

St George's Church, Benenden

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

Our Worship: Sunday 22nd February The First Sunday of Lent

Collect: Almighty God, whose Son Jesus Christ fasted forty days in the wilderness, and was tempted as we are, yet without sin: give us grace to discipline ourselves in obedience to your Spirit; and, as you know our weakness, so may we know your power to save; 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 22nd February – The First Sunday of Lent

Readings: Romans 5.12-19, Matthew 4.1-11

8 am **HOLY COMMUNION** in the Chancel at St George's
led by Revd David Commander

10 am **MORNING WORSHIP** at Benenden Primary School
led by David Harmsworth

<i>Hymns:</i>	6	<i>Lord, as the day begins</i>
	121	<i>Forty days and forty nights</i>
	128	<i>Jesu, lover of my soul</i>
	646	<i>God is working his purpose out</i>

The Week Ahead

Monday 23 rd	8 am	Morning Prayer at the Rectory
	7.30 pm	Sandhurst Home Group at Sandhurst Mission Church
Tuesday 24 th	8 am	Morning Prayer at Sandhurst Mission Church
	10 am	Holy Communion at Sandhurst Mission Church led by Revd Rosemary Kobus van Wengen
	7.30 pm	Benenden Home Group at David & Julia Collard's
Wednesday 25 th	8 am	Morning Prayer at Sandhurst Mission Church
	7.30 pm	Bellringing Practice at St George's
Thursday 26 th	10 – 11.30 am	Rhythm of Life Community Choir at Sandhurst Mission Church
Friday 27 th	8 am	Morning Prayer at the Rectory
	9 – 11 am	Cakes & Chaos Toddler Group at Sandhurst Mission Church
Saturday 28 th	10 am – 12 noon	'Grief Talks': Time to Share & Reflect at Sandhurst Mission Church
	4 pm	'CONNECT FOUR' Family Service at Sandhurst Mission Church

Sunday Next: 1st March – The Second Sunday of Lent

Readings: Romans 4.1-5, 13-17, John 3.1-17

8 am **HOLY COMMUNION** in the Chancel at St George's
led by Revd Ylva Blid-Mackenzie

10 am **ALL AGE COMMUNION** at Benenden Primary School
led by Revd David Commander

1 pm Quarter Peal Attempt at St George's

5 pm **EVENING PRAYER** in the Chancel at St George's
led by Revd David Commander

Psalm 135. Readings: Numbers 21.4-9, Luke 14.27-33

Readings: Sunday 22nd February – The First Sunday of Lent

Romans 5.12-19

¹² Therefore, just as sin came into the world through one man, and death came through sin, and so death spread to all because all have sinned— ¹³sin was indeed in the world before the law, but sin is not reckoned when there is no law. ¹⁴Yet death exercised dominion from Adam to Moses, even over those whose sins were not like the transgression of Adam, who is a type of the one who was to come.

¹⁵ But the free gift is not like the trespass. For if the many died through the one man's trespass, much more surely have the grace of God and the free gift in the grace of the one man, Jesus Christ, abounded for the many. ¹⁶And the free gift is not like the effect of the one man's sin. For the judgement following one trespass brought condemnation, but the free gift following many trespasses brings justification. ¹⁷If, because of the one man's trespass, death exercised dominion through that one, much more surely will those who receive the abundance of grace and the free gift of righteousness exercise dominion in life through the one man, Jesus Christ.

¹⁸ Therefore just as one man's trespass led to condemnation for all, so one man's act of righteousness leads to justification and life for all. ¹⁹For just as by the one man's disobedience the many were made sinners, so by the one man's obedience the many will be made righteous

Matthew 4.1-11

⁴Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. ²He fasted for forty days and forty nights, and afterwards he was famished. ³The tempter came and said to him, 'If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread.' ⁴But he answered, 'It is written,

"One does not live by bread alone,

but by every word that comes from the mouth of God." '

⁵ Then the devil took him to the holy city and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, ⁶saying to him, 'If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down; for it is written,

"He will command his angels concerning you",

and "On their hands they will bear you up,

so that you will not dash your foot against a stone." '

⁷Jesus said to him, 'Again it is written, "Do not put the Lord your God to the test." '

⁸ Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendour; ⁹and he said to him, 'All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me.' ¹⁰Jesus said to him, 'Away with you, Satan! for it is written,

"Worship the Lord your God,

and serve only him." '

¹¹Then the devil left him, and suddenly angels came and waited on him.

Home Groups:

Sandhurst: Meets at 7.30 pm on Mondays at the Mission Church.

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

PCC Secretary: Julia Collard will be stepping down as our PCC Secretary at this year's APCM in May. (Monday 18th May - an advanced 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 begin thinking 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.

IMPORTANT NOTICE – re all Benenden 10am services & events – Benenden Primary School is a "Nut-free" School. No nuts, of any kind, are to be brought into School on, or in, cakes or as personal snacks please. Revd David

Lent 2026: 'Into the Wilderness'

There is a Weald Deanery Lent resource available with a daily scripture, image, reflection and prayer. As we journey through Lent towards Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter Sunday, I encourage you to make use of this resource. Hard copies were given out at the service on Ash Wednesday and a copy has been emailed to everyone on the church-family email distribution list. If you've not got one and would like one, or would like a hardcopy, please email me or benendenchurch@gmail.com.

From Monday 2nd March we will be looking at these Lent Reflections in the Home Group on a Monday evening. If you would like to join us for that, you would be very welcome.

Revd David

Grief Talks ~ Time to share & reflect

Saturday 28th February

10am – 12noon

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



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.

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. 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 Lyn Hayes on 07792 332 904 or email lindapin@aol.com

To donate to the 'Restore: Renew: Rejoice' project and to support the reordering of St George's, please give via this secure website:

<https://givealittle.co/c/restorerenewrejoicebenenden>

'CONNECT FOUR'

Our informal family service
4pm - Saturday 28th February
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.

St George's Church: Contacts	
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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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