

HOLY TRINITY CUCKFIELD

Joyfully serving Jesus



Weekly devotions, prayers and news **Fourteenth Sunday after Trinity** *10th September 2023*

So, we have welcomed the Autumn term with some of the hottest weather of year! Hopefully we have been able to enjoy the sunshine and soak up the natural beauty that surrounds us. However, as we know, sunshine and hot weather carry risks, particularly for the elderly and vulnerable. As with the enjoyment of so much of our world, we need to balance the benefits against the risks. This applies just as much to our manmade resources, such as stem cell technology, artificial intelligence or reinforced autoclaved aerated concrete, where, at times, the risks might seem to outweigh the benefits. Jesus encourages us to take the more pragmatic approach, with his story of the wheat and the tares (Matthew 13:25).

Brian and Jane

Church website: www.holytrinitycuckfield.org

Fourteenth Sunday after Trinity (10 September 2023)

8.00 Holy Communion *(in church)*

Reader: Charles Solomon

9.45 Parish Eucharist *(in church & online)*

Hymns: 238i, 812, 612, 462, 800, 826

Readers: Liz and Peter Graydon; Intercessor: Isobel Simmonds

Services during the week:

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

Readings: Colossians 3:1-11; Luke 6: 20-26

14.00 Prayer Group *(online only)*

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

Numbers 21:4-9; Philippians 2:6-11; John 3:13-17

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

Next Sunday: Fifteenth Sunday after Trinity (17 September 2023)

8.00 Holy Communion *(in church)*

9.45 Parish Eucharist *(in church & online)*

11.30 Pet Service *(in church)*

6.00 Sung Evensong *(in church & online)*

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

The Collect for the Fourteenth Sunday after Trinity

Merciful God, your Son came to save us
and bore our sins on the cross:
may we trust in your mercy and know your love,
rejoicing in the righteousness that is ours through
Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

The Post Communion Prayer:

Lord God, the source of truth and love,
keep us faithful to the apostles' teaching and fellow-
ship, united in prayer and the breaking of bread,
and one in joy and simplicity of heart,
in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Ezekiel 33:7-11

So you, mortal, I have made a sentinel for the house of Israel; whenever you hear a word from my mouth, you shall give them warning from me. If I say to the wicked, 'O wicked ones, you shall surely die', and you do not speak to warn the wicked to turn from their ways, the wicked shall die in their iniquity, but their blood I will require at your hand. But if you warn the wicked to turn from their ways, and they do not turn from their ways, the wicked shall die in their iniquity, but you will have saved your life.

Now you, mortal, say to the house of Israel, Thus you have said: 'Our transgressions and our sins weigh upon us, and we waste away because of them; how then can we live?' Say to them, As I live, says the Lord GOD, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but that the wicked turn from their ways and live; turn back, turn back from your evil ways; for why will you die, O house of Israel?

Romans 13:8-end

Owe no one anything, except to love one another; for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. The commandments, 'You shall not commit adultery; You shall not murder; You shall not steal; You shall not covet'; and any other commandment, are summed up in this word, 'Love your neighbour as yourself.' Love does no wrong to a neighbour; therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law.

Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armour of light; let us live honourably as in the day, not in revelling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarrelling and jealousy. Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

Matthew 18:15-20

'If another member of the church sins against you, go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone. If the member listens to you, you have regained that one. But if you are not listened to, take one or two others along with you, so that every word may be confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses. If the member refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church; and if the offender refuses to listen even to the church, let such a one be to you as a Gentile and a tax-collector. Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. Again, truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them.'

A thought:

In the Gospel today, Jesus discussed holding onto negative emotions such as grudges, anger, and hurt within the Christian community. These emotions are common and part of the human experience. Although we may not enjoy feeling these emotions, they are a part of who we are. Jesus spoke with his disciples about the choices we make in our daily lives. We can focus on positive emotions such as love, hope, generosity, and faith. Alternatively, we can dwell on negative emotions such as anger, jealousy, and resentment. Jesus encourages us to give these negative emotions to him so that our spiritual slate can be wiped clean. This will allow us to free ourselves from the pain that holds us captive. We can also choose to talk to the person who is the source of our discomfort to reconcile with them. We should pray for the grace we need when our love for God and our neighbour is tested.

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, Jim Knight, Jill Knight, Sue Cutler

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, 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

In our Book of Remembrance this week we remember: 10th Toby Osborne, Dorothy Bumpus, Veronica Ross; 11th Sybil Eaton, Rosemary Gooderham; 12th Lilian Wilson, Anne Allemand, John Cuxson, Margaret Brooker; 13th Peter Brown, Ivy Christophers, Bettina Flower; 14th Ellen Ford, Bridget Dunnett; 15th Constance Blackburn; 16th Brian Lockyer