

HOLY TRINITY CUCKFIELD

Joyfully serving Jesus



Weekly devotions, prayers and news
Eleventh Sunday after Trinity
20 August 2023

Prince of Peace
Jesus **Messiah**
Redeemer **Holy**
King of Kings **One**
Wonderful **Counselor**
Jehovah **SAVIOR**
Awesome Lord
Immanuel
Living Water
MOST HIGH GOD

As we look forward to the arrival of our new incumbent, we regretfully have to say goodbye to Rev Michael Windridge, House for Duty priest at St Mary Magdelene Church, Bolney. Michael will be retiring after 3 years of loving service to his church and community and will be greatly missed by all. Michael's final service at Bolney will be Harvest Festival on 1st October at 9.30am.

Bishop Martin has assured us that a new priest will be appointed for Bolney once our new vicar, Rev Daniel Valentine, has been licensed.

We pray for Michael and Sabrina as they prepare to leave Bolney, and wish them a long, happy and fulfilled retirement.

Jane and Brian

Church website: www.holytrinitycuckfield.org

Eleventh Sunday after Trinity (20 August 2023)

8.00 Holy Communion *(in church)*

Readers: Ralph Colbran and Margaret Thistlethwaite

9.45 Family Eucharist *(in church & online)*

Hymns: 827, 321, 223, 358, 800, 765

6.00 Said Evening Prayer *(in the Lady Chapel)*

Services during the week:

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

Readings: Judges 9:6-15; Matthew 20:1-16

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

Readings: Acts 5:12-16; 1 Corinthians 4:9-15; Luke 22:24-30

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

Next Sunday: Twelfth Sunday after Trinity (27 August 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 for the Eleventh Sunday after Trinity

O God, you declare your almighty power most chiefly in showing mercy and pity: mercifully grant to us such a measure of your grace, that we, running the way of your commandments, may receive your gracious promises, and be made partakers of your heavenly treasure; 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:

Lord of all mercy, we your faithful people have celebrated that one true sacrifice which takes away our sins and brings pardon and peace: by our communion keep us firm on the foundation of the gospel and preserve us from all sin; through Jesus Christ our Lord. .

Amen

Isaiah 56: 1, 6-8

Thus says the Lord: Maintain justice, and do what is right, for soon my salvation will come, and my deliverance be revealed. And the foreigners who join themselves to the Lord, to minister to him, to love the name of the Lord, and to be his servants, all who keep the sabbath, and do not profane it, and hold fast my covenant— these I will bring to my holy mountain, and make them joyful in my house of prayer; their burnt-offerings and their sacrifices will be accepted on my altar; for my house shall be called a house of prayer for all peoples. Thus says the Lord God, who gathers the outcasts of Israel, I will gather others to them besides those already gathered.

Romans 11: 1-2a, 29-32

I ask, then, has God rejected his people? By no means! I myself am an Israelite, a descendant of Abraham, a member of the tribe of Benjamin. God has not rejected his people whom he foreknew. Do you not know what the scripture says of Elijah, how he pleads with God against Israel? for the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable. Just as you were once disobedient to God but have now received mercy because of their disobedience, so they have now been disobedient in order that, by the mercy shown to you, they too may now receive mercy. For God has imprisoned all in disobedience so that he may be merciful to all.

Matthew 15: 21-28

Jesus left that place and went away to the district of Tyre and Sidon. Just then a Canaanite woman from that region came out and started shouting, 'Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David; my daughter is tormented by a demon.' But he did not answer her at all. And his disciples came and urged him, saying, 'Send her away, for she keeps shouting after us.' He answered, 'I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.' But she came and knelt before him, saying, 'Lord, help me.' He answered, 'It is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs.' She said, 'Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters' table.' Then Jesus answered her, 'Woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish.' And her daughter was healed instantly.

A thought:

No Boundaries

Today's reading highlights Jesus' journey beyond Israel's borders into the land of the Gentiles. He challenges the conventional ideas of cleanliness and extends the reach of God's kingdom to include those outside Israel. The Canaanite woman's faith demonstrates that God's love and mercy are accessible to everyone. It's essential to recognise that God and the Church welcome outsiders and provide them with a place at the table. We should never forget that we are all God's children, and His love is limitless, transcending boundaries. "We are not accustomed to His methods." But let us take seriously the faith of the Canaanite woman: a belief that stands head-and-shoulders above our own. Let us put our trust in a Creator who made the stars and the galaxies, a Spirit active in the deepest fibres of our being, and a Saviour who spans our beginnings and ends. Let us not forget about the power of God, who created us with such abilities and gifts, and even more, we are given his Love freely if we choose to receive it. We should pray with all our hearts for our Saviour to quench our thirst for righteousness, justice, and healing. We acknowledge and honour the Church's part in God's work. This serves as a reminder that God constantly explores new areas and pushes boundaries. God and the Church aim to welcome outsiders and offer them a seat at the table. We are all children of God, and His love and mercy surpass all limits.

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: Maureen Griffiths,

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, Liz Graydon, Peter Graydon, Eileen Macdougall, George Snashall, Tina Owens

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

Please remember the recently departed and their families:

In our Book of Remembrance this week we remember: 20th Leslie King, Lorna Michie, Robert Alexander, Rosemary Powell; 22nd John McNamara, Dennis Glaister, George Morrison, Dorothy Long, Kenneth Manvell; 23rd Max Laing, Ann Berry, Margaret Williams; 24th Peter Brown; 25th Vera Bousell; 26th Richard Lindsey, Elisabeth Matthews