

St George's Church, Benenden

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

Our Worship: Sunday 4th January Epiphany

Collect: O God, who by the leading of a star manifested your only Son to the peoples of the earth: mercifully grant that we, who know you now by faith, may at last behold your glory face to face; 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.

4th January – Epiphany

Readings: Ephesians 3.1-12, Matthew 2.1-12

8 am HOLY COMMUNION
led by Revd Rosemary Kobus van Wengen

10 am ALL AGE COMMUNION

led by Revd David Commander

Hymns: 103 O Worship the Lord
 96 Brightest and best
 105 We three kings
(HC) 100 How brightly gleams the morning star!
 477 Go forth and tell! (Woodlands, 394)

5 pm EVENING PRAYER AT ST GEORGE'S

led by Revd David Commander

Readings: Isaiah 60.1-9, John 2.1-11. Psalm 98

The Week Ahead

Monday 5 th	8 am	Morning Prayer at St George's
	7.30 pm	Sandhurst Home Group <i>at the Rectory (tbc - weather dependent)</i>
Tuesday 6 th	8 am	Morning Prayer at Sandhurst Mission Church
	10 am	Holy Communion at Sandhurst Mission Church led by Revd David Commander
	1 – 2.30 pm	'Restore, Renew, Rejoice' - internal project - meeting at Richard's
	7.30 pm	Fete Meeting at the Bull
Wednesday 7 th	7.30 pm	Benenden Home Group at David & Julia Collard's
	8 am	Morning Prayer at Sandhurst Mission Church
	2.30 pm	Weald Deanery Chapter Group meeting at Sandhurst Mission Church
Friday 9 th	7.30 pm	Bellringing Practice at St George's
	8 am	Morning Prayer at St George's
	9 – 11 am	Cakes & Chaos Toddler Group at St George's
	2 pm	Funeral & Burial of t/l Ann Cole at St George's

Sunday Next: 11th January – The Baptism of Christ

Readings: Acts 10.34-43, Matthew 3.13-end

8 am 1662 BCP HOLY COMMUNION
led by Revd David Commander

10 am MORNING WORSHIP
led by David Harmsworth

Readings: Sunday 4th January – Epiphany

Ephesians 3.1-12

³This is the reason that I Paul am a prisoner for^a Christ Jesus for the sake of you Gentiles— ²for surely you have already heard of the commission of God's grace that was given to me for you, ³and how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I wrote above in a few words, ⁴a reading of which will enable you to perceive my understanding of the mystery of Christ. ⁵In former generations this mystery was not made known to humankind, as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit: ⁶that is, the Gentiles have become fellow-heirs, members of the same body, and sharers in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel.

⁷ Of this gospel I have become a servant according to the gift of God's grace that was given to me by the working of his power. ⁸Although I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given to me to bring to the Gentiles the news of the boundless riches of Christ, ⁹and to make everyone see what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things; ¹⁰so that through the church the wisdom of God in its rich variety might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. ¹¹This was in accordance with the eternal purpose that he has carried out in Christ Jesus our Lord, ¹²in whom we have access to God in boldness and confidence through faith in him.

Matthew 2.1-12

²In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, ²asking, 'Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage.' ³When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; ⁴and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. ⁵They told him, 'In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet:

⁶ "And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,
are by no means least among the rulers of Judah;
for from you shall come a ruler
who is to shepherd my people Israel." '

⁷ Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. ⁸Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, 'Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage.' ⁹When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. ¹⁰When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. ¹¹On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure-chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. ¹²And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

Prayers:

Please hold in your prayers 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, this coming Friday 9th January, at St George's

Home Groups:

Sandhurst: Meets at 7.30 pm on Monday 5th January, *at the Rectory*.

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

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

Christmas Day Lunch at the Memorial Hall - Thank you... to everyone who contributed to the Christmas lunch. 21 people, from across the benefice, sat down for a delicious lunch and lovely time together. And as a bonus we will be donating £170 to Catching Lives, the homeless charity in Canterbury.

Thank you also to everyone who sent us cards and gifts. A Happy New Year to you all! Revd David & Helen.

'CONNECT FOUR'

Our informal family service
4pm - Saturday 24th January
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: 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

St George's Church: Contacts	
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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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