

HOLY TRINITY CUCKFIELD

Joyfully serving Jesus



Weekly devotions, prayers and news

Easter Day

17 April 2022

The Lord is risen. Alleluia! He is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Dear Friends

The Lord is risen. It is Easter and a time for joyful celebration not only of the Resurrection of Jesus but also of our own resurrection, of our turning to Christ. Easter has been celebrated as the great central festival of our faith since the very beginning of Christianity. And the Resurrection gives us hope that love will prevail, even when so much seems to be dark with despair.

Do join us over the Easter celebration, either in church or online, and share the joy that helps us to transcend any darkness that we may be feeling at present. Become part of the Light of Christ that is transforming the world. Alleluia! The Lord is Risen. He is Risen indeed. Alleluia!

As usual, we enclose the Weekly Sheet, with the readings for Sunday, and the prayer needs of those within our community for you to use as we journey the week ahead together.

Jane and Brian

Please check the church website for more details www.holytrinitycuckfield.org

Easter Day (17 April 2022)

8.00 Holy Communion *(in church)*

Readers: Ralph Colbran & Margaret Thistlethwaite

9.45 Easter Family Eucharist *(in church and online)*

Readers: Valerie Poxon & Robyn Brotherton; Intercessor: Vicky Peattie

Hymns: 216, 220, 194, 197, 205

Services during the week:

Wednesday: 10.30am Holy Communion (C. Worship) *Readings: Acts 3: 1-10; Luke 24: 13-35*

2.30pm Memorial Service for Stephanie Gilpin *(in church and online)*

Thursday: 9.00am Holy Communion (Iona/Celtic) *Acts 3: 11-end; Luke 24: 35-48*

Friday: 11.00am Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer) *Readings: Easter Day*

Next Sunday: Second Sunday of Easter (24 April 2022)

8.00 Holy Communion *(in church)*

9.45 Parish Eucharist *(in church and online)*

12noon Holy Baptism *Thomas William John Jenkin*

For services live on Zoom: Click the blue link on the front page of the church website

The Collect for Easter Day

God of glory,
by the raising of your Son
you have broken the chains of death and hell:
fill your Church with faith and hope;
for a new day has dawned
and the way to life stands open
in our Saviour Jesus Christ
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. Amen

The Post Communion Prayer:

God of Life,
who for our redemption gave your
only-begotten Son to the death of the cross,
and by his glorious resurrection
have delivered us from the power of our enemy;
grant us so to die daily to sin,
that we may evermore live with him
in the joy of his risen life;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen

Acts 10: 34-43

Then Peter began to speak to them: 'I truly understand that God shows no partiality, but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.'

I Corinthians 15: 19-26

If for this life only we have hoped in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied. But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have died. For since death came through a human being, the resurrection of the dead has also come through a human being; for as all die in Adam, so all will be made alive in Christ. But each in his own order: Christ the first fruits, then at his coming those who belong to Christ. Then comes the end, when he hands over the kingdom to God the Father, after he has destroyed every ruler and every authority and power. For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. The last enemy to be destroyed is death.

Luke 24: 1-12

But on the first day of the week, at early dawn, they came to the tomb, taking the spices that they had prepared. They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, but when they went in, they did not find the body. While they were perplexed about this, suddenly two men in dazzling clothes stood beside them. The women were terrified and bowed their faces to the ground, but the men said to them, 'Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here, but has risen. Remember how he told you, while he was still in Galilee, that the Son of Man must be handed over to sinners, and be crucified, and on the third day rise again.' Then they remembered his words, and returning from the tomb, they told all this to the eleven and to all the rest. Now it was Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James, and the other women with them who told this to the apostles. But these words seemed to them an idle tale, and they did not believe them. But Peter got up and ran to the tomb; stooping and looking in, he saw the linen cloths by themselves; then he went home, amazed at what had happened.

A thought: The way to life stands open in our Saviour, Jesus Christ.

It is hard for us to imagine, knowing the Easter story as we do, just what breathless excitement the friends of Jesus must have felt on that first Easter Day. As the followers of Jesus look into the tomb, with the stone rolled away and the grave cloths discarded on the ground, they see, and they believe.

They have heard Jesus talking about rising from the dead but until this moment they just did not understand what he meant. Now they do. They see, and they believe. They thought that they had lost him; they thought that he was gone, gone for ever. They thought that all their dreams had been dashed and that the exciting vision of a newer, better, more human world that he held out had been crushed by the forces of power, cynicism, and repression. But they had been wrong. They had witnessed something that had never happened before. This is a new world now, a world where death is not the end. Things are never going to be the same again.

This story has an immense power to change the way that we see the world. But this year we read it in a context that is totally new. Over the course of time Easter has been celebrated in so many different circumstances: secretly, for fear of arrest and execution, fearfully in times of pandemic, stoically in time of war; sadly in time of loss and bereavement; hopefully in times of change; joyfully for those who are joining the Church.

Every Easter the circumstances are different, but the Feast of Easter always has something fresh and new to speak to us. One of the Collects for Easter Day declares that the Resurrection of Jesus has broken the chains of death and filled the church, you, and me, with faith and hope. A new day has dawned, and the way to life stands open in our Saviour, Jesus Christ.

A prayer for this time of anxiety:

God of all compassion, your love never fails. Help us to listen to the tranquillity of your presence within our lives, so that we may grow in the knowledge that your Son, Jesus Christ, walks beside us, and your Holy Spirit comforts us at the heart of our being; for you are One God, world without end. Amen

Please remember those for whom we pray:

Immediate need: Barbara Booth, John Bernardi (priest), Paul Simpson, Tim Burrows, Martin Packham, Val Thompson, Ralph Wilkins, Martin Simmonds

Long Term Need: Young Georgia, Joshua and Reggie, Wendy, Ann Went, Julie Sadler, Christopher, Janet Card, George Snashall, Wendy Hibling, Yvonne Godsmark, Carla Spear, Pam Sagar, Eileen Knight, Maureen Griffiths, Carol Cox,

Those in Care Homes: Alan Prebble, Jill Rockey, Jean Simmons, Mary Watts, Ruth Baker, Keith Thompson,

Please remember the recently departed and their families: Stephanie Gilpin, David Davidson, Patricia Buckeridge

In our Book of Remembrance this week we remember: 17th Ian Todd, 18th Clive Rees, 19th Sam Leigh, Robert Norris, Doreen Webster, 20th Janet Cuddeford, Graham Fleet, 21st David Parry, 22nd Cyril Seymour-Robinson, Ena Gill, Peter Cripps, Ida Foster, 23rd Bob Salter, Alfred White, Nicholas Bugden