

St George's Church, Benenden

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

Our Worship: Sunday 2nd February Presentation of Christ in the Temple

Collect: Almighty and ever-living God, clothed in majesty, whose beloved Son was this day presented in the Temple, in substance of our flesh: grant that we may be presented to you with pure and clean hearts, by 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 Next: 2nd February – Presentation of Christ in the Temple

Readings: Hebrews 2.14-18, Luke 2.22-40

8 am HOLY COMMUNION
led by Revd Rosemary Kobus van Wengen

10 am ALL AGE COMMUNION

led by Revd David Commander

Hymns: 721 Love divine, all loves excelling
794 The King of love my shepherd is
638 Give me joy in my heart, keep me praising
(HC) 434 Christ bids us break the bread
588 And can it be that I should gain

5 pm CHORAL EVENSONG

led by David Harmsworth

Readings: Haggai 2.1-9, John 2.18-22, Psalm 132 vv8-end

Hymns: 30 Come, thou long-expected Jesus
Choir anthem Let us light a candle
24 The day thou gavest, Lord, is ended
739 Now thank we all our God

THE WEEK AHEAD

Monday 3 rd	8 am	Morning Prayer at St George's
	7.30 pm	Sandhurst Home Group at the Mission Church
Tuesday 4 th	8 am	Morning Prayer at Sandhurst Mission Church
	10 am	Holy Communion at Sandhurst Mission Church led by Revd David Commander
	7.30 pm	Home Group at David & Julia Collard's
Wednesday 5 th	8 am	Morning Prayer at the Mission Church
	7.30 – 9.15 pm	Bell Ringing Practice at St George's
Thursday 6 th	10 – 11.30 am	Community Choir at St George's
Friday 7 th	8 am	Morning Prayer at St George's
	9 – 11 am	Cakes & Chaos Toddler Group at St George's

Sunday Next: 9th February – The Fourth Sunday before Lent

Readings: 1 Corinthians 15.1-11, Luke 5.1-11

8 am 1662 BCP HOLY COMMUNION
led by Revd Ylva Blid-Mackenzie

10 am MORNING WORSHIP
led by Revd Rosemary Kobus van Wengen

Readings: Sunday 2nd February – Presentation of Christ in the Temple

Hebrews 2.14-18

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

Luke 2.22-40

²² When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, they brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord ²³(as it is written in the law of the Lord, 'Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord'), ²⁴and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, 'a pair of turtle-doves or two young pigeons.'

²⁵ Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him. ²⁶It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Messiah. ²⁷Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the law, ²⁸Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying,

²⁹ 'Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace,
according to your word;

³⁰ for my eyes have seen your salvation,

³¹ which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples,

³² a light for revelation to the Gentiles
and for glory to your people Israel.'

³³ And the child's father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. ³⁴Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, 'This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed ³⁵so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed—and a sword will pierce your own soul too.'

³⁶ There was also a prophet, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, having lived with her husband for seven years after her marriage, ³⁷then as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshipped there with fasting and prayer night and day. ³⁸At that moment she came, and began to praise God and to speak about the child to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem.

³⁹ When they had finished everything required by the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. ⁴⁰The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favour of God was upon him.

Prayers: Please hold Jackie Liffen's son, David, in your prayers - and Jackie too - as David undergoes chemotherapy and radiotherapy, at the same time, for the treatment of his cancer. Pray for strength for David to get through his treatment; for a successful outcome of the treatment; and that Jackie can draw strength from her faith and her friends.

Sad news: Dear **Dick Dengate**, former Rector of St Nicholas Church, Sandhurst, passed away peacefully on Thursday 30th January. He had been admitted to the Conquest Hospital about a week before, was starting to show signs of recovery, but died on Thursday morning. The future was looking like a care home for Dick, which he would not have wanted; David, Dick's son, said he sees this as a release and blessing for his father. Dick's funeral will take place at Peasmarsh Church; I will let everyone know the date as soon as possible. Revd David

'CONNECT FOUR'

Our informal family service

**We next meet - 4pm - Saturday 1st March
at Sandhurst Mission Church, Back Road TN18 5JU**



Come along and connect with:

- family and friends - tea, coffee, cake - the Bible – worship - and God!

Refreshments throughout

(NB February date moved due to half term holidays)

Ash Wednesday is on Wednesday 5th March There will be a service to mark Ash Wednesday and the start of Lent - at 7.30 pm at St George's.

**Loss & Grief Café
Time to share & reflect**



**Saturday 15th March - 10 am to 12 noon
at the Mission Church, TN18 5JU**

We are offering a morning to explore our grief through conversation, readings and crafting together. Talking to others who have been through similar experiences can be helpful, or just knowing that someone is there to listen.

For more information and to book this free workshop please contact Claire Roberts on 01580 754374 or email claireecr57@yahoo.com

Fun Chicago Bridge Afternoon

in aid of St Nicholas Church

Wednesday 19th March

at the Mission Church, Back Road, Sandhurst TN18 5JU

1.40 for 2pm start; play will finish at 5pm

Tea, delicious cakes prizes and a raffle. Tables of four £24.

Please bring your own bridge cloth, cards, pencils and bidding boxes, if you have them.

To book tables or for further information please contact Anne Tylden-Wright Tel: 01580 850281 Email: tyldenwright@gmail.com

Memorial Hall Vacancies: We are still looking for a replacement for Jackie Liffen who has looked after the bookings for a very long time. The post is to take bookings and place them on website, send out invoices quarterly and act as Treasurer for the Memorial Hall. In addition, we are looking for a replacement for Colin Hayman, who has done a good job over the last few years, to look after the maintenance of the Memorial Hall. This is will be an ad hoc job rather than being committed to hours every week. It will require having items which require action being carried out either personally or arranging a contractor to carry out the work in conjunction with the Treasurer. Please speak to David Collard if you may be interested in either of these roles.



Lent Course 2025

A Pilgrimage through Prayer

This year's Lent course uses the theme of Pilgrimage to help us explore different aspects of prayer to hopefully gain a sense of travelling together, enriching our own prayer life along the way.

During the course we will often be referring to one of the best known pilgrim routes in Europe, the Camino de Santiago de Compostela.

The Camino has a long history with many different starting points and many different routes, but all leading to the same destination.

We would love to journey with you as we discover new and different ways of praying or to enhance our own personal prayer practices & habits.

The course begins on Wednesday 12th March for 5 weeks and will be held at the Mission Church, Back Road, Sandhurst from 7.30pm.

Refreshments will be available.
Buen Camino!

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: benendenchurch@gmail.com
Churchwardens	Mr David Collard Tel: 01580 241 944 - E-mail: d.collard49@btinternet.com Mrs Sue Fisher Tel: 01580 241 907 - E-mail: sue@undaunted.co.uk
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, Associate Priest 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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