

Sunday 7th April
2024
**2nd
Sunday
of Easter**

Holy Trinity Cuckfield

*You are very welcome to our
worship!*



Weekly Reflection...

The apostle Thomas is frequently labelled a 'doubter', yet of all the apostles who witnessed the risen Jesus, his reaction is the strongest: 'My Lord and my God.' Jesus' response to Thomas's scepticism is to meet him where he is; he takes him seriously. Thomas is the champion of all who seek a 'reasonable faith' – his honesty and openness are an encouragement to all who are reluctant to leap to faith without first asking questions and airing their doubts. How honest are we about our own doubts and questions, and are we prepared to take sceptics seriously within our church communities?

Worship this Sunday...

Collect

Almighty Father,
you have given your only Son to die for our sins
and to rise again for our justification:
grant us so to put away
the leaven of malice and wickedness
that we may always serve you
in pureness of living and truth;
through the merits of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

Post Communion Prayer

God of Life, who for our redemption
gave your only-begotten Son
to the death of the cross,
and by his glorious resurrection
have delivered us from the power of our enemy:
grant us so to die daily to sin,
that we may evermore live with him
in the joy of his risen life;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen

8.00 am Holy Communion

Exodus 14.10-end, 15:20-21; Acts 4.32-35;
John 20.19-end

President: Rev'd Daniel Valentine
Preacher: Rev'd Daniel Valentine
Reader: 1 Gerry Larnar
Reader 2 Anthony Vander Willigen

9.45 am Parish Eucharist - 1st Sunday of month

Pr Hymn: 194 Alleluia, Alleluia
Setting: Shephard
Gr Hymn: 211 Now is eternal life
Of Hymn: 813 Through the night omit v 7 & 8
Anthem: Lord I trust thee NCAB 228
Cm Hymn: 429 Bread is blessed
236 Breathe on me
Fn Hymn: 678 In Christ alone

President: Rev'd Daniel Valentine
Preacher: Rev'd Daniel Valentine
1st Reader: Wendy Bloomer
2nd Reader: Susan Mayou
Intercessions: James Sanders

11.15 am Family Worship

President: Rev'd Daniel Valentine
Preacher: Charlotte Tayler/
Hilary Turner-King

6.00 pm Choral Evensong

Gen. 3.8-15; Gal. 4.1-5
President: Kevin Carey
Preacher: Kevin Carey
Reader 1: Charlotte Tayler
Reader 2: Wendy Bloomer

* Also live streamed on zoom - click the blue button on the front of the church website.

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First Reading

Exodus 14.10–31; 15.20–21

The Israelites cross the Red Sea and the pursuing Egyptians are drowned

As Pharaoh drew near, the Israelites looked back, and there were the Egyptians advancing on them. In great fear the Israelites cried out to the Lord. They said to Moses, 'Was it because there were no graves in Egypt that you have taken us away to die in the wilderness? What have you done to us, bringing us out of Egypt? Is this not the very thing we told you in Egypt, "Let us alone and let us serve the Egyptians"? For it would have been better for us to serve the Egyptians than to die in the wilderness.' But Moses said to the people, 'Do not be afraid, stand firm, and see the deliverance that the Lord will accomplish for you today; for the Egyptians whom you see today you shall never see again. The Lord will fight for you, and you have only to keep still.'

Then the Lord said to Moses, 'Why do you cry out to me? Tell the Israelites to go forward. But you lift up your staff, and stretch out your hand over the sea and divide it, that the Israelites may go into the sea on dry ground. Then I will harden the hearts of the Egyptians so that they will go in after them; and so I will gain glory for myself over Pharaoh and all his army, his chariots, and his chariot drivers. And the Egyptians shall know that I am the Lord, when I have gained glory for myself over Pharaoh, his chariots, and his chariot drivers.'

The angel of God who was going before the Israelite army moved and went behind them; and the pillar of cloud moved from in front of them and took its place behind them. It came between the army of Egypt and the army of Israel. And so the cloud was there with the darkness, and it lit up the night; one did not come near the other all night.

Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea. The Lord drove the sea back by a strong east wind all night, and turned the sea into dry land; and the waters were divided. The Israelites went into the sea on dry ground, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left. The Egyptians pursued, and went into the sea after them, all of Pharaoh's horses, chariots, and chariot drivers. At the morning watch the Lord in the pillar of fire and cloud looked down upon the Egyptian army, and threw the Egyptian army into panic. He clogged their chariot wheels so that they turned with difficulty. The Egyptians said, 'Let us flee from the Israelites, for the Lord is fighting for them against Egypt.'

Then the Lord said to Moses, 'Stretch out your hand over the sea, so that the water may come back upon the Egyptians, upon their chariots and chariot drivers.' So Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and at dawn the sea returned to its normal depth. As the Egyptians fled before it, the Lord tossed the Egyptians into the sea. The waters returned and covered the chariots and the chariot drivers, the entire army of Pharaoh that had followed them into the sea; not one of them remained. But the Israelites walked on dry ground through the sea, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left.

Thus the Lord saved Israel that day from the Egyptians; and Israel saw the Egyptians dead on the seashore. Israel saw the great work that the Lord did against the Egyptians. So the people feared the Lord and believed in the Lord and in his servant Moses.

Then the prophet Miriam, Aaron's sister, took a tambourine in her hand; and all the women went out after her with tambourines and with dancing. And Miriam sang to them:

'Sing to the Lord, for he has triumphed gloriously; horse and rider he has thrown into the sea.'

Second Reading

Acts 4.32–35

The apostles share their possessions in common

Now the whole group of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one claimed private ownership of any possessions, but everything they owned was held in common. With great power the apostles gave their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all. There was not a needy person among them, for as many as owned lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold. They laid it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need.

Gospel

John 20.19–31

Jesus appears behind locked doors and to Thomas

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you.' After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, 'Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.' When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, 'Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.'

But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, 'We have seen the Lord.' But he said to them, 'Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe.'

A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you.' Then he said to Thomas, 'Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe.' Thomas answered him, 'My Lord and my God!' Jesus said to him, 'Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.'

Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

This Week....

08/04 Mon	7.00 pm	Cuckfield Dramatic Society Rehearsal	
09/04 Tue	10.00 am	Online Prayer Group	
10/04 Wed	10.30 am	Holy Communion* with cake!	Acts 15.17-26; John 13.16-21
10/04 Wed	5.00 pm	Family Film Night	
10/04 Wed	6.00 pm	Benefice leadership & staff meeting	The Old School
11/04 Thu	9.00 am	Celtic Communion	Acts 5.27-33; John 3.31-end
11/04 Thu	1.30 pm	Funeral – The Late Catherine Smith	
12/04 Fri	11.00 am	BCP Communion	Acts 5.34-42; John 6.1-15
13/04 Sat	9.30 am – 12.30 am	Cuckfield Local Farmers Market	Church
13/04 Sat	10.00am	Friends AGM	Old School

Next Sunday...

Sunday 14th April 2024
3rd Sunday of Easter

Zeph. 3.14-end
 Acts 3.12-19
 Luke 24.36b-48

8.00 am	Holy Communion	President:	Rev'd Daniel Valentine
		Preacher:	Rev'd Daniel Valentine
		Reader:	Charles Solomon
9.45 am	Worship for Everyone (Communion)*	President:	Rev'd Daniel Valentine
Pr Hymn:	598 Before the throne	Preacher:	Rev'd Daniel Valentine
Setting:	Inwood	1 st Reader:	Children
Gr Hymn:	489 From heaven you came	2 nd Reader:	Children
Of Hymn:	667 I danced in the morning	Intercessions:	Rev'd Daniel Valentine
Anthem:	Music Group		
Cm Hymn:	563 Jesus Christ is waiting,		
Fn Hymn:	777 Sing of the Lord's goodness		

* Also live streamed on zoom - click the blue button on the front of the church website.

Notices and Parish News...

Thank you - to everyone who has worked so hard so that the church is prepared, and we have been able to travel through Holy Week and celebrate Easter.

New Service Pattern for Sunday Mornings - From this week, there is a slightly amended pattern of worship at 9.45 on Sunday. A letter at the back of church explains more. The new pattern includes traditional Parish Eucharist services on the first, third, and fourth Sundays, a Choral Eucharist on the fifth Sunday to highlight the church's musical talent, and a family-friendly "Worship for Everyone" on the second Sunday featuring contemporary music and interactive elements. This will also be a chance to meet the families of those who are to be baptised the following week. Please support this inclusive, dynamic approach to worship.

Sunday's Cool Is Back! -We're keeping the same name for now but if you can think of a new name let Hillary know. For the time being it will not be every week, but with Family Praise, Worship for Everyone (see above) and now Sunday's Cool, there will be something for families three Sundays in every month. The dates pencilled in for Sunday's Cool are 21 April, 19 May, 16 June, 30 June, 21 July, 15 September, 29 September, 20 October, and 17 November. If you can help at any of those sessions, or our child wants to come along, please let Hilary or Charlotte know by emailing inspirefm@holyltrinitycuckfield.org. We really want to demonstrate how committed we are to children and young families in this parish.

Cuckfield Local Monthly Makers' Food Market - Reopening at Holy Trinity Cuckfield on 13th April, 9:30-12:30. Join us every second Saturday for locally sourced, sustainable goods. Support local artisans and embrace environmental stewardship with us. The church will be serving tea coffee and soft drinks, please let Jane know if you can assist.

Prayers...

Those to be married:

Georgie and Matt, due to be married at Bolney

Those in immediate need:

Becky Parker, James Watson, Bill Delany, Mark Herring, Molly Phillips, Jason, Jill Knight, Shirley Ford (priest)

Those in long term need:

Young Georgia, Ann Went, Julie Sadler, Wendy Hibling, Carla Spear, Pam Sagar, Eileen Knight, Jim Knight, Liz Graydon, Peter Graydon, Eileen Macdougall, George Snashall, Karen Leese, Yvonne Godsmark

Those in care homes:

Mary Watts, Ruth Baker, Rosemary Pardey, Janet Card, Keith Card, Tina Owens

The recently departed and those who mourn:

Catherine Smith

Those whose year's mind falls at this time:

9th Frank Ridley; 10th Georgina Bugden 1993, Beryl Edna Williams 2004; 11th John Oliver Springall 2004, Nancy Ochoa 2006, Valerie Joan Thompson (Fabb) 2023; 12th Marian, Elsie (Tess) Haggart 2020; 13th Williamina Mckenzie 1996; 14th Betty Joan Elphinstone 2004, Dan Batchelor 2011, Frederick John Bayfield 2013, Catherine Molly Osmond Dunnage 2021, Angela Hopkins 2021.

Praying through the week...

Mon Apr 8th - On the day marking the Annunciation to Mary, we express gratitude for her bravery and love, and pray for those marginalized or estranged from their families. Recalling World Health Day (7th April), we highlight the threat to global health rights from diseases, disasters, conflicts, and pollution, acknowledging the tragic toll of air pollution. We pray for those committed to advocating for and improving global health rights. Locally we pray for the people of Charles Peel Place, that they may experience the love and kindness of others today.

Tue Apr 9th - We remember the 1994 Genocide against the Tutsi in Rwanda, and pray for those carrying the scars of such horrific events. We pray that the world may be alert to situations of fear and intimidation, land and power grabbing around the world, which could lead to further genocides; we pray that world leaders stand in resistance to such inhumanity. We pray locally for the people of Chatfield Road, that they may feel the richness of a community of respect, care and inclusivity.

Wed Apr 10th - We pray for all involved in education, giving thanks for the care, skills, creativity, inspiration, fun, joy and compassion of so many who teach. We pray for teachers across the world, especially those who have few resources or little support. We pray for all working to improve access to education for all. We give thanks for all who live in Cherry Lane, that they may be conscious of the love and beauty around them.

Thu Apr 11th - We pray for all involved in medicine, medical and social care. We pray for those working with skills, patience, compassion and dedication, despite a sense of being undervalued, under-supported, under-paid and overworked. We pray for the many nurses and others in health professions who have left their work in the UK, due to insecurity of pay, conditions or of the right to remain with family joining them. We give thanks for the people of Chownes Mead Lane and ask that they may sense the joy and richness of God's creation.

Fri Apr 12th - On this International Day of Human Space Flight we celebrate the courage, the spirit of wonder, the scientific and engineering skills of humankind. We pray that humanity's yearning for power and achievement don't blind us to the repercussions of our actions: the debris left in space, the willingness to perceive developments in a vacuum and failure to understand the implications of certain decisions, expenditure and actions. We give thanks for all the benefits gained because of space exploration and for international cooperation, but we pray for the place of humility in such work also and a recognition of our creator God, our responsibility as guardians of our world and habitat. Locally, we pray for the people of Church Platt, that they may have peace and joy in their hearts.

Sat Apr 13th - Looking to World Chagas Disease Day (14th) we pray for heightened awareness and understanding of this 'silent disease' predominantly impacting the impoverished without healthcare access. We seek blessings for those living with Chagas, a disease spread by Triatomine bugs in substandard housing, often leading to severe health complications without symptoms or treatment. We pray for improved early treatment, cure rates, and the end of its transmission, advocating for those suffering in silence from this and similar diseases due to poverty, inadequate housing, and lack of a political voice. Locally we pray for the people of Church Street, giving thanks for the ways in which they enrich the lives of the local community.

Please stay in touch!

If you would like to know more of what happens at Holy Trinity, please check us out online:

www.holytrinitycuckfield.org

You can also sign up for our weekly email newsletter, using the link at the bottom of the church homepage.

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