

# St George's Church, Benenden

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

## Our Worship: Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> March

### 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 15<sup>th</sup> March – MOTHERING SUNDAY (The Fourth Sunday of Lent)

*Readings: 2 Corinthians 1.3-7, John 19.25b-27*

**8 am**            **HOLY COMMUNION in the Chancel at St George's**  
led by Revd Rosemary Kobus van Wengen

**10 am**            **MOTHERING SUNDAY SERVICE with INFORMAL COMMUNION**  
**at Benenden Primary School** led by Revd David Commander

*Hymns:*            315        *Sing we of the blessed Mother*  
                         141        *Beneath the cross of Jesus*  
                         800        *The Lord's my shepherd*  
                         792(HC)    *The God of love my shepherd is*  
                         394        *Tell out my soul*

#### The Week Ahead

Monday 16 <sup>th</sup>	8 am	Morning Prayer at the Rectory
	7.30 pm	Sandhurst Home Group at the Mission Church
Tuesday 17 <sup>th</sup>	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 18 <sup>th</sup>	8 am	Morning Prayer at Sandhurst Mission Church
	7.30 pm	Bellringing Practice at St George's
Thursday 19 <sup>th</sup>	10 – 11.30 am	Rhythm of Life Community Choir at Sandhurst Mission Church
Friday 20 <sup>th</sup>	8 am	Morning Prayer at the Rectory
	9 – 11 am	Cakes & Chaos Toddler Group at Sandhurst Mission Church
	7.30 pm	Bellringing Quarter Peal Attempt at St George's

#### Sunday Next: 22<sup>nd</sup> March – Fifth Sunday of Lent: Passiontide begins

*Readings: Romans 8.6-11, John 11.1-45*

**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 Revd Rosemary Kobus van Wengen

## **Readings: Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> March – Mothering Sunday**

### **2 Corinthians 1.3-7**

<sup>3</sup> Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and the God of all consolation, <sup>4</sup>who consoles us in all our affliction, so that we may be able to console those who are in any affliction with the consolation with which we ourselves are consoled by God. <sup>5</sup>For just as the sufferings of Christ are abundant for us, so also our consolation is abundant through Christ. <sup>6</sup>If we are being afflicted, it is for your consolation and salvation; if we are being consoled, it is for your consolation, which you experience when you patiently endure the same sufferings that we are also suffering. <sup>7</sup>Our hope for you is unshaken; for we know that as you share in our sufferings, so also you share in our consolation.

### **John 19.25b-27**

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

### **Home Groups:**

**Sandhurst:** Meets at 7.30 pm on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> March at the Mission Church, Sandhurst.

**Benenden:** Meets at 7.30pm on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> March at David and Julia Collard's.

**Sad News:** Please continue to hold all the family and friends of our dear Charles Trollope in your prayers. Charles' funeral will take place at a Crematorium in the morning of Monday 30<sup>th</sup> March, attended by his family. A Thanksgiving Service for Charles' life will take place at 2pm on Monday 30<sup>th</sup> March at St. Dunstan's Church in Cranbrook; the service will be conducted by myself supported by members of our ministry team. Following the service there will be a reception at the Vestry Hall in Cranbrook; this is located very close to the church. You all remain in my prayers as we come to terms with Charles' passing. Revd David.

## **Palm Sunday - 29<sup>th</sup> March**

There is an 8 o'clock Communion service in the Chancel at St George's. The 10 o'clock service is a benefice service at St Nicholas. (There is no service at the Primary School.) It begins with a procession from The Triangle up to church. Revd Ylva is leading and preaching and conducting the baptism; I will be presiding at the Eucharist. Revd David

**PCC Secretary:** Julia Collard will be stepping down as our PCC Secretary at this year's APCM in May. (Monday 18<sup>th</sup> 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.

**Time Capsule:** We are going to be burying a time capsule in the floor of the nave in St George's Church. (The Primary School and the Girls' School have been invited to do so too.) This will be done at the end of this month before the floor rebuilding commences. So time is short to get ideas to me for small items to go in the capsule. Please drop me an email with any ideas by next Sunday, 22nd March. Revd David

**St George's Church Electoral Roll:** There is about to be a revision of the Church Electoral Roll. The Roll opens on Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> April and closes on Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> April, If you wish to be added to the roll, or if you wish to be removed, please contact David Collard at a 10 am service or via email to [d.collard49@btinternet.com](mailto:d.collard49@btinternet.com) or on Tel 01580 241044.

**Revd Ylva Blid-Mackenzie:** As some people will be aware, Revd Ylva has recently taken the decision to submit her resignation to myself, the Archdeacon of Maidstone and the Bishop of Dover, as Associate Priest in the Benefice of Benenden and Sandhurst. Ylva will serve her three-month's notice, taking her time with us up to the end of May 2026. Following this Ylva will be worshipping elsewhere as she discerns her future ministry and calling. We would like to thank Ylva for the ministry she has offered as a Training Curate and then as Associate Priest with us for nearly six years. Please hold Ylva in your prayers as she journeys on and discerns God's calling for the next stage of her ministry. Revd David

**Confirmation:** There is a Weald Deanery Confirmation service on Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> May 2026; if you, or a family member, are interested in Confirmation, please speak to 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 have been given out and emailed. If you've not got one and would like one, or would like a hardcopy, please email me or benendenchurch@gmail.com.

We are 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



### 'CONNECT FOUR'

**Our informal family service**  
**4pm - Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> March**  
**at Benenden Memorial Hall**

**Come along and connect with:**

**- family and friends - tea, coffee, cake - the Bible - worship - and God!**  
**Refreshments throughout**



## East Peckham Silver Band

Conductor: Jeremy Cooper

with Ian Verran - Organ

### Music for Easter

with a cinema musical interlude

**Easter Hymn      Panis Angelicus**

**All in the April Evening**

**Resurgam: I shall rise again**

**A James Bond Medley**

2.30pm

Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> April

St Nicholas Church

Sandhurst TN18 5NS

**Tickets £15 plus tea & cakes**

**Under 18s free**



You can buy your tickets here:

## Dingleden Open Gardens

TN17 4JU

**Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> & Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> May 2026**

**10 am - 4 pm each day**

**Entry £5. Parking available**

in aid of

**St George's Church, Benenden:**  
**'Restore: Renew: Rejoice' project**  
**& the deaf health charity SignHealth**

Judy Williams, Peter & Sylvia Kellett & Steve & Angie Lambert will be opening their gardens.

A unique opportunity to visit these private gardens on the High Weald Landscape Trail.

**The Laurels Nursery & private garden:**  
**A stunning collection of standard wisteria will be in bloom.**

**Barnhill Cottage, garden & vegetable patch:**  
**Light refreshments here.**

**No 3 New Buildings:**  
**The hidden treasure.**

Fundraising in aid of:

<https://signhealth.org.uk/>

<https://stgeorgeschurchbenenden.co.uk/>

## Grief Talks ~ Time to share & reflect

**Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> April  
10am – 12noon  
at 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 332904 or email: [Lindapin@aol.com](mailto:Lindapin@aol.com)

## Spring Pilgrimage Walk – Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> April

We are happy to announce that we are planning a local pilgrimage walk, this time taking in the beautiful woodland with all of its wonderful trees, plants and animals at Hemsted Forest, Benenden, stopping for reflection and having the time to connect with nature, each other and the Spirit.

This will take place on Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> April, starting from the Goddard's Green Road Car Park at 9.45am for a 10am start. The walk will be around 3.5 miles long and will be a circular route finishing back at the car park. – Please bring a flask of your favourite beverage. We will also have our traditional offering of cake!

Please be aware that there are NO toilet facilities at the forest.

We would love to walk with you – if you have further questions please get in touch with Revd Ylva, 07766 711957, [rev.ylva@gmail.com](mailto:rev.ylva@gmail.com) or Lyn Hayes 07792 332904, [lindapin@aol.com](mailto:lindapin@aol.com)

**To donate to the 'Restore: Renew: Rejoice' project and to support the reordering of St George's please scan the QR code:**



[www.stgeorgeschurchbenenden.co.uk](http://www.stgeorgeschurchbenenden.co.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: <a href="mailto:benendenchurch@gmail.com">benendenchurch@gmail.com</a>
Churchwardens	Sue Fisher Tel: 01580 241 907 - E-mail: <a href="mailto:sue@undaunted.co.uk">sue@undaunted.co.uk</a> Cathy Presgrave Tel: 07500 119 189 - E-mail: <a href="mailto:cathy.presgrave@gmail.com">cathy.presgrave@gmail.com</a>
Parish Safeguarding Officer	Ian Malaugh Tel: 01580 240 999 - E-mail: <a href="mailto:ianmal@sky.com">ianmal@sky.com</a>
Priests	Revd David Commander, Rector. The Rectory, The Green, Benenden TN17 4DL Tel: 01580 240 658 E-mail: <a href="mailto:revdavidcommander@gmail.com">revdavidcommander@gmail.com</a> (NB The Rector's day off is Thursday) Revd Ylva Blid-Mackenzie, Associate Priest Tel: 01233 820100 Mobile: 07766 711957 Email: <a href="mailto:rev.ylva@gmail.com">rev.ylva@gmail.com</a> Revd Dr Rosemary Kobus van Wengen Tel: 01580 764 857 Email: <a href="mailto:rosemaryvanwengen@gmail.com">rosemaryvanwengen@gmail.com</a>
	<a href="https://www.facebook.com/StGeorgesBenenden">StGeorgesBenenden</a>
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