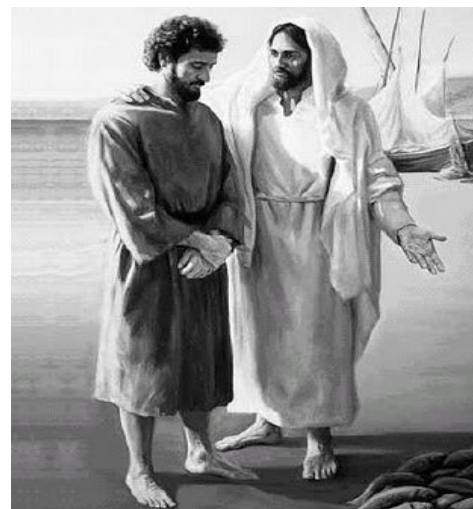


HOLY TRINITY CUCKFIELD

Joyfully serving Jesus



Weekly devotions, prayers and news
Twelfth Sunday after Trinity
27 August 2023

We now have a provisional date for Daniel's induction as Vicar of Cuckfield and Bolney, Wednesday 22nd November at 7.30 pm. So, we will now begin to work towards that date, getting everything ready and of course saying a very big thank you to everyone who has helped during the vacancy.

The extract from Paul's letter to the Romans that we will hear on Sunday concerns the many different gifts that go to make up the Body of Christ, that is the church. Paul expects them to work together harmoniously in building up the corporate whole. The arrival of a new shepherd may well lead to some adjustment in the various contributions that we all make to the one body, as well as providing an opportunity for further contributions to be offered.

Brian and Jane

Church website: www.holytrinitycuckfield.org

Twelfth Sunday after Trinity (27 August 2023)

8.00 Holy Communion *(in church)*

Readers: Eileen Caple & Roger Edmonston

9.45 Parish Eucharist *(in church & online)*

Hymns: 7, 790, 593, 503, 258, 704

Readers: Paul Goldfinch & Vicky Peattie Intercessor: Clive Simmonds

Services during the week:

Tuesday: 10.00 Prayer group *(online)*

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

Readings: 1 Thessalonians 2:9-13; Matthew 23:27-32

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

Readings: 1 Thessalonians 3:7-end; Matthew 24:42-end

Friday: 11.00 Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer) *Readings: Twelfth Sunday after Trinity (in church)*

Next Sunday: Thirteenth Sunday after Trinity (3 September 2023)

8.00 Holy Communion *(in church)*

9.45 Parish Eucharist *(in church & online)*

11:15 Family Praise *(in church)*

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

The Collect for the Twelfth Sunday after Trinity

Almighty and everlasting God,
you are always more ready to hear than we to
pray and to give more than either we desire or
deserve: pour down upon us the abundance of
your mercy, forgiving us those things of which our
conscience is afraid and giving us those good
things which we are not worthy to ask but
through the merits and mediation of 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:

God of all mercy,
in this eucharist you have set aside our sins
and given us your healing:
grant that we who are made whole in Christ
may bring that healing to this broken world,
in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Isaiah 51: 1-6

Listen to me, you that pursue righteousness, you that seek the Lord.
Look to the rock from which you were hewn, and to the quarry from which you were dug.
Look to Abraham your father and to Sarah who bore you;
for he was but one when I called him, but I blessed him and made him many.
For the Lord will comfort Zion; he will comfort all her waste places,
and will make her wilderness like Eden, her desert like the garden of the Lord;
joy and gladness will be found in her; thanksgiving and the voice of song.
Listen to me, my people, and give heed to me, my nation;
for a teaching will go out from me, and my justice for a light to the peoples.
I will bring near my deliverance swiftly, my salvation has gone out and my arms will rule the peoples;
the coastlands wait for me, and for my arm they hope.
Lift up your eyes to the heavens, and look at the earth beneath;
for the heavens will vanish like smoke, the earth will wear out like a garment,
and those who live on it will die like gnats;
but my salvation will be for ever, and my deliverance will never be ended.

Romans 12: 1-8

I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect.
For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think, but to think with sober judgement, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. For as in one body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function, so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; the exhorter, in exhortation; the giver, in generosity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness.

Matthew 16: 13-20

Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, 'Who do people say that the Son of Man is?' And they said, 'Some say John the Baptist, but others Elijah, and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.' He said to them, 'But who do you say that I am?' Simon Peter answered, 'You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.' And Jesus answered him, 'Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven. And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.' Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

A thought:

Being Confident in God's Power

Our faith is rooted in a deep, spiritual understanding. We can recognise God's presence within us when we experience signs of His work in our lives. For example, we may see Jesus as the anointed one of God, or as the risen one, much like the disciples did in the Emmaus resurrection story. We may also acknowledge Jesus as our Saviour and submit our lives to His Lordship. However, Jesus did not come to be merely recognised; He came to bring a new reality. This new reality is known by various names such as the New Covenant, the New Israel, the Kingdom of God, the Commonwealth of God, and the One Holy, Catholic, and Apostolic Church. According to Jesus, this new reality has incredible authority. He states, "What you prohibit on earth will be prohibited in heaven, and what you permit on earth will be permitted in heaven." This statement can be intimidating and uncomfortable. Jesus clarifies what He stands for and what we stand for, even if it cost Him His life. Although we may have moments of uncertainty, it's important to remember that God is all-powerful and can guide us towards trusting in His boundless love for us.

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 as we give thanks for the appointment of our new priest we pray that he will 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, Jim Knight, 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, Peter Graydon, Eileen Macdougall, George Snashall, Tina Owens, Karen Leese

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

Please remember the recently departed and their families: Maureen Griffiths, Peter Thorpe, Margaret Sabin

In our Book of Remembrance this week we remember: 27th Peggy Higginson, Barry Heath, Marjorie Church, John Knight, Nicholas Bennett, Wendy Grover; 28th Hilda Saunders; 29th Diana, Princess of Wales, Jessie Punnett;