

HOLY TRINITY CUCKFIELD

Joyfully serving Jesus



Weekly devotions, prayers and news The Eighteenth Sunday after Trinity 16th October 2022

Dear Friends

Mid October and it is time to elect a new mayor for Cuckfield. Although at one level this may appear a little frivolous it is one of many strands that help to bind us together as a community. The world around us is becoming increasingly uncertain with both the war in Ukraine and the economic outlook seeming bleaker, and we need to hold on to things that we can trust.

Although the community is an important anchor for many of us, our readings today remind us that we have another even stronger anchor in our faith in God and in our prayer life. Hopefully our faith can give us the strength to support our community fully, not just in the election and proclamation of our new mayor. One practical way that we at Holy Trinity are looking to help is to increase our giving for families at Holy Trinity School and FSW and the shopping trolley will be out every Sunday morning as a collection point!

Brian & Jane

Church website: www.holytrinitycuckfield.org

Eighteenth Sunday after Trinity (16th October 2022)

8.00 Holy Communion *(in church)*

Readers: Ralph Colbran & Margaret Thistlethwaite

9.45 Family Eucharist *(in church and online)*

Hymns: 568, 705, 725, 777

6.00 Sung Evensong *(in church and online)*

Readers: Wendy Bloomer & Nickola Smith; Hymns: 238, 634, 24

Services during the week:

Wednesday: 10.30 Holy Communion (C. Worship) *(in church & online)*

Readings: Ephesians 3: 2-12; Luke 12: 39-48

6.30 Space for Grace

Thursday: 9.00 Holy Communion Iona/Celtic

Readings: Ephesians 3; 14-end; Luke 12: 49-53

10.00 H.T. School KS2 Eucharist

Friday: 11.00 Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer) Readings: Trinity XV II I

Next Sunday: Last Sunday after Trinity (23 October 2022)

8.00 Holy Communion *(in church)*

9.45 Family Eucharist *(in church and online)*

12.00 Holy Baptism Renzo Jude Lewry and Roman Peter Lewry

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

The Collect for Eighteenth Sunday after Trinity

God, our judge and saviour,
teach us to be open to your truth
and to trust in your love,
that we may live each day
with confidence in the salvation which is given
through 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:

We praise and thank you, O Christ, for this
sacred feast: for here we receive you,
here the memory of your passion is renewed,
here our minds are filled with grace,
and here a pledge of future glory is given,
when we shall feast at that table where you
reign with all your saints for ever.
Amen

Genesis 32: 22-31

The same night he got up and took his two wives, his two maids, and his eleven children, and crossed the ford of the Jabbok. He took them and sent them across the stream, and likewise everything that he had. Jacob was left alone; and a man wrestled with him until daybreak. When the man saw that he did not prevail against Jacob, he struck him on the hip socket; and Jacob's hip was put out of joint as he wrestled with him. Then he said, 'Let me go, for the day is breaking.' But Jacob said, 'I will not let you go, unless you bless me.' So he said to him, 'What is your name?' And he said, 'Jacob.' Then the man said, 'You shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel, for you have striven with God and with humans, and have prevailed.' Then Jacob asked him, 'Please tell me your name.' But he said, 'Why is it that you ask my name?' And there he blessed him. So Jacob called the place Peniel, saying, 'For I have seen God face to face, and yet my life is preserved.' The sun rose upon him as he passed Penuel, limping because of his hip.

2 Timothy 3: 14-4: 5

But as for you, continue in what you have learned and firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it, and how from childhood you have known the sacred writings that are able to instruct you for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. All scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, so that everyone who belongs to God may be proficient, equipped for every good work.

In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and in view of his appearing and his kingdom, I solemnly urge you: proclaim the message; be persistent whether the time is favourable or unfavourable; convince, rebuke, and encourage, with the utmost patience in teaching. For the time is coming when people will not put up with sound doctrine, but having itching ears, they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own desires, and will turn away from listening to the truth and wander away to myths. As for you, always be sober, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, carry out your ministry fully.

Luke 18: 1-8

Then Jesus told them a parable about their need to pray always and not to lose heart. He said, 'In a certain city there was a judge who neither feared God nor had respect for people. In that city there was a widow who kept coming to him and saying, "Grant me justice against my opponent." For a while he refused; but later he said to himself, "Though I have no fear of God and no respect for anyone, yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will grant her justice, so that she may not wear me out by continually coming." ' And the Lord said, 'Listen to what the unjust judge says. And will not God grant justice to his chosen ones who cry to him day and night? Will he delay long in helping them? I tell you, he will quickly grant justice to them. And yet, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?'

A thought 18th Sunday after the Trinity: Luke 18. 1-8

Jesus used this story to teach a lesson about the necessity "to pray always without becoming weary" (Luke 18:1). It's interesting that the image of the judge is one "who neither feared God nor respected any human being" (Luke 18:2). But Jesus uses this image of an unjust judge to reveal the power of persistence and to reveal the depths of God's mercy.

First, we learn that this woman never gave up. So with us, we must never cease to lose hope in prayer. We must pray always, constantly, and persistently. It's not that prayer changes God; rather, prayer changes us and disposes us to receive the immeasurable graces from God.

Second, we learn that if an uncaring judge will eventually give a good decision, then so much more will the merciful and all-loving God pour forth His good judgments in our lives when we trust Him.

There should be no doubt in our lives that God can do all good things for us if we but let Him.

A prayer for this time of 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: John Bernardi (priest), Paul Simpson, Martin Packham, Val Thompson, Ralph Wilkins, Becky Parker, George Snashall, Eileen Macdougall, Eileen Caple

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

Those in Care Homes: Jill Rockey, Jean Simmons, Mary Watts, Ruth Baker,, Rosemary Pardey, Janet Card

Please remember the recently departed and their families: Ross Bennet, Elliott Jones

In our Book of Remembrance this week we remember: 17th Francis Woods, 18th Dorothy Wright, Aldo Marsili, Douglas Symes, Gilbert Garrett, 19th David Wellum, 20th Christine Shah, John Cox, Alice Pearce, Carin Kent, Margaret Norris, 21st Ethel Shepherd, 22nd Dorothy Voller, Hilda Hall, Robert Ellett, Kenneth Raw, Patricia Garman