

HOLY TRINITY CUCKFIELD

Joyfully serving Jesus



Weekly devotions, prayers and news

Third Sunday of Epiphany

21 January 2021

The Gospel of John refers to Jesus' miracles as "signs" because they are not merely miraculous but also carry a deeper meaning. These signs reveal who Jesus is and what his mission is all about. For instance, in the story of Cana, Jesus replaces the water used for Jewish purifications with over one hundred and twenty gallons of wine! This act is significant because, according to Jewish Scriptures, the new wine will be abundant when the Messiah comes, symbolising God's abundant goodness towards his people. Therefore, Jesus transforming so much water into the finest wines is a "sign" that he is the awaited Messiah. And in our joy, given by the God who rejoices over us, we can share this new wine, this vision of the Kingdom. We're called then to go out into God's world and share his invitation to be drawn into His divine life. So, "Do whatever He tells you." And if we do that, we can share in the 'good' and 'best' wine He offers. And experience His peace and abundance in every corner of our lives.

Stephen

Third Sunday of Epiphany (21 January 2024)

8.00 Holy Communion *(in church)*

Reader: Margaret Thistlethwaite and Ralph Colbran

9.45 Family Eucharist *(in church & online)*

Hymns: 98(i), 168, 748, 448, 510, 769

6.00 Choral Evensong *(in church & online)*

Hymns: 769, 104 (omit v4), 16

Readers: Rod and Pat Montague

Services during the week:

Wednesday: 10.30 Holy Communion (Common Worship) *(in church and online)*

Readings: 2 Samuel 7:4-17; Mark 4: 1-20

14:00 Online prayer group *(online only)*

18:30 Space for Grace *(in church)*

Thursday: 9.00am Holy Communion (Iona/Celtic) **The Conversion of Paul** *(in church)*

Readings: Jeremiah 1: 4-10; Acts 9: 1-22; Matthew 19:27-end

Friday: 11.00am Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer) *Readings: Third Sunday of Epiphany (in church)*

Next Sunday: Candlemas (28 January 2024)

8.00 Holy Communion *(in church)*

9.45 Parish Eucharist *(in church & online)*

12.00 Holy Baptism *(in church)*

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

The Collect for Third Sunday of Epiphany

God of all mercy,
your Son proclaimed good news to the poor,
release to the captives,
and freedom to the oppressed:
anoint us with your Holy Spirit
and set all your people free
to praise you in Christ 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 Father,
whose Son our Saviour Jesus Christ
is the light of the world: may your people,
illuminated by your word and sacraments,
shine with the radiance of his glory,
that he may be known, worshipped,
and obeyed to the ends of the earth;
for he is alive and reigns,
and for ever. Amen

now

Genesis 14: 17-20

After his return from the defeat of Chedorlaomer and the kings who were with him, the king of Sodom went out to meet him at the Valley of Shaveh (that is, the King's Valley). And King Melchizedek of Salem brought out bread and wine; he was priest of God Most High. He blessed him and said, 'Blessed be Abram by God Most High, maker of heaven and earth; and blessed be God Most High, who has delivered your enemies into your hand!' And Abram gave him one-tenth of everything.

Revelation 19: 6-10

Then I heard what seemed to be the voice of a great multitude, like the sound of many waters and like the sound of mighty thunder-peals, crying out, 'Hallelujah! For the Lord our God the Almighty reigns. Let us rejoice and exult and give him the glory, for the marriage of the Lamb has come, and his bride has made herself ready; to her it has been granted to be clothed with fine linen, bright and pure'— for the fine linen is the righteous deeds of the saints. And the angel said to me, 'Write this: Blessed are those who are invited to the marriage supper of the Lamb.' And he said to me, 'These are true words of God.' Then I fell down at his feet to worship him, but he said to me, 'You must not do that! I am a fellow-servant with you and your comrades who hold the testimony of Jesus. Worship God! For the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy.'

John 2: 1-11

On the third day there was a wedding in Cana of Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding. When the wine gave out, the mother of Jesus said to him, 'They have no wine.' And Jesus said to her, 'Woman, what concern is that to you and to me? My hour has not yet come.' His mother said to the servants, 'Do whatever he tells you.' Now standing there were six stone water-jars for the Jewish rites of purification, each holding twenty or thirty gallons. Jesus said to them, 'Fill the jars with water.' And they filled them up to the brim. He said to them, 'Now draw some out, and take it to the chief steward.' So they took it. When the steward tasted the water that had become wine, and did not know where it came from (though the servants who had drawn the water knew), the steward called the bridegroom and said to him, 'Everyone serves the good wine first, and then the inferior wine after the guests have become drunk. But you have kept the good wine until now.' Jesus did this, the first of his signs, in Cana of Galilee, and revealed his glory; and his disciples believed in him.

Parish News

Eucharistic Assistants

Eucharistic Assistants or Lay Ministers of Holy Communion are people authorised by the Bishop both to help distribute Holy Communion in the Church and to take Holy Communion (which has been consecrated at a Eucharist in Church) to members of the parish who are sick and unable to come to Church.

The Bishops in our diocese require all lay people who are to be authorised to exercise this ministry to participate in training. Training takes place either in a short diocesan course organized by the deanery or by the parish priest. Those who wish to be considered for ministry as a LMHC should speak to their parish priest who will arrange for them to be nominated by the PCC for this ministry.

Deanery Day

This year's Deanery Morning is from 10-11 on 10th February, and will take place at the Martindale Centre, Horsted Keynes. Revd Dr Earl Collins will be speaking on the New Testament. For more details please see the poster. Parking is available at the location and nearby, but car sharing is advised where convenient.

Lent courses

Father Daniel will be holding a Lent course from 22nd February. He will be following Hilary Brand's course "Finding a Voice", using the film The King's Speech. The sessions will run from 19:30-21:30, with the option of joining for a simple Lent Supper at 18:00. To book a place, please go to <https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/holy-trinity-church-cuckfield/t-qjgagxg>.

The church will also run the Diocesan Lent course online, focusing on the full revelation of God's Word in Jesus Christ (the Word-made flesh). This will run online at 19:00 on Thursdays starting on 22nd February (not 15th as previously advertised); to join please use the usual Zoom button on the website. See the noticeboard in the church for further details.

Email hacking

We have had a lot of reports recently of suspicious emails appearing to come from an individual's private address. The latest subject is Daphne Hayden, who would like to apologise to anyone who received an email claiming to be from her. If you receive an email you feel may not be genuine, delete it and do not click on any links or attachments.

"Travelling Hopefully"

We have a number of copies of former Holy Trinity vicar Nick Wetherall's book, available free of charge. Please see Emma in the Church Office if you would like one.

Please remember those for whom we pray:

Immediate need: Martin Packham, Becky Parker, Jim Knight, Tina Owens, James Watson, Bill Delany, John Billingham

Long Term Need: Young Georgia, Joshua and Reggie, Wendy, Ann Went, Julie Sadler, Wendy Hibling, Carla Spear, Pam Sagar, Eileen Knight, Liz Graydon, Peter Graydon, Eileen Macdougall, George Snashall, Karen Leese, Jill Knight, Yvonne Godsmark

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

Please remember the recently departed and their families:

In our Book of Remembrance this week we remember: 21st Sally Adams, Kenneth Hilton, William Wilkes; 22nd Alistair White, Valerie Hollinghurst, Dorothy Cox, Hilary Ruddock, Peter Chandler; 23rd Anthony Seabrook, Reg Burdett, Reg Rapley, Doug Maude, Enid Saunders; 24th Lorna White; 25th Beryl Hodges, Phyllis Choppin; 26th Joyce Sears, Joan Nash, Mervyn Adams, Bernard Godsmark, Vera Chandler; 27th Roger Kirkbell, Frank Hemstead, Frances Gunston, Keith Morgan