

# St Nicholas Church, Sandhurst

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

## Our Worship: Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> August The Twelfth Sunday after Trinity

**Collect:** Almighty and everlasting God, you are always more ready to hear than we to pray and to give more than either we desire or deserve: pour down upon us the abundance of your mercy, forgiving us those things of which our conscience is afraid and giving us those good things which we are not worthy to ask but through the merits and mediation of 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 23<sup>rd</sup> August – The Twelfth Sunday after Trinity

*Readings: Romans 12.1-8; Matthew 16.13-20*

**8 am HOLY COMMUNION IN THE CHANCEL AT ST GEORGE'S**

led by Revd David Commander

**10 am SUNG EUCHARIST AT ST NICHOLAS**

led by Revd David Commander

*Hymns:* 329 *Make way, make way*  
63 *Blessed are the pure in heart*  
490 *The Lord's my shepherd*  
372 *O Jesus, I have promised*  
54 *Be still, my soul - Communion*

**2 – 4 pm St George's Summer Teas at Benenden Memorial Hall**

### THE WEEK AHEAD

|                            |                |                                                                 |
|----------------------------|----------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|
| Monday 24 <sup>th</sup>    | 8 am           | Morning Prayer at the Rectory                                   |
| Tuesday 25 <sup>th</sup>   | 8 am           | Morning Prayer at the Mission Church                            |
|                            | 10 am          | Holy Communion at the Mission Church                            |
|                            |                | led by Revd Rosemary Kobus van Wengen                           |
|                            | 7.30 pm        | Home Group at David & Julia Collard's                           |
| Wednesday 26 <sup>th</sup> |                | <i>No Morning Prayer today – Revd David on holiday</i>          |
| Thursday 27 <sup>th</sup>  | 7.30 – 9.15 pm | Bellringing Practice at St Nicholas                             |
| Friday 28 <sup>th</sup>    | 8 am           | Morning Prayer at the Rectory                                   |
|                            | 5 pm           | Wedding Rehearsal at St Nicholas                                |
| Saturday 29 <sup>th</sup>  | 2.30 pm        | Wedding of Henry Petch & Barbara Baraldi Cassaro at St Nicholas |

### Sunday Next: 30<sup>th</sup> August – The Thirteenth Sunday after Trinity

*Readings: Romans 12.9-end. Matthew 16.21-end*

*No 8 am service in the Benefice today*

**10 am BENEFICE COMMUNION AT ST NICHOLAS**

led by Revd David Commander & Revd Vicki Young

**2 – 4 pm St George's Summer Teas at the Memorial Hall**

**Readings: Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> August – The Twelfth Sunday after Trinity**

**Romans 12.1-8**

<sup>12</sup>I 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. <sup>2</sup>Do 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.

<sup>3</sup> 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. <sup>4</sup>For as in one body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function, <sup>5</sup>so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. <sup>6</sup>We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; <sup>7</sup>ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; <sup>8</sup>the exhorter, in exhortation; the giver, in generosity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness.

**Matthew 16.13-20**

<sup>13</sup> Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, 'Who do people say that the Son of Man is?' <sup>14</sup>And they said, 'Some say John the Baptist, but others Elijah, and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.' <sup>15</sup>He said to them, 'But who do you say that I am?' <sup>16</sup>Simon Peter answered, 'You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.' <sup>17</sup>And 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. <sup>18</sup>And 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. <sup>19</sup>I 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.' <sup>20</sup>Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

**Home Groups:**

**Sandhurst:** Meets again after the summer holidays - on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> September at Sandhurst Mission Church.

**Benenden:** Meets on Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> August.

**Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> August - 10 am - Benefice service at St Nicholas:** Revd Vicki Young - who is about to start the last year of her Curacy - will be with us for the 10 o'clock benefice service at St Nicholas on Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> August. Vicki will be leading, preaching and presiding at this service. It will be a lovely opportunity to welcome her back to the parish and benefice that nurtured her and set her on her way to becoming ordained.

**Churchyard cleared:** You will all notice that the churchyard is looking neat and all the dried grass and seedheads cleared away. This is mainly due to the heroic work of Bob in strimming the whole churchyard and a small army of volunteers who have raked and moved the piles to the back of the churchyard. It all looks so tidy for the Autumn and the seeds will be settling into the ground for a great show next year. It is a magnificent effort on behalf of a few and we are so grateful for their generous time and efforts. And all before the rain came! Thank you to you all. Catherine Elliott

**Iden Green Jazz & Blues: 2 – 6 pm, Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> August** – at Iden Green Pavilion.

## ***The Friends of Kent Churches "Ride & Stride"***

***Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> September - 10am - 6pm***

The second Saturday in September is always 'Ride & Stride', the bike ride round the churches. David Carter and his son in law will be cycling on behalf of St Nicholas again this year, which is wonderful. It is a really fun family thing to do - especially if you do the Romney Marsh churches - the roads are quiet and it is flat!

If you would like to take part I have plenty of sponsor forms and am very happy to help plan your route. St Nicholas gets 50% of the sponsor money. The other 50% goes to The Friends of Kent Churches, who have very generously given St Nicholas grants towards recent projects. It would be good to support them both. Anne Tylden-Wright Tel 01580 850281.

## **Local Pilgrimage Walk – Around Bodiam**

**Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> September**

**Meet at Bodiam Castle Car Park - 9.45 am for a 10.00 am start**

Come and join us for a gentle pilgrimage through the beautiful countryside around Bodiam. We'll follow quiet lanes, footpaths and byways, pausing along the way for short reflections and taking time to appreciate the beauty of creation, enjoy good conversation, and simply walk together.

The route is approximately **3½–4 miles**, using mainly off-road paths, and we'll finish back at Bodiam Castle for a well-earned cup of tea and our traditional slice of cake!

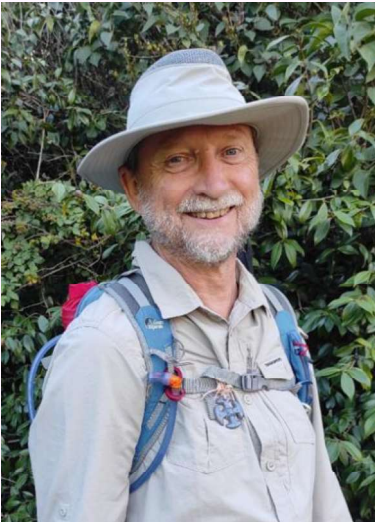
**Parking:** National Trust members can park free in the castle car park. For non-members, parking costs **£5 per vehicle**, or free parking may be available in the nearby lay-by or on the road opposite the castle.

**Please note:** The route includes several stiles and may not be suitable for dogs.

**Everyone is welcome** – whether you're a regular pilgrim or joining us for the first time.

**We would love to walk with you - if you have further questions please get in touch with Revd David, 07710 416978, [revdavidcommander@gmail.com](mailto:revdavidcommander@gmail.com) or Lyn Hayes 07792 332904, [lindapin@aol.com](mailto:lindapin@aol.com)**

**Revd David and Lyn Hayes**



## **Revd David's Sponsored Walk**

### ***"The Pilgrims' Way"***

From Winchester Cathedral to Canterbury Cathedral, via Guildford Cathedral and a little detour to Rochester Cathedral. This route has been walked by thousands of pilgrims over many, many centuries.

Revd David will be experiencing that pilgrimage.

**Length:** 147 miles    **Duration:** 13 days

**Starting:** Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> September  
at Winchester Cathedral

**Ending:** Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> September  
at Canterbury Cathedral

If you would like to sponsor Revd David for this walk and raise funds for the St Nicholas Church organ fund, please pick up a leaflet in church.

Sponsorship can be "per mile" or a lump-sum donation.

If you are a UK tax payer and are willing to Gift-Aid your donation it will be enhanced by 25%. Please take a look at the leaflet for full details.

*If you are considering joining Revd David for a day's walking, could you please drop him an email - [revdavidcommander@gmail.com](mailto:revdavidcommander@gmail.com). You will then be sent an itinerary of where he will be walking from/to each day, and the start time.*

**BUSTER KEATON'S**  
in **THE GENERAL**

WITH LIVE PIANO ACCOMPANIMENT FROM  
*the talented*  
**MR. MIKE HATCHARD**

UNDER 12'S GO FREE!

★ AN EVENING OF NOSTALGIA AND FUN! ★

A 'NOT SO SILENT' MOVIE NIGHT  
WITH REFRESHMENTS AVAILABLE

**TIME:** 7PM FOR A 7.30PM START  
**DATE:** FRIDAY 18<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2026  
**PRICE:** £15.00 PER TICKET

★ **VENUE:** ★  
**ST. NICHOLAS CHURCH**  
**SANDHURST KENT TN18 5NS**

The General is a 1926 American silent comedy film released by United Artists. It was inspired by the Great Locomotive Chase, a true story of an event that occurred during the American Civil War. The story was adapted from the 1889 memoir The Great Locomotive Chase by William Pittenger. The film stars Buster Keaton, who also co-directed it along with Clyde Bruckman.

## Notice from the Diocese of Canterbury:

As you may be aware INEQE Safeguarding Group have been commissioned to conduct Independent Safeguarding Audits of the Church of England to make sure dioceses and cathedrals are doing all they can to create environments where everyone feels safe, valued and respected.

As part of the audit process for Canterbury, INEQE hope to engage with parishioners and members of the parish community through an online survey which will act as a mechanism through which individuals can comment on any matters relevant to the Audit's focus.

The survey is both anonymous (we are not seeking to identify you) and confidential (you will not be identified). We would therefore ask you to be open and honest with your responses. The survey results are received directly by INEQE's Audit Team and not by the Church of England. The survey is now live and will close at 11.30 pm on Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2026.

To access the survey relevant to you please scan the QR code below or visit <https://ineqe.com/churchofengland/canterbury/>



### St Nicholas Church: Contacts

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|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Church Office                                                                                                                                                                                  | Cathy Baker, Benefice Administrator. The Mission Church, Back Road, Sandhurst TN18 5JU Tel: 01580 850 849<br>E-mail: <a href="mailto:benendenchurch@gmail.com">benendenchurch@gmail.com</a>                                                                                                                                                                                |
| St Nicholas Churchwardens                                                                                                                                                                      | Catherine Elliott Tel: 01580 850 300 E-mail: <a href="mailto:Elliotts@sandhurstcross.co.uk">Elliotts@sandhurstcross.co.uk</a><br>Zena Kemp: Tel: 07765 029 494 E-mail: <a href="mailto:kempzena@gmail.com">kempzena@gmail.com</a>                                                                                                                                          |
| St Nicholas Parish Safeguarding Officer                                                                                                                                                        | Revd David Commander, Rector<br>Tel: 01580 240 658 E-mail: <a href="mailto:revdavidcommander@gmail.com">revdavidcommander@gmail.com</a>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| Priests                                                                                                                                                                                        | Revd David Commander, Rector.<br>The Rectory, The Green, Benenden TN17 4DL Tel: 01580 240 658<br>E-mail: <a href="mailto:revdavidcommander@gmail.com">revdavidcommander@gmail.com</a> (NB The Rector's day off is Thursday)<br>Revd Dr Rosemary Kobus van Wengen<br>Tel: 01580 764 857 Email: <a href="mailto:rosemaryvanwengen@gmail.com">rosemaryvanwengen@gmail.com</a> |
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