

# HOLY TRINITY CUCKFIELD

*Joyfully serving Jesus*



## *Weekly devotions, prayers and news* **The Seventh Sunday of Easter** *29 May 2022*

This coming week we will be celebrating! Celebrating the 70 years of our Queen's reign, her Platinum Jubilee, with pageants and street parties, parades and concerts, peels of bells and thanksgiving services. It will be a time to relax and enjoy each other's company, especially at local events such as that on Friday here in Cuckfield High Street. Do enjoy the Jubilee.

However next Sunday there will be another anniversary to celebrate, Pentecost, which is often seen as marking the foundation of the Christian church. Do join us for worship that Sunday morning when we will celebrate both Pentecost and the Platinum Jubilee. Please note that we have moved Choral Evensong to the following Trinity Sunday and the start of the Cuckfield Music Festival.

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](http://www.holytrinitycuckfield.org)

### **Seventh Sunday of Easter (29 May 2022)**

**8.00 Holy Communion** *(in church)*

*Reader: Graham Johnson*

**9.45 The Parish Eucharist** *(in church and online)*

*Readers: Jim & Eileen Knight; Intercessor: Isobel Simmonds*

#### **Services during the week:**

**Wednesday: 10.30 Holy Communion** (C. Worship)

*Readings: Acts 20: 28-end; John 17: 11-19*

**Thursday: 9.00am Holy Communion** (Iona/Celtic)

*Readings: Acts 22: 30; 23: 6-11; John 17: 20-end*

**Friday: 11.00am Holy Communion** (Book of Common Prayer) *Readings: Sunday after Ascension Day*

### **Next Sunday: Pentecost (5 June 2022)**

**8.00 Holy Communion** *(in church)*

**9.45 Parish Eucharist** *(in church and online)*

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

#### **The Collect for Seventh Sunday of Easter**

Risen, ascended Lord,  
as we rejoice at your triumph,  
fill your Church on earth  
with power and compassion,  
that all who are estranged by sin  
may find forgiveness and know your peace,  
to the glory of God the Father.  
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:**

Eternal God,  
giver of love and power,  
your Son Jesus Christ  
has sent us into all the world  
to preach the gospel of his kingdom:  
confirm us in this mission,  
and help us to live  
the good news we proclaim;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

### Acts 16: 16-34

One day, as we were going to the place of prayer, we met a slave-girl who had a spirit of divination and brought her owners a great deal of money by fortune-telling. While she followed Paul and us, she would cry out, 'These men are slaves of the Most High God, who proclaim to you a way of salvation.' She kept doing this for many days. But Paul, very much annoyed, turned and said to the spirit, 'I order you in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her.' And it came out that very hour. But when her owners saw that their hope of making money was gone, they seized Paul and Silas and dragged them into the market-place before the authorities. When they had brought them before the magistrates, they said, 'These men are disturbing our city; they are Jews and are advocating customs that are not lawful for us as Romans to adopt or observe.' The crowd joined in attacking them, and the magistrates had them stripped of their clothing and ordered them to be beaten with rods. After they had given them a severe flogging, they threw them into prison and ordered the jailer to keep them securely. Following these instructions, he put them in the innermost cell and fastened their feet in the stocks.

About midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them. Suddenly there was an earthquake, so violent that the foundations of the prison were shaken; and immediately all the doors were opened and everyone's chains were unfastened. When the jailer woke up and saw the prison doors wide open, he drew his sword and was about to kill himself, since he supposed that the prisoners had escaped. But Paul shouted in a loud voice, 'Do not harm yourself, for we are all here.' The jailer called for lights, and rushing in, he fell down trembling before Paul and Silas. Then he brought them outside and said, 'Sirs, what must I do to be saved?' They answered, 'Believe on the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and your household.' They spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all who were in his house. At the same hour of the night he took them and washed their wounds; then he and his entire family were baptized without delay. He brought them up into the house and set food before them; and he and his entire household rejoiced that he had become a believer in God.

### Revelation 22: 12-14, 16-17, 20-end

'See, I am coming soon; my reward is with me, to repay according to everyone's work. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end.' Blessed are those who wash their robes, so that they will have the right to the tree of life and may enter the city by the gates. 'It is I, Jesus, who sent my angel to you with this testimony for the churches. I am the root and the descendant of David, the bright morning star.' The Spirit and the bride say, 'Come.' And let everyone who hears say, 'Come.' And let everyone who is thirsty come.

Let anyone who wishes take the water of life as a gift. The one who testifies to these things says, 'Surely I am coming soon.' Amen. Come, Lord Jesus! The grace of the Lord Jesus be with all the saints. Amen.

### John 17: 20-end

'I ask not only on behalf of these, but also on behalf of those who will believe in me through their word, that they may all be one. As you, Father, are in me and I am in you, may they also be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me. The glory that you have given me I have given them, so that they may be one, as we are one, I in them and you in me, that they may become completely one, so that the world may know that you have sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me. Father, I desire that those also, whom you have given me, may be with me where I am, to see my glory, which you have given me because you loved me before the foundation of the world.

'Righteous Father, the world does not know you, but I know you; and these know that you have sent me. I made your name known to them, and I will make it known, so that the love with which you have loved me may be in them, and I in them.'

### A thought: John 17. 20-end

John's Gospel, Chapter 17, is referred to as Jesus' High Priestly prayer. It's a long and beautiful prayer that would be worth reading in its entirety for reflection.

Jesus begins by speaking to the Father that "the hour has come." His hour of suffering and death is upon Him. But He sees it as an opportunity for His glorification. This is an important revelation within John's Gospel and especially within this prayer. The Cross is horrible from a human perspective alone. But from the divine perspective or the will of the Father and the salvation of the world, it is glorious and the moment in which Jesus takes up His throne of the Cross. It is glorious because He perfectly fulfils the will of the Father through His freely embraced suffering.

From there, Jesus prays for the Apostles in particular. He prays for their mission so that they will have the grace they need to also embrace the will of the Father and continue the work of Jesus. He knows that it is only by embracing their crosses, in accord with the will of the Father, that they will be able to be glorified.

Lastly, Jesus prays for those who would come to faith through the ministry of the Apostles. In particular, He prays for their unity. The unity Jesus is speaking of is a oneness that comes as a result of being united with the Father in Heaven. It is this oneness that leads to glorification for all. And, once again, this oneness is achieved only by being in full union with the will of the Father. The Father is calling us to follow in the footsteps of His Son by laying down your life in perfect obedience to the Father's will. Embracing this cross is the path to Heaven and Jesus' prayer provides all the grace you need to say

"Yes.

**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, Martin Packham, Val Thompson, Ralph Wilkins, Martin Simmonds, Ross Bennett, Becky Parker

**Long Term Need:** Young Georgia, Joshua and Reggie, Wendy, Ann Went, Julie Sadler, Christopher, 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, Rosemary Pardey, Janet Card,

### Please remember the recently departed and their families: Patricia Ahern

**In our Book of Remembrance** this week we remember: 29th John Feilder, Nancy Halsall, John Weir, 30th Audrey Ducker, Mabel Davies, Jo Lambert, Betty Cobley, 31st Klara Graf, 1st Dorothy Moore, Florence Cuxson Norma Keen, 2nd Anthony Allanson, 3rd Gwyneth Webster