

St George's Church, Benenden

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

Our Worship: Sunday 21st December The Fourth Sunday of Advent

Collect: God our redeemer, who prepared the Blessed Virgin Mary to be the mother of your Son: grant that, as she looked for his coming as our saviour, so we may be ready to greet him when he comes again as our judge; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Sunday 21st December – The Fourth Sunday of Advent

Readings: Romans 1.1-7, Matthew 1.18-end

8 am	HOLY COMMUNION led by Revd Ylva Blid-Mackenzie
10 am	SUNG EUCHARIST led by Sarah Emanuel & Revd David Commander
	<i>Hymns:</i> 75 Long ago, prophets knew 30 Come, thou long-expected Jesus 85 The Angel Gabriel from heaven came (HC) 727 May the mind of Christ my Saviour 394 Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord!

The Week Ahead

Monday 22 nd	8 am from 9 am 1 pm 7.30 pm	Morning Prayer at St George's Decorating the Church for Christmas Funeral & Burial of t/l Richard Daniel at St George's PARISH CAROL SERVICE led by Revd David Commander
Tuesday 23 rd	8 am 10 am	Morning Prayer at Sandhurst Mission Church Holy Communion at Sandhurst Mission Church led by Revd Rosemary Kobus van Wengen
CHRISTMAS EVE	8 am 3 pm 11.30 pm	Morning Prayer at St George's CRIB SERVICE led by Revd David Commander FIRST COMMUNION OF CHRISTMAS led by Revd David Commander <i>Readings: Hebrews 1;1-12, John 1:1-14</i>
CHRISTMAS DAY	8 am 10 am	HOLY COMMUNION led by Revd Rosemary Kobus van Wengen <i>Readings: Titus 2.11-14, Luke 2.1-14[15-20]</i> MORNING WORSHIP followed by Holy Communion led by Revd David Commander
Friday 26 th		Bank Holiday - No Morning Prayer at St George's today

Sunday Next: 28th December – The First Sunday of Christmas

Readings: Hebrews 2.10-end, Matthew 2.13-end

8 am	HOLY COMMUNION led by Revd Ylva Blid-Mackenzie
10 am	MORNING WORSHIP led by David Harmsworth

Readings: Sunday 21st December – The Fourth Sunday of Advent

Romans 1.1-7

¹Paul, a servant of Jesus Christ, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, ²which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy scriptures, ³the gospel concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh ⁴and was declared to be Son of God with power according to the spirit of holiness by resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord, ⁵through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith among all the Gentiles for the sake of his name, ⁶including yourselves who are called to belong to Jesus Christ,

⁷ To all God's beloved in Rome, who are called to be saints:

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Matthew 1.18-end

¹⁸ Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. ¹⁹Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. ²⁰But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, 'Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. ²¹She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.' ²²All this took place to fulfil what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet:

²³ 'Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son,

and they shall name him Emmanuel',

which means, 'God is with us.' ²⁴When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife, ²⁵but had no marital relations with her until she had borne a son; and he named him Jesus.

Prayers:

Please hold these families in your prayers in the coming weeks, especially over this Christmas season:

The family of **t/I Richard Daniel**; Richard's funeral takes place at St George's on Monday 22nd December at 1pm.

And **Tim Cole and his sister**, Amanda, following the death of their mother, **Ann Cole**, peacefully at home on Wednesday 3rd December. Ann's funeral is at 2pm on Friday 9th January.

Home Groups:

Sandhurst: Next meets at 7.30 pm on Monday 5th January, at the Rectory.

Benenden: Next meets at 7.30 pm on Tuesday 6th January at David & Julia Collard's.

We shall be preparing St George's for Christmas on Monday 22nd December, starting at 9am. If you would like to join us on this enjoyable occasion, you would be very welcome. DH

Christmas Day lunch: We are inviting guests who would otherwise be on their own, to join us in the Memorial Hall for a traditional Christmas Lunch (no charge). As in previous years the various food items are being donated. If you are able to donate a bottle of wine that would be great. Donations towards the cost of the turkey would also be appreciated. Any surplus funds will again be sent to Catching Lives in Canterbury.

If you know of anyone who might otherwise be on their own, let me know and I can invite them. Or if they would like to contact me directly, they would be most welcome. Helen Tel 01580 240658

Parish Carol Service
Nine Lessons & Carols
at St George's

Monday 22nd December
at 7:30pm



Crib Service
at St George's
CHRISTMAS EVE
at 3 pm

Children, please
come in Nativity
costume

Wanted! Someone to play the piano/keyboard for the hymns at the two 10 am Morning Worship services for the St George's congregation, once we start worshipping at Benenden Primary school in mid January 2026. For more information, please contact Sue Fisher. Tel 241 907



Benenden 2025 Campaign
12 'Foods' of Christmas
Donation Point: St Georges
Church, Benenden

Collections can be arranged.

Contact: Gemma Coupland 07548 262509

gemma.lou.hunter@gmail.com

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

During Advent, please 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, Tins of fruit, Soup

Nourish would also greatly appreciate your Christmas non perishable leftovers in the new year!

St George's: Restore, Renew, Rejoice!

Your Community Needs You! Do you, or a family member or a friend, have any of the following skills and experience?

Digital Marketing | Quantity Surveying | Treasury & Financial Planning | Community Infrastructure Levy

The St George's RRR Project Fundraising Team would love to hear from you.

Please contact Paul Hewitt 07703 532 744 phewitt1203@gmail.com

Christmas & New Year Services at St George's




DECEMBER

Monday 22 nd	7.30 pm	Parish Candle-Lit Carol Service
Christmas Eve	3 pm 11.30 pm	Crib Service First Communion of Christmas
Christmas Day	8 am 10 am	Holy Communion Morning Worship followed by Holy Communion
Sunday 28 th - First Sunday of Christmas	8 am 10 am	Holy Communion Morning Worship
<i>NB: No midweek Communion on Tuesday 30th December</i>		

JANUARY

Sunday 4 th - Epiphany	8 am 10 am 5 pm	Holy Communion All Age Communion Evening Prayer
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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	Sue Fisher Tel: 01580 241 907 - E-mail: sue@undaunted.co.uk Cathy Presgrave Tel: 07500 119 189 - E-mail: cathy.presgrave@gmail.com
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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