HOLY TRINITY CUCKFIELD

Joyfully serving Jesus





Weekly devotions, prayers and news The Second Sunday after Trinity 26 June 2022

The love of Christ urges us on

2 Corinthians 5: 14

Dear Friends

This Sunday we will be welcoming the Rt. Rev Ruth Bushyager, Bishop of Horsham, who will preside and preach at our Parish Eucharist. Bishop Ruth has a very busy schedule, and we are very grateful that she has made the time to come and visit us.

Whilst the main theme of the readings this week is about living in the light of the Spirit, there is an interesting side story in the excerpt from 1 Kings of finding the right people for the job. Although there is unlikely to be any news about filling the incumbent vacancy in the immediate future, we are delighted to be able to announce that Clive Simmonds has offered to take over as Chairman of the Old School Board, whilst Mark cares for Becky and their family, and Isobel has offered to be acting treasurer until we are able to find a replacement for Orlando.

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

Church website: www.holytrinitycuckfield.org

Second Sunday after Trinity (26 June 2022)

8.00 Holy Communion (in church) Reader: Roger Edmonston

9.45 The Parish Eucharist: Bishop Ruth Bushyager Presiding (in church and online)

Readers: Sue & Brian Cutler; Intercessor: Philip Richings

Hymns: 545, 633, 510, 692, 818

12noon Holy Baptism Milo Rafferty Rayner, Liam John Coetzee & Abigail Grace Coetzee **6.00 Sung Evensong** (in church and online)

Services during the week:

Wednesday: 10.30 Holy Communion (C. Worship) Peter & Paul, Apostles

Readings: Acts 12: 1-11; 2 Timothy 4: 6-8, 17-18; Matthew 16: 13-19

Thursday: 9.00am Holy Communion (Iona/Celtic) Readings: Amos 7: 10-end; Matthew 9: 1-8

Friday: 11.00am Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer) Readings: Second Sunday after Trinity

Next Sunday: Third Sunday after Trinity (3rd July 2022)

8.00 Holy Communion (in church)

9.45 Parish Eucharist (in church and online)

11.15 Family Praise

The Collect for Second Sunday after Trinity

Faithful Creator,
whose mercy never fails:
deepen our faithfulness to you
and to your living Word,
Jesus Christ our Lord.
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:

Loving Father, we thank you for feeding us at the supper of your Son: sustain us with your Spirit, that we may serve you here on earth until our joy is complete in heaven, and we share in the eternal banquet

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I Kings 19: 15-16, 19-end

Then the Lord said to him, 'Go, return on your way to the wilderness of Damascus; when you arrive, you shall anoint Hazael as king over Aram. Also you shall anoint Jehu son of Nimshi as king over Israel; and you shall anoint Elisha son of Shaphat of Abel-meholah as prophet in your place.

So he set out from there, and found Elisha son of Shaphat, who was ploughing. There were twelve yoke of oxen ahead of him, and he was with the twelfth. Elijah passed by him and threw his mantle over him. He left the oxen, ran after Elijah, and said, 'Let me kiss my father and my mother, and then I will follow you.' Then Elijah said to him, 'Go back again; for what have I done to you?' He returned from following him, took the yoke of oxen, and slaughtered them; using the equipment from the oxen, he boiled their flesh, and gave it to the people, and they ate. Then he set out and followed Elijah, and became his servant.

Galatians 5: 1, 13-25

For freedom Christ has set us free. Stand firm, therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery. For you were called to freedom, brothers and sisters; only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for self-indulgence, but through love become slaves to one another. For the whole law is summed up in a single commandment, 'You shall love your neighbour as yourself.' If, however, you bite and devour one another, take care that you are not consumed by one another.

Live by the Spirit, I say, and do not gratify the desires of the flesh. For what the flesh desires is opposed to the Spirit, and what the Spirit desires is opposed to the flesh; for these are opposed to each other, to prevent you from doing what you want. But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not subject to the law. Now the works of the flesh are obvious: fornication, impurity, licentiousness, idolatry, sorcery, enmities, strife, jealousy, anger, quarrels, dissensions, factions, envy, drunkenness, carousing, and things like these. I am warning you, as I warned you before: those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.

By contrast, the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against such things. And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. If we live by the Spirit, let us also be guided by the Spirit.

Luke 9: 51-end

When the days drew near for him to be taken up, he set his face to go to Jerusalem. And he sent messengers ahead of him. On their way they entered a village of the Samaritans to make ready for him; but they did not receive him, because his face was set towards Jerusalem. When his disciples James and John saw it, they said, 'Lord, do you want us to command fire to come down from heaven and consume them?' But he turned and rebuked them. Then they went on to another village.

As they were going along the road, someone said to him, 'I will follow you wherever you go.' And Jesus said to him, 'Foxes have holes, and birds of the air have nests; but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay his head.' To another he said, 'Follow me.' But he said, 'Lord, first let me go and bury my father.' But Jesus said to him, 'Let the dead bury their own dead; but as for you, go and proclaim the kingdom of God.' Another said, 'I will follow you, Lord; but let me first say farewell to those at my home.' Jesus said to him, 'No one who puts a hand to the plough and looks back is fit for the kingdom of God.'

A thought Luke 9.51-end

Our gospel lesson tells us, "When the days drew near for Jesus to be taken up, he set his face to go to Jerusalem." Jesus was walking into a death-trap, and yet he set his face, stone-like in the Greek, towards Jerusalem. He knew what he was getting into, and yet he moved toward Jerusalem because he had the freedom to love. Jesus was determined to love the whole world, including the people who actively rejected him. This is the ultimate freedom, the freedom to love our enemies who do not love us. The ultimate freedom is the freedom to love our enemies. Freedom to love our enemies is empowered by the Holy Spirit; it cannot come from our own willpower or self-determination. We can practice this kind of freedom when we are filled with Spirit and begin manifesting the fruits of the Spirit. Only the truly free can live out these fruits.

The image of freedom we find in our second lesson, "For freedom Christ has set us free," is this image of the fruits of the Spirit. When we experience the freedom to practice the fruits of the Spirit, we become a blessing of freedom to everyone we meet. This is the freedom we were created to experience, and it is the freedom that Jesus calls us today. "Come, be free," Jesus seems to say. "Follow me, and you will bless the world with your love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control."

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, Becky Parker, George Snashall

Long Term Need: Young Georgia, Joshua and Reggie, Wendy, Ann Went, Julie Sadler, Christopher, 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, lanet Card

Please remember the recently departed and their families: Peter Bellenger, Betty Woods, Andrew Thurgood, Judith Wood, Wayne Debnam

In our Book of Remembrance this week we remember: 26th Alan Fellows, Alastair Murray, 27th Constance Salter, James Perkins, 28th Angela Titheradge, Robert Mumbray, 29th Norah Cooper, 30th Joyce Forest, Frances Carter, Leslie Bousell, Evelyn Rhodes, 1st Anna Titlow, Florence Parker, Raymond Smith, 2nd Sherrie Willard, Anthony Bray