

# St George's Church, Benenden

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

## Our Worship: Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> December Advent Sunday

**Collect:** Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness and to put on the armour of light, now in the time of this mortal life, in which your Son Jesus Christ came to us in great humility; that on the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

### Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> December – Advent Sunday

*Readings: 1 Thessalonians 3.9-end Luke 21.25-36*

8 am

#### **HOLY COMMUNION**

led by Revd Rosemary Kobus van Wengen

10 am

#### **ALL AGE COMMUNION**

led by Revd David Commander & Victoria Bray

*Hymns*     35                    *Fling wide the gates, unbar the ancient doors*  
                  696                    *Jesus, where'er thy people meet*  
                  131                    *O for a closer walk with God*  
                  (HC) 51              *The Lord will come and not be slow*  
                  39                    *Hills of the North, rejoice*

5 pm

#### **ADVENT CAROL SERVICE**

led by Revd David Commander

### **THE WEEK AHEAD**

Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup>	8 am	Morning Prayer at St George's
	7.30 pm	Sandhurst Home Group at Sandhurst Mission Church
Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup>	8 am	Morning Prayer at Sandhurst Mission Church
	10 am	Holy Communion at Sandhurst Mission Church led by Revd Ylva Blid-Mackenzie
	7.30 pm	Benenden Home Group at David & Julia Collard's
Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup>	8 am	Morning Prayer at Sandhurst Mission Church
	10 – 11.30 am	Coffee Morning at Benenden Memorial Hall
	7.30 – 9.15 pm	Bellringing Practice at St George's
Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup>	10 – 11.30 am	Community Choir at St George's
	7 pm	Choir Practice at St George's
Friday 6 <sup>th</sup>	8 am	Morning Prayer at St George's
	9 – 11 am	Cakes & Chaos at St George's
Saturday 7 <sup>th</sup>	10.15 am – 2.15 pm	Cranbrook Symphony Orchestra Rehearsal
	3 pm	Friends of St George's <b>Cranbrook Symphony Orchestra Winter Concert at St George's</b>

### Sunday Next: 8<sup>th</sup> December – Second Sunday of Advent

*Readings: Philippians 1.3-11, Luke 3.1-6*

8 am

#### **1662 BCP HOLY COMMUNION**

led by Revd David Commander

10 am

#### **MORNING WORSHIP**

led by David Harmsworth

2 pm

Interment at St George's

**Readings: Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> December: Advent Sunday**

**1 Thessalonians 3.9-end**

<sup>9</sup>How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy that we feel before our God because of you? <sup>10</sup>Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you face to face and restore whatever is lacking in your faith.

<sup>11</sup> Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus direct our way to you. <sup>12</sup>And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we abound in love for you. <sup>13</sup>And may he so strengthen your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.

**Luke 21.25-36**

<sup>25</sup> 'There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. <sup>26</sup>People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. <sup>27</sup>Then they will see "the Son of Man coming in a cloud" with power and great glory. <sup>28</sup>Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.'

<sup>29</sup> Then he told them a parable: 'Look at the fig tree and all the trees; <sup>30</sup>as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. <sup>31</sup>So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. <sup>32</sup>Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. <sup>33</sup>Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

<sup>34</sup> 'Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day does not catch you unexpectedly, <sup>35</sup>like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. <sup>36</sup>Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man.'

***ADVENT SERVICE OF LIGHT  
TONIGHT - 5PM - AT ST GEORGE'S***



**Christmas Lunch:** We are inviting people who would otherwise be on their own to join us for our Christmas lunch in the Memorial Hall on Christmas Day. We don't charge for this as people very generously offer items of food etc. Our food list is almost complete, but we would be grateful for the odd bottle of wine or soft drink and donations towards the cost of the meat which is always the most expensive item to buy. If you are able to offer some help on the day, we would also love to hear from you. We would particularly appreciate help at the end of the day with clearing up etc. Usually from 4-4.30pm onwards. Helen Commander

# **Cranbrook Symphony Orchestra**

**Friends of St George's**

## **Winter Concert at St George's**

**Mozart Overture Don Giovanni,  
Schumann Cello Concerto & Haydn Symphony No 104**

**Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> December at 3pm.**

**Tickets £13 in advance on from Benenden's village shop. £16 on the door. £5 students / children.**

### **The Camino Ingles 2024**

I would just like to express my deepest gratitude to everyone who donated to the DAVSS (Domestic Abuse Victim Support Services) Charity in memory of Louise Nicholson as we walked the Camino Ingles from Ferrol in Northern Spain to the Cathedral of St James in Santiago de Compostela.

What a journey we had -120km through the most beautiful landscapes, following rivers, discovering ancient springs, walking through eucalyptus forests, scaling the hills, running down the valleys, encountering sacred and holy places - all the while feeling the pull of the Camino as we got to know each other through our conversations and shared experiences along the way. It was a journey that I will forever remember for the friendships formed and strengthened – we laughed and cried, danced and sang, got soaking wet and dried out in the sun, swam in the sea and walked silently or in deep conversation. Cafe con leche consumed by the bucket load, along with the obligatory slurp of Vino Tinto at the completion of every section of the Camino - six days to get to know fellow pilgrims and to share stories with each other.

All I can say is 'Watch this space' for future developments regarding another foray along one of the routes. To top it all, between the seven of us we managed to raise the magnificent sum of £12,200 which we were very proud to present to the charity at their AGM last Tuesday. Quite an achievement. So, thank you all for your contributions. Buen Camino!! Lyn Hayes

## **Parish Carol Service at St George's**



**Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> December at 7.30pm**



## 12 'Foods' of Christmas

During Advent, can you consider donating the most needed food items to support those in most need at this time of year?

**Long life milk**

**Pasta**

**Rice pudding**

**Tinned fruit**

**Noodles**

**Spreads: Jam, peanut butter, Marmite**

**Tins of fish**

**Tinned potatoes**

**Tinned pulses**

**Tinned baked beans & spaghetti**

**Soup**

Nourish would also greatly appreciate your Christmas non-perishable leftovers in the new year! Collections can be arranged.


Contact: Gemma Coupland 07548 262509 [gemma.louhunter@gmail.com](mailto:gemma.louhunter@gmail.com)

<http://www.nourishcommunityfoodbank.org.uk>

## Crib Service at St George's 3pm on Christmas Eve

**Ven. Andrew Sewell, Archdeacon of Maidstone**, will be retiring on 18<sup>th</sup> January 2025. There will be a service at Canterbury Cathedral to mark Andrew's service to the Diocese in January; Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> has been muted, but this is to be confirmed. His support for us in our two parishes, and as a personal colleague, will be missed. Revd David

### St George's Church: Contacts

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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>
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