

The Benefice of St George's, Benenden

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

& St Nicholas, Sandhurst

Our Worship: Sunday 23rd August

The Eleventh Sunday after Trinity

Collect: O God, you declare your almighty power most chiefly in showing mercy and pity: mercifully grant to us such a measure of your grace, that we, running the way of your commandments, may receive your gracious promises, and be made partakers of your heavenly treasure; 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 23rd August - Benefice Services:

Readings: Romans 12:1-8, Matthew 16:13-20

8am HOLY COMMUNION AT ST GEORGE'S, BENENDEN

led by Revd Iori Price

10am HOLY COMMUNION AT ST NICHOLAS, SANDHURST

led by Revd Iori Price

THE WEEK AHEAD

8am Morning Prayer – at St George's on Monday, Wednesday & Friday. At the Mission Church, Sandhurst on Tuesday.

(please see notices below re the safe opening of our churches).

6pm Evening Prayer – every day except Thursday

Sunday Next: Sunday 30th August – The Twelfth Sunday after Trinity

Readings: Romans 12:9-end, Matthew 16:21-end

8am HOLY COMMUNION AT ST NICHOLAS, SANDHURST

led by Revd David Commander

10am HOLY COMMUNION AT GEORGE'S, BENENDEN

led by Revd David Commander

Daily Scripture and Reflection is posted on the St Nicholas & St George's church websites and Facebook pages every day of the week.

Please take a look.

PLEASE KEEP AN EYE ON THE CHURCH WEBSITES AND / OR FACEBOOK PAGES FOR THE LATEST INFORMATION REGARDING OUR CHURCH SERVICES

Church Websites: <http://www.benendenchurch.org/> <https://stnicholassandhurst.org/>

Facebook Pages: @StGeorgesBenenden @StNicholasSandhurst

A Church Near You: <https://www.achurchnearyou.com/>

Readings: Sunday 23rd August – 11th Sunday after Trinity

Romans 12:1-8

The New Life in Christ

¹²I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. ²Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect.

³ For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think, but to think with sober judgement, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. ⁴For as in one body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function, ⁵so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. ⁶We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; ⁷ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; ⁸the exhorter, in exhortation; the giver, in generosity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness.

Matthew 16:13-20

Peter's Declaration about Jesus

¹³ Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, 'Who do people say that the Son of Man is?' ¹⁴And they said, 'Some say John the Baptist, but others Elijah, and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.' ¹⁵He said to them, 'But who do you say that I am?' ¹⁶Simon Peter answered, 'You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.' ¹⁷And Jesus answered him, 'Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven. ¹⁸And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. ¹⁹I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.' ²⁰Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

Want to meet our new Curate?

Ylva Blid-Mackenzie will be starting with us next Sunday, 30th August. Ylva will be at the 8 o'clock service at St. Nicholas and the 10 o'clock service at St. George's on that Sunday.

It will be strange introducing Ylva when we are all having to maintain social distancing, but I know that you will make her very welcome. - Want to know more about Ylva before then? See the August editions of the village magazines

Revd David

Friends of Kent Churches

Ride and Stride

Saturday 12th September from 10am to 6pm

David Carter and Jack Drew will be cycling for St Nicholas. Their sponsor forms are in the Church. Please do support them. Half the money raised will go to St Nicholas the other half goes to the Friends of Kent Churches who have recently made a grant to St Nicholas for £1,500 towards the cost of the Church roof security alarm. ATW

St Nicholas Church APCM 7pm - Monday 14th September in St Nicholas Church

St. George's Church – Annual Meeting

Now the church is open again after the Coronavirus lockdown, it is time to get back to our church work. The annual church meeting in April was cancelled so it is now being held on **23rd September 2020 in St. George's Church, starting at 7:30pm.** At this meeting we hold our elections and give reports on what has been happening to our church family since the last annual meeting. This year Tracy Claridge is standing down as Churchwarden after six years, the Deanery Synod representatives need electing and there are spaces on our Parochial Church Council. There will also be reports from Revd David Commander and other groups connected to the church. So please do come along. We cannot offer refreshments this year, but you will get a warm welcome.

Julia Collard, PCC Secretary



Bellringing at St George's: Regular weekly bellringing practice at St George's has resumed on a Wednesday evening. This usually takes place from 7 to 9pm but likely practice times are 7.30 to 8.30pm whilst Covid regulations are in place.

Friday bellringing will be confirmed on a weekly basis but is generally 7.45 to 9pm.

All necessary Covid19 government regulations re social distancing and the wearing of masks etc will be adhered to.

St. George's and St Nicholas Church are open for public worship "Praise the Lord!"

But we are not "back to normal"; there are many restrictions:

- Everyone must hand sanitise on entry and exit.
- Everyone is strongly advised to wear a face mask (available in church) **NB: Unless exempt, FACEMASKS MUST be worn by the congregation in church.**
- Everyone must 2m social distance at all times. "Households" can sit together.
- Use alternate pews (Marked with "green tick" and "red cross").
- A register of names of people attending is being kept for 21 days.
- If someone is in the "70+" or another "vulnerable, at risk" group, they are advised not to come to church. But it is your choice; you will be very welcome if you do come. (But as part of the Government guidelines we have to advise of the increased risk in an indoor public gathering.)
- Organ music, but no hymns, at the 10 o'clock service.
- Communion distribution (wafer only) standing at the chancel step; plus one-way system to return. The priest will wear a face visor during distribution. (Only the priest to receive the wine.)
- Service Booklet to basket when leaving. These will be quarantined for at least 48hrs.
- No refreshments or fellowship time after the service, in church nor in the churchyard.
- Exit: St. George's - north and west doors; St. Nicholas - west door.
- Numbers will also be limited. (We estimate that St. George's can seat 60 people in "households" and St. Nicholas 40 at the 2m social distance.)

Our 8am and 10am Sunday services continue to alternate weekly between St. George's and St Nicholas. Hopefully each week we will have some bells rung for 15 minutes prior to the 10 o'clock service at the relevant church.

The Risk Assessment is available on the website, should you wish to read the detail. This will be reviewed, and if necessary amended, as required.

I look forward to worshipping God with you.

Revd David