Sunday of Advent Readings: Philippians 1.3-11. Luke 3.1-6						
8 am		HOLY COMMUNION AT ST GEORGE'S led by Revd David Commander				
10 am	ALL-AGE COMMUNION AT ST GEORGE'S led by Revd David Commander					
	Hymns	75	Long ago, prophets knew			
		36	Hark the glad sound!			
		604	Brother, sister, let me serve you			
		721	Love divine, all loves excelling			
2 pm	Baptism of Noah Oliver at St George's led by Revd Ylva Blid-Mackenzie					

THE WEEK AHEAD

Monday 6 th	8 am	Morning Prayer at St George's	
	11.30 am	2020 Project meeting at St George's	
	7.30 pm	Home Group at Sandhurst Mission Church	
Tuesday 7 th	8 am	Morning Prayer at Sandhurst Mission Church	
	10 am	Holy Communion at Sandhurst Mission Church	
		led by Revd David Commander	
	8 pm	Home Group at David & Julia Collard's	
Wednesday 8 th	8 am	Morning Prayer at Sandhurst Mission Church	
	10 – 11.30 am	Coffee Morning at Benenden Memorial Hall	
	8.15 pm	Carols in the Café, Benenden	
Thursday 9 th	10 – 11.30 am	Rhythm of Life Community Choir at St George's	
Friday 10 th	8 am	Morning Prayer at St George's	
	9 – 11 am	Cakes & Chaos Toddler Group at St George's	

Sunday Next: 12th December - The Third Sunday of AdventReadings: Philippians 4.4-7, Luke 3.7-188 amHOLY COMMUNION AT ST GEORGE'SIed by Revd David Commander10 amMORNING WORSHIP AT ST GEORGE'S

led by Sue & Richard Fisher

Philippians 1.3-11

Paul's Prayer for the Philippians

³ I thank my God every time I remember you, ⁴constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, ⁵because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now. ⁶I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ. ⁷It is right for me to think this way about all of you, because you hold me in your heart, for all of you share in God's grace with me, both in my imprisonment and in the defence and confirmation of the gospel. ⁸For God is my witness, how I long for all of you with the compassion of Christ Jesus. ⁹And this is my prayer, that your love may overflow more and more with knowledge and full insight ¹⁰to help you to determine what is best, so that on the day of Christ you may be pure and blameless, ¹¹having produced the harvest of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God.

Luke 3.1-6

The Proclamation of John the Baptist

³In the fifteenth year of the reign of Emperor Tiberius, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler of Galilee, and his brother Philip ruler of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias ruler of Abilene, ²during the high-priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. ³He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, ⁴as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah, 'The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

"Prepare the way of the Lord,

make his paths straight.

⁵ Every valley shall be filled,

and every mountain and hill shall be made low,

and the crooked shall be made straight,

and the rough ways made smooth;

⁶ and all flesh shall see the salvation of God." '

WALK CHURCH – TODAY – at 1.45 pm: We are hosting this month's Walk Church TODAY, Sunday 5th December. We meet at St George's at 1.45pm, leaving at 2pm prompt. Our walk is a round from the church, returning at approximately 3.45pm and covering 5.1 miles. The walk is moderately hilly with a mixture of field paths and very minor lanes with some lovely views. A time of reflection and fellowship. EVERYONE WELCOME. Tim Bentley

Prayers: It is with sadness that we pass on the news that dear Lesley Attwood passed away, at home, on Tuesday 23rd November. Please hold Tracy and Deborah and the family in your prayers. Lesley's funeral service will take place on Wednesday 22nd December at the Kent & Sussex Crematorium in Tunbridge Wells. This will be attended by family and invited friends. A memorial service to celebrate Lesley's life will take place at St George's Church on Saturday 12th February 2022; time to be confirmed.

Nourish Community Foodbank: Our Harvest service took place some seven weeks ago; the need for food and other basic necessities continues the whole year round. We have registered and set up a collection point for Nourish. There is a "donations pod" at the back of St. George's Church, and another is being put into the Community Shop. Please make use of these. If you come to a service, why not drop off something? If we all did this, we would collect a lot of food to help local families very quickly.

Nourish desperately need: tinned potatoes, tinned hotdogs, 'pasta n sauce' sachets (eg Batchelor's mug shots), soap, antibacterial handwash, laundry tablets (not pods) They also need: tinned soup, and sugar.

They have pretty much everything else due to the wonderful food and money donations.

Please help Nourish to help local families in need. Thank you. Revd David.

New children's choir at St Dunstan's, Cranbrook: A new children's choir has just started in St Dunstan's Church, Cranbrook led by Prof Robertson, organist at Dunstan's and former Head of Music at Marlborough House School.

Practice takes place in Church House during the winter (along to the right of the church as you come up the stairs from the High Street). The younger children (lower years) practice on Thursday evenings from 6 to 6.40pm, - older children (upper years) join at 6.20 until 7pm. Their first performance will be at the Christingle service in Dunstan's on the 19th December at 6pm. The choir is free of charge and a fabulous opportunity to sing for a highly competent leader in beautiful acoustics. The children are starting to read music but ages are mixed and so is the repertoire - secular and sacred. All children are very welcome! Just come along or if any questions please email Prof Robertson: info@mrobertson.org

Christmas Services at St George's 2021								
DECEMBER								
Sunday 5 th	8am	Holy Communion						
	10am	All-Age Communion						
	2pm	Baptism service						
Sunday 12 th	8am	1662 BCP Communion						
-	10am	Morning Worship						
Friday 17 th	2.15pm	Benenden Primary School Christmas service						
Sunday 19 th	8am	Holy Communion						
-	10am	Sung Eucharist						
Tuesday 21 st	7.30pm	Parish candle-lit carol service						
Christmas Eve	3pm	Crib service						
Friday 24 th	11.30pm	First Communion of Christmas						
Christmas Day	8am	Holy Communion						
Saturday 25 th	10am	Morning Worship, followed by Communion for						
		those who wish to stay						
Sunday 26 th	9am	Benefice Holy Communion						
JANUARY								
Sunday 2 nd	8am	Holy Communion						
-	10am	All-Age Communion						
	5pm	Choral Evensong						

Contacts: St George's Church, Benenden						
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Churchwardens	E-mail: julia.collard@btinternet.com					
	Mrs Sue Fisher Tel: 01580 241907					
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St George's	01580 240 999					
Parish Safeguarding Officer	E-mail: <u>ianmal@sky.com</u>					
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	(NB The Rector's day off is Thursday)					
Priests	Revd Ylva Blid-Mackenzie, Curate					
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