

# HOLY TRINITY CUCKFIELD

*Joyfully serving Jesus*



*Weekly devotions, prayers and news*

**Easter Day**

**9 April 2023**

On Holy Saturday, at the Easter Vigil, the fire is lit and we enter a dark church. As the candles begin to fill the church with light, we are assured that even in these dark and worrying times the light of Christ brings hope and the promise of new beginnings. We have journeyed with Jesus through all the ups and downs of Holy Week. We have witnessed the pain, the agony and the loneliness of the cross. We have experienced the betrayals, the doubts and the fears, and we now come together to share the joy of the risen Christ. Easter is a reminder and encouragement to us all that God continues to love and care for the whole world, replacing fear and uncertainty with hope and new life. The tomb is empty. Christ is risen. He is risen indeed. Alleluia.

Jane & Brian

Church website: [www.holytrinitycuckfield.org](http://www.holytrinitycuckfield.org)

**Easter Day (9 April 2023)**

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

Reader: Charles Solomon

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

Readers: Colin & Joyce Sewell-Rutter; Intercessor: Stephen Caple

Hymns: 194, 205, 209, 192, 197, 216

**Services during the week:**

**Tuesday: 2.00** Memorial Service

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

Readings: Acts 3: 1-10; Luke 24: 13-35

**Thursday: 9.00** Holy Communion (Iona/Celtic) *(in church)*

Readings: Acts 3: 11-end; Luke 24: 35-48

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

**Next Sunday: Second Sunday of Easter (16 April 2023)**

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

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

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

**The Collect Easter Day**

Lord of all life and power, who through the mighty resurrection of your Son overcame the old order of sin and death to make all things new in him: grant that we, being dead to sin and alive to you in Jesus Christ, may reign with him in glory; to whom with you and the Holy Spirit be praise and honour, glory and might, now and in all eternity. **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.'

### Colossians 3: 1-4

So if you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth, for you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. When Christ who is your life is revealed, then you also will be revealed with him in glory.

### Matthew 28: 1-10

After the sabbath, as the first day of the week was dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. And suddenly there was a great earthquake; for an angel of the Lord, descending from heaven, came and rolled back the stone and sat on it. His appearance was like lightning, and his clothing white as snow. For fear of him the guards shook and became like dead men. But the angel said to the women, 'Do not be afraid; I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. He is not here; for he has been raised, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. Then go quickly and tell his disciples, "He has been raised from the dead, and indeed he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him." This is my message for you.' So they left the tomb quickly with fear and great joy, and ran to tell his disciples. Suddenly Jesus met them and said, 'Greetings!' And they came to him, took hold of his feet, and worshipped him. Then Jesus said to them, 'Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee; there they will see me.'

### A thought: Easter Day 9<sup>th</sup> April 2023

The moment that Mary leaves the garden, the Good News of Easter gets loose and begins to transform the world! Mary bears witness to the fact that, even in the face of death itself, God will have the last word!

Through her first Easter witness, Mary teaches us that grief and joy, uncertainty and affirmation, desperation, and determination, are all inescapable parts of our humanity. She teaches us that our lives of faith aren't about success or opportunities for advancement; rather, they are holy mysteries that will surprise, unsettle, and transform us. But most important of all, she teaches us that in the resurrection we know that love, hope, and peace will ultimately prevail!

And so, in this Eastertide, may we proclaim that Christ is risen, not simply in church, but also in the world around us. May we proclaim it, not simply with our lips, but also with our hands and hearts. And as we live into the joy and promise of Easter, may we go forth into the world, looking for the Resurrected Christ in places we may not expect. May we search for Christ amidst those who are cast down and rejected; among those who have nobody to care for them; and in the company of those who have never known the loving embrace of friendship. The world needs this now, perhaps more than ever before. But most of all, may we not simply proclaim the Good News, may we also believe it so that the whole world may see Christ in their midst.

### **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:** Paul Simpson, Martin Packham, Becky Parker, Eileen Caple, Karen Leese, Jim Knight, Peter Graydon, Val Thompson, Nick Rowe, Jill Knight

**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, Liz Graydon,, Eileen Macdougall, George Snashall

**Those in Care Homes:** Mary Watts, Ruth Baker,, Rosemary Pardey, Janet Card,

### **Please remember the recently departed and their families: Michael Day**

**In our Book of Remembrance** this week we remember: 9th Frank Ridley, 10th Georgina Bugden, Beryl Williams, 11th John Springall, Nancy Ochoa, 12th Marian, Elsie Haggart, 13th Williamina McKenzie, 14th Betty Elphinstone, Dan Batchelor, Frederick Bayfield, Catherine Dunnage, Angela Hopkins, 15th Albert Jones  
Keith Shakespeare