

St George's Church, Benenden

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

Mothering Sunday (The Fourth Sunday of Lent)

Collect: God of compassion, whose Son Jesus Christ, the child of Mary, shared the life of a home in Nazareth, and on the cross drew the whole human family to himself: strengthen us in our daily living that in joy and in sorrow we may know the power of your presence to bind together and to heal; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Sunday 30th March – MOTHERING SUNDAY – The Fourth Sunday of Lent

8 am	HOLY COMMUNION led by Revd David Commander <i>Readings: 2 Cor. 5.16-end, Luke 15.1-3 & 11b-end</i>
10 am	MOTHERING SUNDAY SERVICE led by Revd Ylva Blid-Mackenzie <i>Readings: Colossians 3.12-17, John 19.25b-27</i> <i>Hymns:</i> 238 <i>Come down, O love divine</i> 136 <i>Fathers and mothers</i> 137 <i>God of Eve</i> 138 <i>Our Father God in heaven</i>

THE WEEK AHEAD

Monday 31 st	8 am	Morning Prayer at St George's
Tuesday 1 st	8 am	Morning Prayer at Sandhurst Mission Church
	10 am	Holy Communion at Sandhurst Mission Church led by Revd Ylva Blid-Mackenzie
Wednesday 2 nd		<i>No Morning Prayer today</i>
	7.30 pm	Bellringing Practice at St George's
	7.30 pm	Lent Course - A Pilgrimage through Prayer - at Sandhurst Mission Church (Week 4 of 5) – all welcome
Thursday 3 rd	10 – 11.30 am	Community Choir at St George's
	7 – 8 pm	Choir Practice at St George's
Friday 4 th	8 am	Morning Prayer at St George's
Saturday 5 th	9.30 am – noon	Churchyard Working Party at St George's

Sunday Next: 6th April – The Fifth Sunday of Lent – Passiontide Begins

Readings: Philippians 3.4b-14, John 12.1-8

8 am	HOLY COMMUNION led by Revd Ylva Blid-Mackenzie
10 am	ALL AGE COMMUNION led by Revd David Commander & Victoria Bray
2.30 pm	Baptism of Lara Stoughton at St George's
5 pm	CHORAL EVENSONG led by David Harmsworth <i>Readings: 2 Chron. 35.1-6 & 10-16, Luke 22.1-13. Psalm 35.1-9</i>

Readings: Sunday 30th March – Mothering Sunday

Colossians 3.12-17

¹² As God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. ¹³ Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. ¹⁴ Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. ¹⁵ And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful. ¹⁶ Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God. ¹⁷ And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

John 19.25b-27

²⁵ Meanwhile, standing near the cross of Jesus were his mother, and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. ²⁶ When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing beside her, he said to his mother, 'Woman, here is your son.' ²⁷ Then he said to the disciple, 'Here is your mother.' And from that hour the disciple took her into his own home.

Prayers:

Please continue to hold David Barnes in your prayers:

Peter Walton sadly passed away peacefully in the early hours of Sunday 2nd March. Although he and Gilly did not worship at St George's, Peter had a strong faith and regularly attended Smallhythe Church. Peter's funeral service, followed by burial, will take place at Smallhythe Church at 11.30 am on Tuesday 15th April, followed by a reception in Benenden Village Hall. Please hold Gilly and also Peter's son, David, in your prayers. DJC

Electoral Roll: There is to be a new Electoral Roll this year. Everyone who was on the old roll, and wishes to remain on the new roll, must fill out a new Application Form. Anyone wishing to join the roll for the first time will find Application Forms at the back of the church, and after completion please place them at the back of the church marked for the attention of David Collard. Those already on the roll should have received a new Application Form either by email or by letter. The roll will close on Sunday 20th April.

A milestone! An application has been made for a Faculty for the undertaking of our updating and improvement works, as has been discussed at two recent Church Meetings. **This is a legal requirement and is subject to a formal 28 day Public Consultation period from 28th February to 30th March.** A Public Notice advertising this is posted on the church door, on the porch notice board and on the scheme notice board at the back of the church, together with a set of the plans. The works will be phased and, importantly, involve a new heating system, toilets and improvements to access for wheelchairs and those less mobile.

We draw this to your attention. Should you wish to support the proposals or object then please write to the address on the Public Notice. Any questions can be addressed to one of the three petitioners. Richard Stubbings

Benenden & Sandhurst Home Groups: During Lent both Home Groups are following our five week Lent Course, led by Lyn Hayes. The course continues on Wednesday 2nd April, 7.30 pm at the Mission Church, Back Road, Sandhurst. All are welcome.

Churchyard Working Party at St George's: Saturday 5th April - 9.30 am to noon. Please do join us if you are able. Dick Hill

Christian Aid Week is 11th - 17th May 2025 and St George's Church is fundraising. The climate crisis is destroying many lives, lands and livelihoods. Please give generously to help those battling intense heat waves, deadly droughts and savage storms to adapt and build their resilience. Let's help make a difference. Many thanks for your support. Deborah Jenkins

Calling all singers! A special Choral Evensong is planned for 27th April, as a Patronal Festival. The Choir would welcome visiting singers - please contact one of them or Clare Harmsworth. Worshippers also warmly invited. (Refreshments afterwards and a Project 20:20 display!)

"2022-2024 Vacancy in See Committee" Election

- Update from Revd David:

At the PCC meeting on Monday evening, I mentioned that Sally Ann Marks had put herself forward as a candidate for the "2022-2024 Vacancy in See Committee" election. (This is the Committee appointed to work on the process for the selection of the next Archbishop of Canterbury.)

I am delighted to tell you that Sally Ann has been elected as one of the members of the House of Laity for the Maidstone Archdeaconry. (Sally Ann is, I think, surprised, and shocked, at the result!) Please hold Sally Ann and the whole Committee in your prayers for this important work.

The process of Consultation has now also started. Here is the information relating to this should you wish to voice anything:

Consultations for the 106th Archbishop of Canterbury

The process to nominate the next Archbishop of Canterbury is underway, and we want to hear from you. We would like you to share your thoughts on what qualities, values, and vision the future Archbishop should embody.

You can submit your views in a number of ways:

- * Through the [online local consultation form](#) (for those who live and work in the Diocese of Canterbury)
– Please see the St George's Facebook page for a link to the form.
- * At the in-person drop-in consultation in [Canterbury Cathedral Lodge](#) from 3 to 4.30 pm TODAY, Sunday 30th March
Address: Canterbury Cathedral, The Precincts, Canterbury, Kent CT1 2EH
- * At the in-person drop-in consultation in [St Mary's Church, Ashford](#), from 7 to 8.30 pm Wednesday 2nd April
Address: St Mary the Virgin Church, Tufton Street, Ashford, TN23 1QG



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Lent Course 2025
Every Wednesday in Lent
7.30 pm at Sandhurst Mission Church

‘A Pilgrimage through Prayer’

Our 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.
 Refreshments will be available. All welcome. Buen Camino!



Benenden
‘Give up a meal for Lent’

We are asking those who are able to give, to consider donating a much needed item that is in short supply to the Nourish Foodbank on a weekly basis.

Donation point in St George's church or please contact Gemma to arrange collection.

NB* – PLEASE LEAVE ALL PACKET ITEMS IN THE LIDDED BOX – otherwise mice feast

30th March: Tinned fish

6th April: Tinned potatoes

13th April: Tinned soup

Easter Sunday: Microwave rice pouches / Noodles **NB***

Contact: Gemma Coupland 07548 262509 gemmalouhunter@gmail.com
<http://www.nourishcommunityfoodbank.org.uk>

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
	StNicholasSandhurst StGeorgesBenenden
Website	https://benendenchurch.org/
A Church Near You: St George's, Benenden	https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/12091/