

St George's Church, Benenden

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

Our Worship: Sunday 16th 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 16th August – The Eleventh Sunday after Trinity

Readings: Romans 11.1-2a, 29-32, Matthew 15.21-28

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

led by Revd Rosemary Kobus van Wengen

10 am SUNG EUCHARIST AT BENENDEN PRIMARY SCHOOL

led by Revd David Commander & Sarah Emanuel

Hymns: 713 Lord of all hopefulness

679 *In Christ there is no east or west*

HON 40 As we are gathered, Jesus is here

588 *And can it be*

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

THE WEEK AHEAD

Monday 17 th	8 am	Morning Prayer at the Rectory
	2 pm	Benefice Churchwardens meeting
Tuesday 18 th	8 am	Morning Prayer at Sandhurst Mission Church
	10 am	Holy Communion at Sandhurst Mission Church led by Revd David Commander <i>No Benenden Home Group this week</i>
Wednesday 19 th	8 am	Morning Prayer at the Rectory
	7.30 – 9. 15 pm	Bellringing Practice at St George's
Friday 21 st	8 am	Morning Prayer at the Rectory
	7.30 – 9 pm	Bellringing – Quarter Peal attempt at St George's

Sunday Next: 23rd 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 MORNING WORSHIP AT BENENDEN PRIMARY SCHOOL

led by Revd Rosemary Kobus van Wengen

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

Readings: Sunday 16th August – The Eleventh Sunday after Trinity

Romans 11.1-2a, 29-32

¹¹I ask, then, has God rejected his people? By no means! I myself am an Israelite, a descendant of Abraham, a member of the tribe of Benjamin. ²God has not rejected his people whom he foreknew. ²⁹for the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable. ³⁰Just as you were once disobedient to God but have now received mercy because of their disobedience, ³¹so they have now been disobedient in order that, by the mercy shown to you, they too may now receive mercy. ³²For God has imprisoned all in disobedience so that he may be merciful to all.

Matthew 15.21-28

²¹ Jesus left that place and went away to the district of Tyre and Sidon. ²²Just then a Canaanite woman from that region came out and started shouting, 'Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David; my daughter is tormented by a demon.' ²³But he did not answer her at all. And his disciples came and urged him, saying, 'Send her away, for she keeps shouting after us.' ²⁴He answered, 'I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.' ²⁵But she came and knelt before him, saying, 'Lord, help me.' ²⁶He answered, 'It is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs.' ²⁷She said, 'Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters' table.' ²⁸Then Jesus answered her, 'Woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish.' And her daughter was healed instantly.

Home Groups:

Sandhurst: Meets again after the summer holidays - on Monday 7th September at Sandhurst Mission Church.

Benenden: Next meets on Tuesday 25th August.

The Friends of Kent Churches "Ride & Stride" ***Saturday 12th September***

In a month's time, this annual sponsored event run by The Friends of Kent Churches will take place. Hundreds of churches and chapels open up to welcome cyclists, walkers and motorised scooterists. Among them, St George's and also Benenden Catholic Chapel, Iden Green Congregational and St Nicholas Sandhurst.

50% of sponsorship money goes directly to the church nominated by a participant, and 50% to the Friends of Kent Churches for distribution to other churches. St George's has benefited from last year's distribution by a generous £5,000 to the RRR appeal. Over many years we have in the past benefited from Geoff Davison's participation.

Three ways in which you could support this good cause:

- **Join in** yourself or as a group for a sporting or cultural or spiritual day out
- **Sponsor (or find sponsors for) Jo Clube or Richard Stewart** who have already kindly enlisted to ride for St George's
- **Volunteer to spend some time at St George's** welcoming participants and offering refreshments* (and/or search out others who would be prepared to offer help!)

WHEN? Saturday 12 September 10am - 6pm

HOW? Please contact David Harmsworth for details or go to <https://www.kentrideandstride.co.uk>

Forms, lists of the hundreds of participating churches and chapels are provided, and advice about good, safe practice. It's a well-oiled organisation!

Restore: Renew: Rejoice:

Supported by



At the suggestion of Sally-Anne Marks, the RRR fundraising team contacted Cllr. Claudine Russell at Kent County Council (KCC) for support.

KCC have made a donation of £500 towards the toilet extension and Cllr. Russell will come and visit St Georges on 28th September. **On behalf of the whole Benenden Community, thank you KCC and Cllr Russell.**

Visit <https://stgeorgeschurchbenenden.co.uk> to see a video explaining about the toilet extension and how you can sponsor a floor tile and Rev David's fundraising walk.

Renewed thanks to everyone who has already donated to the project. If you are able, please share the link with friends and neighbours in the Benenden Community and encourage them to get involved. Every gift is truly appreciated. Paul Hewitt



[www.stgeorgeschurchbenenden.co.uk](https://stgeorgeschurchbenenden.co.uk)

Rejoice: Restore: Renew: Tile Sponsorship: If you wish to sponsor and dedicate a floor tile (or tiles), the on-line application is now live via the QR code or the website link detailed above - Select the "Support Us" tab, and then "Fund a Tile". Alternatively, pick up a "Lay a Foundation" leaflet and complete a form; and make your donation payment by BACs or cheque or the SumUp unit. If you wish to choose a specific tile (or tiles), then place a coloured dot on the Floor Plan and write your initials on the dot(s). Revd David

Sunday 30th August :10 am Benefice service: 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 Sandhurst on Sunday 30th 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. There will not be an 8 o'clock or a 10 o'clock service at St George's on 30th August.

St George's Summer Teas at the Memorial Hall

Every Sunday throughout August - from 2 to 4 pm. All Welcome!

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 2nd September 2026.

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



Local Pilgrimage Walk – Around Bodiam

Saturday 26th 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 look forward to walking with you.

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

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: benendenchurch@gmail.com
Churchwardens, St George's	Deborah Jenkins Tel: 01580 240 454 - E-mail: deborahjenkins26@btinternet.com Cathy Presgrave Tel: 07500 119 189 - E-mail: cathy.presgrave@gmail.com
St George's Parish Safeguarding Officer	Ian Malaugh Tel: 07944 793 238 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 Dr Rosemary Kobus van Wengen Tel: 01580 764 857 Email: rosemaryvanwengen@gmail.com
	StGeorgesBenenden
Websites	https://benendenchurch.org/ https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/12091/