**St George’s Church, Benenden**

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

**Our Worship: 11th December**

**The Third Sunday of Advent**

Collect: O Lord Jesus Christ, who at your first coming sent your messenger to prepare your way before you: grant that the ministers and stewards of your mysteries may likewise so prepare and make ready your way by turning the hearts of the disobedient to the wisdom of the just, that at your second coming to judge the world we may be found an acceptable people in your sight; for you are alive and reign with the Father in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

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| **Sunday 11th December – The Third Sunday of Advent***Readings: James 5.7-10, Matthew 11.2-11* |
| **8 am** | **1662 BCP HOLY COMMUNION AT ST GEORGE’S**led by Revd Ylva Blid-Mackenzie  |
| **10 am** | **MORNING WORSHIP ST GEORGE’S** led by Revd Ylva Blid-Mackenzie  |
|  | *Hymns:* |  |
|  | *26* | *John the Baptist, by his preaching* |
|  | *99*  | *Hail to the Lord's Anointed (omit v5)* |
|  | *654*  | *Hark, my soul, it is the Lord* |
|  | *52* | *The people that in darkness sat (omit v3)* |
|  | *394* | *Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord* |

***THE WEEK AHEAD***

Monday 12th 8 am Morning Prayer at St George’s

 7.30 pm Sandhurst Home Group at Sandhurst Mission Church

Tuesday 13th 8 am Morning Prayer at Sandhurst Mission Church

 10 am Holy Communion at Sandhurst Mission Church

 led by Revd David Commander

 *7 pm* Benenden Home Group Christmas Social

 *at the home of Jo Clube.*

Wednesday 14th 8 am Morning Prayer at Sandhurst Mission Church

 10 – 11.30 am Coffee Morning at Benenden Memorial Hall

Thursday 15th 10 am Rhythm of Life Community Choir at St George’s

 7 pm Choir Practice

Friday 16th 8 am Morning Prayer at St George’s

 9 – 11 am Cakes & Chaos at St George’s

 2.15 pm BPS Christmas Service at St George’s

 5 pm Wedding Rehearsal at St George’s

 7.30 pm Bell Ringing – Quarter Peal attempt

Saturday 17th 12.30 pm Wedding of Harry Cooper & Emily Twist at St George’s

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| **Sunday Next: 18th December – The Fourth Sunday of Advent** *Readings: Romans 1.1-7, Matthew 1.18-end* |
| **8 am** | **HOLY COMMUNION AT ST GEORGE’S**Revd Rosemary Kobus van Wengen  |
| **10 am** | **SUNG EUCHARIST AT ST GEORGE’S**led by Revd David Commander & Revd Rosemary Kobus van Wengen  |

## ***Readings: Sunday 11th December – The Third Sunday of Advent***

## ***James 5.7-10***

## ***Patience in Suffering***

7 Be patient, therefore, beloved, until the coming of the Lord. The farmer waits for the precious crop from the earth, being patient with it until it receives the early and the late rains. 8You also must be patient. Strengthen your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is near. 9Beloved, do not grumble against one another, so that you may not be judged. See, the Judge is standing at the doors! 10As an example of suffering and patience, beloved, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.

## ***Matthew 11.2-11***

## ***Messengers from John the Baptist***

2When John heard in prison what the Messiah was doing, he sent word by his disciples 3and said to him, ‘Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?’ 4Jesus answered them, ‘Go and tell John what you hear and see: 5the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them. 6And blessed is anyone who takes no offence at me.’

## ***Jesus Praises John the Baptist***

7 As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John: ‘What did you go out into the wilderness to look at? A reed shaken by the wind? 8What then did you go out to see? Someone dressed in soft robes? Look, those who wear soft robes are in royal palaces. 9What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. 10This is the one about whom it is written,
“See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you,
   who will prepare your way before you.”
11Truly I tell you, among those born of women no one has arisen greater than John the Baptist; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.

**The Benenden Home Group meeting on Tuesday 13th December** will be a Christmas Social at the home of Jo Clube. We shall then have a break until 10th January. Julia Collard

**Sad News & Prayers:**

**Roma Marshall** died in the early hours of Wednesday 23rd November in Maidstone Hospital. We thank God for her life, and pray that she now rests secure in His arms. Please hold Cliff, John, Nigel and the family in your prayers. Roma’s funeral will be on Friday 23rd December at 10am at St George’s. Further details to follow next week.

**Iain Thomson** passed away on Wednesday 23rd November. Please hold Anne in your prayers, and Sarah, Robert and Skye. Iain’s Memorial Service will be at 2pm on Wednesday 8th February at St George's Church. (Iain's cremation has already taken place and his ashes have already been scattered on Lake Lucerne, as he wished.)

**Revd David**



**Follow the Star App - now available**

**The Follow the Star app features daily Advent reflections (1st – 23rd December) and 12 days of Christmas reflections (24th December – 6th January). Together, each reflection takes you on a journey that will help you take fresh encouragement and hope from Advent and the Christmas story into the year ahead.**

**The app is available to download now for free, or you can sign up for a daily email reflection via: *cofe.io/FollowTheStar***

**Please see the poster in church for a QR code**

**and for Smart speaker or telephone access**

Bell-ringing Practice at St George’s (usual weekly timetable)

Mondays: 3.30 to 4.30 pm - Learners’ practice

Tuesdays: 6.30 to 7.30 pm - Simulator practice

Wednesdays: 7.30 to 9 pm - Weekly Bell-ringing Practice (shutters open)

Thursdays: 4.30 to 5.30 pm - Simulator practice

Fridays: 9 to 10.30 am - Simulator practice

3rd Friday of the Month 7.30 – 9 pm – Quarter Peal attempt

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| ***Christmas Services at St George’s 2022*** |
| **DECEMBER** |  |  |
| **Friday 16th** | 2.15pm | Benenden Primary School Christmas service |
| **Sunday 18th** | 8am10am | Holy Communion Sung Eucharist |
| **Tuesday 20th**  | 7.30pm | Parish Candle-lit Carol Service |
| ***Christmas Eve******Saturday 24th*** | 3pm11.30pm | Crib ServiceFirst Communion of Christmas |
| ***Christmas Day*** ***Sunday 25th*** | 8am10am | Holy CommunionMorning Worship, *followed by Communion for those who wish to stay* |
| ***NB: No midweek Communion service on Tuesday 27th December*** |
| **JANUARY** |  |  |
| **Sunday 1st**  | 8am10am | Holy Communion All-Age Communion *No Choral Evensong tonight* |

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| **Contacts: St George’s Church, Benenden** |
| **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:** julia.collard@btinternet.com **and** d.collard49@btinternet.com

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**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***(NB The Rector’s day off is Thursday)*****Revd Ylva Blid-Mackenzie, Curate****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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