

HOLY TRINITY CUCKFIELD

Joyfully serving Jesus



Weekly devotions, prayers and news

Fourth Sunday after Trinity

10 July 2022 *'Do not fear, only believe.'*

Dear Friends

As many of you will have realised, we have been struck at Holy Trinity by a resurgence of Covid, which has particularly affected the choir and the clergy. Hopefully everyone is on the road to recovery, and we wish them all well.

Unfortunately, this has meant that we had to cancel some services during the week and there will be no Choral Evensong this Sunday. May we also remind everyone that if you are at all suspicious that you may be carrying the virus to stay at home and make use of our live streaming. We have also thought it prudent to return to distributing communion in one kind only for the time being. The expectation is that this wave will pass quickly, although in the meantime we need to be careful.

A very big thank you to everyone who made the Garden Trail possible last Sunday afternoon. Over a £1,000 was raised towards the Roof Fund.

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

Fourth Sunday after Trinity (10 July 2022)

8.00 Holy Communion *(in church)*

Reader: Charles Solomon

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

Readers: Eileen & Jim Knight; Intercessor: Philip Richings

Hymns: 9, 256, 610, 714, Will your anchor hold (sheet)

Services during the week:

Wednesday: 10.30 Holy Communion Readings: Isaiah 10: 5-7, 13-16; Matthew 11: 25-27

Thursday: 9.00 Holy Communion (Iona/Celtic) Readings: Isaiah 26: 7-9, 16-19; Matthew 11: 28-end

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

Next Sunday: Fifth Sunday after Trinity (17th July 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 Fourth Sunday after Trinity

Gracious Father,
by the obedience of Jesus
you brought salvation to our wayward world:
draw us into harmony with your will,
that we may find all things restored in him,
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:

Eternal God,
comfort of the afflicted
and healer of the broken,
you have fed us at the table of life and hope:
teach us the ways of gentleness and peace,
that all the world may acknowledge
the kingdom of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen

Deuteronomy 30: 9-14

and the Lord your God will make you abundantly prosperous in all your undertakings, in the fruit of your body, in the fruit of your livestock, and in the fruit of your soil. For the Lord will again take delight in prospering you, just as he delighted in prospering your ancestors, when you obey the Lord your God by observing his commandments and decrees that are written in this book of the law, because you turn to the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul. Surely, this commandment that I am commanding you today is not too hard for you, nor is it too far away. It is not in heaven, that you should say, 'Who will go up to heaven for us, and get it for us so that we may hear it and observe it?' Neither is it beyond the sea, that you should say, 'Who will cross to the other side of the sea for us, and get it for us so that we may hear it and observe it?' No, the word is very near to you; it is in your mouth and in your heart for you to observe.

Colossians 1: 1-14

Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and Timothy our brother, To the saints and faithful brothers and sisters in Christ in Colossae: Grace to you and peace from God our Father.

In our prayers for you we always thank God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, for we have heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and of the love that you have for all the saints, because of the hope laid up for you in heaven. You have heard of this hope before in the word of the truth, the gospel that has come to you. Just as it is bearing fruit and growing in the whole world, so it has been bearing fruit among yourselves from the day you heard it and truly comprehended the grace of God. This you learned from Epaphras, our beloved fellow-servant. He is a faithful minister of Christ on your behalf, and he has made known to us your love in the Spirit.

For this reason, since the day we heard it, we have not ceased praying for you and asking that you may be filled with the knowledge of God's will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding, so that you may lead lives worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to him, as you bear fruit in every good work and as you grow in the knowledge of God. May you be made strong with all the strength that comes from his glorious power, and may you be prepared to endure everything with patience, while joyfully giving thanks to the Father, who has enabled you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the light. He has rescued us from the power of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of his beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

Luke 10: 25-37

Just then a lawyer stood up to test Jesus. 'Teacher,' he said, 'what must I do to inherit eternal life?' He said to him, 'What is written in the law? What do you read there?' He answered, 'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind; and your neighbour as yourself.' And he said to him, 'You have given the right answer; do this, and you will live.'

But wanting to justify himself, he asked Jesus, 'And who is my neighbour?' Jesus replied, 'A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and fell into the hands of robbers, who stripped him, beat him, and went away, leaving him half dead. Now by chance a priest was going down that road; and when he saw him, he passed by on the other side. So likewise a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. But a Samaritan while travelling came near him; and when he saw him, he was moved with pity. He went to him and bandaged his wounds, having poured oil and wine on them. Then he put him on his own animal, brought him to an inn, and took care of him. The next day he took out two denarii, gave them to the innkeeper, and said, "Take care of him; and when I come back, I will repay you whatever more you spend." Which of these three, do you think, was a neighbour to the man who fell into the hands of the robbers?' He said, 'The one who showed him mercy.' Jesus said to him, 'Go and do likewise.'

A thought 4th Sunday after Trinity: Luke 10. 25-37 (Sunday 10th)

"You shall love the Lord, your God, with all your heart, with all your being, with all your strength, and with all your mind, and your neighbour as yourself."

These words were spoken by a scholar of the law to Jesus. He was quoting the Old Testament Law of Leviticus and Deuteronomy Jesus commended him for speaking these words. But then the scholar asked Jesus, "And who is my neighbour?" Jesus responded by telling him the familiar story of the Good Samaritan.

The story of the Good Samaritan is one that should wake us up to some not-so-pleasant truths about love of neighbour, or the lack thereof. First, a priest and a Levite walked by the beaten and suffering man on the side of the road and ignored him, passing on the opposite side of the road. Then the Samaritan walked by, was filled with compassion, and went out of his way to help the man.

The conclusion is obvious. We should be like the Good Samaritan who showed mercy to the man in need. On an intellectual level it is easy to conclude this fact. However, in practice, it is not always the case.

It's interesting that Jesus used a priest in the story as the first person to walk on the opposite side of the road. One thing this tells us is that too often we seek a so-called "exterior holiness" while, in truth, we lack authentic "interior holiness." The priest can be seen as a symbol of those who claim to be Christian on the surface but fail to live their holiness in their actions.

A prayer for the Vacancy:

Send us your Holy Spirit at this time of change and uncertainty, to fill us with vision, energy and faithfulness in prayer that we may be true to our calling to bring new life to our community; and guide with your heavenly wisdom those who are to choose a new priest for this Benefice, so that the one whom we receive may be a wise and gentle shepherd of your people, ready to serve us with joy, to build us up in faith, and to lead us by example, in loving obedience to your Son our Saviour, Jesus Christ. 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, Terry Buckland

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,

Please remember the recently departed and their families: Judith Wood, Andrew Thurgood, Wayne Debnam, Frederick Gray, Jonathan Malins, Martin Galbraith, Reginald Saunders

In our Book of Remembrance this week we remember: 10th Dorothy Trevitwick, 11th Selina Gray, 12th Margaret Willcocks, Robert Hickman, 13th Samuel Dods, Billy, Edward Wardle, 14th Dulcie Tidey, Jean Hammond, 15th, Gladys Cranefield, 16th Frank Knight