

# St George's Church, Benenden

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

## Our Worship: Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> April The Second Sunday of Easter

**Collect:** Almighty Father, you have given your only Son to die for our sins and to rise again for our justification: grant us so to put away the leaven of malice and wickedness that we may always serve you in pureness of living and truth; through the merits of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

### Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> April – The Second Sunday of Easter

*Readings: Acts 2.14a, 22-32, John 20.19-end*

**8 am HOLY COMMUNION IN THE CHANCEL AT ST GEORGE'S**

led by Revd Ylva Blid-Mackenzie

**10 am MORNING WORSHIP AT BENENDEN PRIMARY SCHOOL**

led by Lyn Hayes

*Hymns:*            194        *Alleluia! Alleluia! Hearts to heaven and voices raise*  
                         622        *Dear Lord we long to see your face*  
                         236        *Breathe on me breath of God*  
                         208        *Light's glittering morn bedecks the sky*

**2.30 pm East Peckham Silver Band – Concert at St Nicholas Church, Sandhurst**

*Tickets available in advance and on the door.*

### The Week Ahead

Monday 13 <sup>th</sup>	8 am	Morning Prayer at the Rectory
Tuesday 14 <sup>th</sup>	8 am	Morning Prayer at Sandhurst Mission Church
	10 am	Holy Communion at Sandhurst Mission Church led by Revd David Commander
	11.30 am	MLT meeting at Sandhurst Mission Church
Wednesday 15 <sup>th</sup>	7.30 pm	Benenden Home Group at David & Julia Collard's
	8 am	Morning Prayer at the Rectory
	7 pm	Central Weald Filling Station at Benenden Primary School
Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup>	7.30 pm	Bellingring Practice at St George's
	10 – 11.30 am	Rhythm of Life Community Choir at Sandhurst Mission Church
Friday 17 <sup>th</sup>	7 pm	Choir Practice at Iden Green Congregational Church
	8 am	Morning Prayer at the Rectory
	7.30 pm	Bellingring Quarter Peal attempt at St George's

### Sunday Next: 19<sup>th</sup> April – The Third Sunday of Easter

*Readings: Acts 2.14a, 36-41, Luke 24.13-35*

**8 am HOLY COMMUNION IN THE CHANCEL AT ST GEORGE'S**

led by Revd David Commander

**10 am SUNG EUCHARIST AT BENENDEN PRIMARY SCHOOL**

led by Revd David Commander

**Readings: Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> April – The Second Sunday of Easter**

**Acts 2.14a, 22-32**

<sup>14</sup> But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them: <sup>22</sup> ‘You that are Israelites, listen to what I have to say: Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested to you by God with deeds of power, wonders, and signs that God did through him among you, as you yourselves know— <sup>23</sup>this man, handed over to you according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of those outside the law. <sup>24</sup>But God raised him up, having freed him from death, because it was impossible for him to be held in its power. <sup>25</sup>For David says concerning him,

“I saw the Lord always before me,

for he is at my right hand so that I will not be shaken;

<sup>26</sup> therefore my heart was glad, and my tongue rejoiced; moreover, my flesh will live in hope.

<sup>27</sup> For you will not abandon my soul to Hades, or let your Holy One experience corruption.

<sup>28</sup> You have made known to me the ways of life; you will make me full of gladness with your presence.”

<sup>29</sup> ‘Fellow Israelites, I may say to you confidently of our ancestor David that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. <sup>30</sup>Since he was a prophet, he knew that God had sworn with an oath to him that he would put one of his descendants on his throne. <sup>31</sup>Foreseeing this, David<sup>e</sup> spoke of the resurrection of the Messiah, saying,

“He was not abandoned to Hades,

nor did his flesh experience corruption.”

<sup>32</sup>This Jesus God raised up, and of that all of us are witnesses.

**John 20.19-end**

<sup>19</sup> When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, ‘Peace be with you.’ <sup>20</sup>After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. <sup>21</sup>Jesus said to them again, ‘Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.’ <sup>22</sup>When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, ‘Receive the Holy Spirit. <sup>23</sup>If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.’

<sup>24</sup> But Thomas (who was called the Twin<sup>a</sup>), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. <sup>25</sup>So the other disciples told him, ‘We have seen the Lord.’ But he said to them, ‘Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe.’

<sup>26</sup> A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, ‘Peace be with you.’ <sup>27</sup>Then he said to Thomas, ‘Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe.’ <sup>28</sup>Thomas answered him, ‘My Lord and my God!’ <sup>29</sup>Jesus said to him, ‘Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.’

<sup>30</sup> Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. <sup>31</sup>But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

**Prayers:** Please hold Hazel Eastwood in your prayers. Hazel, who had served our church and also sang in the choir for many years, passed away at home - as was her wish - on Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> March. Please also hold husband, Rob, and son, Nick, in your prayers. Hazel’s funeral service is **provisionally** at St Nicholas Church, Boughton Malherbe at midday on 22<sup>nd</sup> April.; it will be followed by burial in the churchyard there, close to their home. **To receive confirmed details** please contact Nick at [eastwood.n@gmail.com](mailto:eastwood.n@gmail.com) or Tel 01622 850330. The service will be led by Revd Rosemary Kobus van Wengen.

**Central Weald Filling Station: 7pm, Wednesday April 15<sup>th</sup> at Benenden Primary School.** Our speaker this month is Akhtar Shah, who first spoke for us in April last year. Akhtar leads The Foundry International – the vision is to advance Christianity and relieve poverty around the world, through disciple-making, church-planting, and strategically supporting and empowering effective social and community transformation. Our vision is for Jesus and we exist to serve and equip His church worldwide: we want to love and serve His people, as He leads. Akhtar is passionate to encourage and equip the church.

**St George's Church Electoral Roll:** The revision of the Electoral Roll opened last Sunday, 5<sup>th</sup> April, and closes on Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> April, If you wish to be added to the roll, or if you wish to be removed, please contact David Collard at a 10 am service or on Tel 01580 241044 or via email to [d.collard49@btinternet.com](mailto:d.collard49@btinternet.com)

**Home Groups:**

**Sandhurst:** Next meets on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> April, at 7.30 pm, at the Mission Church, Sandhurst.

**Benenden:** Meets at 7.30pm on Tuesdays at David and Julia Collard's.

**PCC Secretary:** Julia Collard will be stepping down as our PCC Secretary at this year's APCM in May. (Monday 18<sup>th</sup> May - an advance date for your diary!) Julia has carried out this role with dedication for many years; for which we are very grateful. With Julia stepping down, it does mean though that we need to think about who might take up this role. Is this a way that you might serve our church? If you are wondering what is involved, then please speak to Julia, or to David Collard (David has served as PCC Secretary in the past), or to one of the Churchwardens or myself. Please give this some prayer and thought. Thank you. Revd David.



**East Peckham  
Silver Band**

Conductor: Jeremy Cooper  
with Ian Verran - Organ

**Music for Easter**  
with a cinema musical interlude

*Easter Hymn    Panis Angelicus*  
*All in the April Evening*  
*Resurgam: I shall rise again*  
*A James Bond Medley*

2.30pm  
Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> April  
St Nicholas Church  
Sandhurst TN18 5NS  
**Tickets £15 plus tea & cakes**

**Under 18s free**  
You can buy your tickets here:   
and at the door  
Registered Charity: X33295

**Dingleden Open Gardens**  
TN17 4JU

**Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> & Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> May 2026**

**10 am - 4 pm each day**

**Entry £5. Parking available**

in aid of

**St George's Church, Benenden:  
'Restore: Renew: Rejoice' project  
& the deaf health charity SignHealth**

Judy Williams, Peter & Sylvia Kellett & Steve & Angie Lambert will be opening their gardens.

A unique opportunity to visit these private gardens on the High Weald Landscape Trail.

**The Laurels Nursery & private garden:  
A stunning collection of standard wisteria will  
be in bloom.**

**Barnhill Cottage, garden & vegetable patch:  
Light refreshments here.**

**No 3 New Buildings:  
The hidden treasure.**


Fundraising in aid of:  
<https://signhealth.org.uk/>  
<https://stgeorgeschurchbenenden.co.uk/>

**Dingleden Open Gardens 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> May 2026** - in aid of the RRR Project and the deaf health charity SignHealth. If anybody could bake a cake for Judy - or help at all over this weekend - Judy would be most grateful. Please either speak to Judy or email [benendenchurch@gmail.com](mailto:benendenchurch@gmail.com). Thank you to those who have already offered to help.

**Confirmation:** There is a Weald Deanery Confirmation service on Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> May 2026; if you, or a family member, are interested in Confirmation, please speak to Revd David.

<p><b>Grief Talks</b>  <b>~ Time to share &amp; reflect</b>  <b>Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> April</b>  <b>10am – 12noon</b>  <b>at the Mission Church</b>  <b>Back Road</b>  <b>Sandhurst TN18 5JU</b></p> 	<p>Coming to terms with the loss of a loved one can be one of the hardest things we have to do. When someone has died, while we may feel our loved one is at peace, it can still leave us with hugely mixed emotions.</p> <p>We are offering a morning to explore our grief through conversation, readings and crafting together. It will be a safe space to come to talk and share what has been going on for you.</p> <p>Talking to others who have been through similar experiences can be helpful, or just knowing that someone is there to listen.</p> <p>For more information and to book this free workshop please contact Lyn Hayes on 07792 332904 or email: <a href="mailto:Lindapin@aol.com">Lindapin@aol.com</a></p>
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<p><b>Spring Pilgrimage Walk – Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> April</b></p> <p>We are happy to announce our Spring local pilgrimage walk, this time taking in the beautiful woodland with all of its wonderful trees, plants and animals at Hemsted Forest, Benenden, stopping for reflection and having the time to connect with nature, each other and the Spirit.</p> <p>This will take place on Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> April, starting from the Goddard’s Green Road Car Park at 9.45am for a 10am start. The walk will be around 3.5 miles long and will be a circular route finishing back at the car park.</p> <p>Please bring a flask of your favourite beverage. We will also have our traditional offering of cake! Please be aware that there are NO toilet facilities at the forest.</p> <p>We would love to walk with you – if you have further questions please get in touch with Revd Ylva, 07766 711957, <a href="mailto:rev.ylva@gmail.com">rev.ylva@gmail.com</a> or Lyn Hayes 07792 332904, <a href="mailto:lindapin@aol.com">lindapin@aol.com</a></p>
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<b>St George’s Church: Contacts</b>	
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<b>Churchwardens</b>	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>
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<b>Priests</b>	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> <i>(NB The Rector’s day off is Thursday)</i> 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>
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