

# HOLY TRINITY CUCKFIELD

*Joyfully serving Jesus*



*Weekly devotions, prayers and news*  
***Barnabas the Apostle (First after Trinity)***  
***11 June 2023***

A couple of weeks ago we celebrated the feast of Pentecost and the birth of the Christian Church, and this week we see the Church being firmly established in Antioch, the first church to embrace both Jews and Gentiles. It was Barnabas, whose feast day we celebrate this week, who was instrumental in welcoming the Gentiles and supporting and encouraging Paul, whom many regarded with fear and suspicion due to his previous involvement in the persecution of the followers of Jesus. Barnabas, although not as well-known as some of the more prominent saints, is someone we can all aspire to. He is described as being a 'good man, full of the Holy Spirit and of faith' and is best known for being an encourager. He saw the potential in people, was generous with his possessions, showed great courage and rejoiced when others came to faith in Jesus. Today we give thanks for all those who hold us up, help us and share our journey, and we pray for the courage to stand alongside those in need and be a source of strength and encouragement to those we meet in our daily life.  
Jane & Brian

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

## ***Barnabas the Apostle (First after Trinity) (11 June 2023)***

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

*Reader: Charles Solomon*

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

*Readers: Carolyn Ponder & Evelyn Stenning; Intercessor: Clive Simmonds*

*Hymns: 357, 704, 636, 779, 788, 753*

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

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

*Readings: 2 Corinthians 3: 4-11; Matthew 5: 17-19*

***6:30 Space for Grace (in the lady chapel)***

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

*Readings: 2 Corinthians 3: 15-4: 1, 3-6; Matthew 5: 20-26*

***Friday: 11.00 Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer) Readings: Barnabas the Apostle (in church)***

## ***Next Sunday: Second after Trinity (18 June 2023)***

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

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

***6.00 Festival Choral Evensong (in church & online)***

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

### ***The Collect for Barnabas the Apostle***

Bountiful God, giver of all gifts,  
who poured your Spirit upon your servant  
Barnabas and gave him grace to encourage others:  
help us, by his example, to be generous in our  
judgements and unselfish in our service;  
Through Jesus Christ your Son 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:***

Almighty God,  
who on the day of Pentecost sent your Holy Spirit to  
the apostles with the wind from heaven and in  
tongues of flame, filling them with joy and boldness to  
preach the gospel: by the power of the same Spirit  
strengthen us to witness to your truth and to draw  
everyone to the fire of your love; through Jesus  
Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## Acts 11: 19-end

Now those who were scattered because of the persecution that took place over Stephen travelled as far as Phoenicia, Cyprus, and Antioch, and they spoke the word to no one except Jews. But among them were some men of Cyprus and Cyrene who, on coming to Antioch, spoke to the Hellenists also, proclaiming the Lord Jesus. The hand of the Lord was with them, and a great number became believers and turned to the Lord. News of this came to the ears of the church in Jerusalem, and they sent Barnabas to Antioch. When he came and saw the grace of God, he rejoiced, and he exhorted them all to remain faithful to the Lord with steadfast devotion; for he was a good man, full of the Holy Spirit and of faith. And a great many people were brought to the Lord. Then Barnabas went to Tarsus to look for Saul, and when he had found him, he brought him to Antioch. So it was that for an entire year they associated with the church and taught a great many people, and it was in Antioch that the disciples were first called 'Christians'.

At that time prophets came down from Jerusalem to Antioch. One of them named Agabus stood up and predicted by the Spirit that there would be a severe famine over all the world; and this took place during the reign of Claudius. The disciples determined that according to their ability, each would send relief to the believers living in Judea; this they did, sending it to the elders by Barnabas and Saul.

## Galatians 2: 1-10

Then after fourteen years I went up again to Jerusalem with Barnabas, taking Titus along with me. I went up in response to a revelation. Then I laid before them (though only in a private meeting with the acknowledged leaders) the gospel that I proclaim among the Gentiles, in order to make sure that I was not running, or had not run, in vain. But even Titus, who was with me, was not compelled to be circumcised, though he was a Greek. But because of false believers secretly brought in, who slipped in to spy on the freedom we have in Christ Jesus, so that they might enslave us—we did not submit to them even for a moment, so that the truth of the gospel might always remain with you. And from those who were supposed to be acknowledged leaders (what they actually were makes no difference to me; God shows no partiality)—those leaders contributed nothing to me. On the contrary, when they saw that I had been entrusted with the gospel for the uncircumcised, just as Peter had been entrusted with the gospel for the circumcised (for he who worked through Peter making him an apostle to the circumcised also worked through me in sending me to the Gentiles), and when James and Cephas and John, who were acknowledged pillars, recognized the grace that had been given to me, they gave to Barnabas and me the right hand of fellowship, agreeing that we should go to the Gentiles and they to the circumcised. They asked only one thing, that we remember the poor, which was actually what I was eager to do.

## John 15: 12-17

'This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you. I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.

## A thought: St Barnabas the Apostle | 11th June 2023

Joseph, but his friends called him 'Barnabas', 'son of encouragement', was admired for his gift of animating others. We see him engaged in that ministry in Acts at Antioch; the Gospel had, for the first time, been preached to Gentiles as well as Jews, and therefore, a new kind of church was emerging there, a group that included members of Jewish and non-Jewish backgrounds.

Barnabas was sent to Antioch by the apostles to assess what was happening there; he immediately recognised it as the work of the Lord and sided with this new development. He turned out to be right; it was indeed the work of the Lord.

God is always at work in new and creative ways among us, and it is a great gift to recognise divine inspiration wherever it is to be found and to celebrate and encourage its effects. Therefore, he had the advantage of noticing where the Lord was working; this was the secret of him being a 'Barnabas'.

### **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, Karen Leese, Jim Knight, Peter Graydon, 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, Tina Owens, George Snashall,

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

### **Please remember the recently departed and their families: Harvey Meares, Angela Perfect, Mary Todd, Don Cranefield**

**In our Book of Remembrance** this week we remember: 11th Elizabeth Howard, 13th Claire Taverner, Clarice Malins, Kay Salisbury, Eva Sayers, Stephanie Vander, Dorothy Barton, 14th Joan Humphries, 15th Gwen Gurr, Dorothy Yetton, Marjorie Bolton, Phyllis Scadden, Winifred Rollitt, Marjorie Chilton, 16th Ernest Malins, Montague