

Sunday
1st September 2024
**14th Sunday
after Trinity**

Holy Trinity Cuckfield

*You are very welcome to
our worship!*



Weekly Reflection...

In the Gospel today we are introduced to a critique of religious legalism and an affirmation of the importance of inner morality over outward rituals. A few years ago, it was revealed that some car manufacturers had installed software in their diesel vehicles to cheat emissions tests. The software detected when the cars were being tested and altered the performance to meet legal emissions standards, while in normal driving conditions, the cars emitted pollutants far above legal limits. It led to environmental pollution and a loss of reputation.

Jesus confronts the Pharisees' emphasis on traditions that overshadow the commandments of God, exposing the emptiness of practices that do not reflect a heart aligned with God's will. The passage challenges us to examine our own spiritual lives, asking whether our religious practices are genuinely rooted in a love for God and neighbour, or if they are merely external habits that do not transform our hearts. It calls for a focus on the inner life—on the attitudes, thoughts, and intentions that truly reflect our spiritual condition.

Worship this Sunday...

Collect

Almighty God, whose only Son has opened for us a new and living way into your presence: give us pure hearts and steadfast wills to worship you in spirit and in truth; 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**

Post Communion Prayer

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

8.00 am Holy Communion

Reader 1: Anthony Van der Willigen
Reader 2: Gerry Larner

9.45 am Parish Eucharist*

Pr Hymn: 584 All my hope on God
Setting: Rizza
Gr Hymn: 132 O for a heart to praise
Of Hymn: 748 O Jesus I have promised
Cm Hymn: Lord for they tender mercy's sake
Fn Hymn: 642 God be in my head
127 Lord Jesus think on me

Reader1: Kate Berry
Reader 2: Jane Coan
Intercessions: Mark Parker

11.15 am Family Worship

6.00 pm Evensong*

Exod.12: 21-27; Matt.4:23-5:20
Reader 1: Pat Montague
Reader 2: Rod Montague

* Also live streamed on zoom - click the blue button on the church homepage.

First Reading

Deuteronomy 4.1-2, 6-9

Moses tells the people to give heed to God's statutes and ordinances

So now, Israel, give heed to the statutes and ordinances that I am teaching you to observe, so that you may live to enter and occupy the land that the Lord, the God of your ancestors, is giving you. You must neither add anything to what I command you nor take away anything from it, but keep the commandments of the Lord your God with which I am charging you. You must observe them diligently, for this will show your wisdom and discernment to the peoples, who, when they hear all these statutes, will say, 'Surely this great nation is a wise and discerning people!' For what other great nation has a god so near to it as the Lord our God is whenever we call to him? And what other great nation has statutes and ordinances as just as this entire law that I am setting before you today? But take care and watch yourselves closely, so as neither to forget the things that your eyes have seen nor to let them slip from your mind all the days of your life; make them known to your children and your children's children.

Second Reading

James 1.17-end

One should not only hear the word, but do it

Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. In fulfilment of his own purpose he gave us birth by the word of truth, so that we would become a kind of first fruits of his creatures. You must understand this, my beloved: let everyone be quick to listen, slow to speak, slow to anger; for your anger does not produce God's righteousness. Therefore rid yourselves of all sordidness and rank growth of wickedness, and welcome with meekness the implanted word that has the power to save your souls. But be doers of the word, and not merely hearers who deceive themselves. For if any are hearers of the word and not doers, they are like those who look at themselves in a mirror; for they look at themselves and, on going away, immediately forget what they were like. But those who look into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and persevere, being not hearers who forget but doers who act—they will be blessed in their doing. If any think they are religious, and do not bridle their tongues but deceive their hearts, their religion is worthless. Religion that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is this: to care for orphans and widows in their distress, and to keep oneself unstained by the world.

Gospel

Mark 7.1-18, 14-15, 21-23

Jesus and the Pharisees: defilement comes from within, not outside a person

Now when the Pharisees and some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem gathered around him, they noticed that some of his disciples were eating with defiled hands, that is, without washing them. (For the Pharisees, and all the Jews, do not eat unless they thoroughly wash their hands, thus observing the tradition of the elders; and they do not eat anything from the market unless they wash it; and there are also many other traditions that they observe, the washing of cups, pots, and bronze kettles.) So the Pharisees and the scribes asked him, 'Why do your disciples not live according to the tradition of the elders, but eat with defiled hands?' He said to them, 'Isaiah prophesied rightly about you hypocrites, as it is written,

"This people honours me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me; in vain do they worship me, teaching human precepts as doctrines."

You abandon the commandment of God and hold to human tradition.' Then he said to them, 'You have a fine way of rejecting the commandment of God in order to keep your tradition! For Moses said, "Honour your father and your mother"; and, "Whoever speaks evil of father or mother must surely die." But you say that if anyone tells father or mother, "Whatever support you might have had from me is Corban" (that is, an offering to God)— then you no longer permit doing anything for a father or mother, thus making void the word of God through your tradition that you have handed on. And you do many things like this.' Then he called the crowd again and said to them, 'Listen to me, all of you, and understand: there is nothing outside a person that by going in can defile, but the things that come out are what defile.' When he had left the crowd and entered the house, his disciples asked him about the parable. He said to them, 'Then do you also fail to understand? Do you not see that whatever goes into a person from outside cannot defile, Then he called the crowd again and said to them, 'Listen to me, all of you, and understand: there is nothing outside a person that by going in can defile, but the things that come out are what defile.' For it is from within, from the human heart, that evil intentions come: fornication, theft, murder, adultery, avarice, wickedness, deceit, licentiousness, envy, slander, pride, folly. All these evil things come from within, and they defile a person.'

This Week....

04/09 Wed	10.30 am	Holy Communion* followed by coffee and cake	1 Corinthians 3.1-9 Luke 4.38-end
05/09 Thu	9.00 am	Iona /Celtic Communion	1 Corinthians 3.18-end Luke 5.1-11
06/09 Fri	11.00 am	BCP Communion	1 Corinthians 4.1-5 Luke 5.33-end
	1.00 pm	Lunchtime Concert	Church

Next Sunday...

Sunday 8th September -

15th Sunday after Trinity - Harvest Festival

Joel 2. 21-27
1Tim. 2:1-7
Mark 7: 24-end

8.00 am	Holy Communion	Reader 1:	Charles Solomon
		Reader 2:	Charles Solomon
9.45 am	Worship for all Harvest Festival*		
Pr Hymn:	287 Praise & thanksgiving	Reader 1:	Charles Solomon
Setting:		Reader 2:	Charles Solomon
Gr Hymn:	519 Sometimes a light	Intercessions:	Revd Daniel Valentine
Of Hymn:	282 Come ye thankful		
Anthem	For the beauty (Rutter p12)		
Cm Hymn:	432 Bread of the world		
Fn Hymn:	290 We plough the fields		

* Also live streamed on zoom - click the blue button on the church home page.

Notices and Parish News...

Have you ever been part of a **home group**? Many people find it's a great way to help faith to grow and to meet other people on their faith journey. We are planning two groups starting in September meeting weekly over ten weeks using the same course, one online and the other in person. The course is called "Being With". It's an introduction to Christian faith and life with a difference. At its heart is the idea that God's greatest desire is to be with us in Jesus. We all already have a wealth of understanding of truth, beauty and goodness that signify God's presence in our lives and experiences. Interested? Want to know more? Talk to Jonathan Berry or email hirsuteshepherd1@yahoo.com. Watch out for the announcement of start dates coming soon

All welcome at our **Bring and Share Harvest Supper, Saturday 7th September, 5.30-8.00 pm** in Church, Celebrate harvest together! Bring a dish of food (sweet or savoury), and your own drink (soft drinks available), further details available from Hilary.

We need YOU! - We are looking for a few more people to augment our team of **Crucifers** (the person that carries the cross at the front of the procession) and **servers**, the person that assists the priest with setting up and clearing the altar. There are also spaces for people to be trained to administer the chalice. In fact, we need more volunteers for all the roles that make church work on a Sunday morning as welcomers, sound desk, coffee makers, readers, intercessors administering the chalice and so on. If you think any of these jobs might be for you, have a word with Rod Montague or email him on condurrow@btinternet.com.

We are thrilled to welcome **Charles Humphries** as our new **Director of Music and Music Mission** starting 8th September 2024! Charles is a renowned countertenor with over thirty years of experience, celebrated for his ethereal voice and passion for baroque and renaissance music. He began his musical journey as a chorister at Salisbury Cathedral at age seven, laying the groundwork for his remarkable career. A graduate of the Royal Academy of Music he has collaborated with world-class conductors and recorded numerous albums. Charles is eager to bring his love for music to our community, focusing on the joy of singing, building trust, and forming strong bonds within the choir. He's excited to enhance our worship and make a positive impact in Cuckfield. We're lucky to have him on board! If you're interested in getting involved with the music programme or joining the choir at this exciting time, Charles would love to hear from you. You can reach him at DOM@holyltrinitycuckfield.org.

Lunchtime concert **6th September**- Wirral-born pianist Simon Watterton has performed worldwide, including in China, Canada, the USA, Sweden, Italy, and extensively in the UK and Ireland. He made his concerto debut at London's Cadogan Hall and has been featured in *International Piano* magazine. Waterton has appeared at prestigious venues like Wigmore Hall and performed on Radio 3's *In Tune* and Classic FM. A specialist in Beethoven, Mozart, and Schumann, he also collaborates with artists such as his wife, violinist Anna Cashell. He teaches at Royal Holloway College, University of London, and the University of Limerick.

On **Sunday, 6th October 2024**, our 11:15 am Family Praise service will be our **Pet Blessing Service** and will take place outside (weather permitting). Join us for our beloved tradition of blessing the animals! Bring your furry, feathered, or scaled friends to receive a special blessing in the tranquil surroundings of our church gardens. This event is open to all creatures great and small, and their human companions. Highlights include a Pet Blessing Ceremony led by Father Daniel, refreshments for both pets and owners, a Pet Parade showcasing our beloved companions, and a Pet Photo Booth to capture the special day. Come celebrate the joy and love our pets bring into our lives and share in this beautiful community event.

Cuckfield Local Market - Holy Trinity Cuckfield monthly makers and food market on **14th September 2024**, 9.30-12.30 providing 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.

Sunday's Cool Is Back! - Next dates are **15th September**, **20th October**, and **17th November**. If you can help at any of those sessions, or our child wants to come along, please let Hilary know by emailing inspirefm@holyltrinitycuckfield.org. We really want to demonstrate how committed we are to children and young families in this parish.

Sunday 20th October 2024 will mark the launch of our Stewardship Week. During this week, we will reflect on and celebrate the gifts we receive and how we can give back to our church and community. Stewardship Week is an opportunity to explore the many ways we can contribute our time, talents, and treasures to support our mission. We plan several events, including a fellowship meal, a volunteer fair, a service of prayer and reflection, and a workshop on financial stewardship, and this all leads up to...

Sunday 27th October 2024, which will be "Stewardship Sunday" with a service that celebrates our collective commitment to stewardship. Our 9.45 am service will include an opportunity to pledge your time, talents, and financial support for the coming year. We need volunteers to help organize Stewardship Week. If you can help, please contact our treasurer, Isobel Simmonds, at treasurer@holyltrinitycuckfield.org. Let us come together to celebrate the blessings we have received and commit to giving back with joy and gratitude.

Looking Forward... We are now thinking about our Autumn worship.... here's what we have in mind...

- On **Sunday 3rd November 2024**, at 6:00 pm, there will be an evening of music and readings with an act of remembrance for **Commemorating the Faithful Departed**. We hope our choir will be joined by the New Sussex Singers with accompaniment by a string quartet or small orchestra. We are seeking 8-10 people to sponsor the cost of the musicians for this service by pledging £100.00. If you think you might be able to pledge this or any sum, please let Daniel know so that we can make this a very special service remembering those we have loved but see no longer.

- On **Sunday, 10th November 2024**, at 10:30 am there will be a special service at the War Memorial for **Remembrance Day**. We will wear our poppies as we remember those who have lost their lives because of war and observe two minutes of silence at 11:00 am. This will be followed by a Church Parade Service for Remembrance Sunday. We hope that on the same day at 6:00 pm, there will be music, readings, and prayers of remembrance and peace.

Prayers...

Those to be married:

At Holy Trinity, Cuckfield: 14/09/2024 Hugh Alexander Radajev and Kirsty Elizabeth Brown. At St Mary, Bolney: 07/09/2024 Jack Edward Heywood Berryman and Daisy Elizabeth De Baerdemaeker

Those in immediate need:

Becky Parker, James Watson, Pam Sagar, Mark Herring and Ralph Colbran,

Those in long term need:

Georgia, Ann Went, Julie Sadler, Wendy Hibling, Eileen Knight, Jim Knight, Liz Graydon, Peter Graydon, Eileen MacDougall, George Snashall, Karen Leese, and 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: Mrs Freida Noakes, Mr David Rogers, Mrs Edna Skinner, Mrs Janet Bowell

Those whose year's mind falls at this time: 1st September, Phyllis Porter 1998, Nelson Jones 2002, Olive Caroline Carrington 2002, 2nd Ronald James (Jim) Clark 2019, Leonard Albert Meredith 2021, 3rd Jonathan Ranger, Frank William Marshall 2017, Jillian Christine Pullen 2023, 4th Cpt. Donald Thomas Lewis Bairdow 2008, Cosmo Roy Viccari 2020, 5th Mother Theresa of Calcutta 1997, James 1968, David James Neen 2007, Nancy Rebekah Pforter 2011, Jennifer Susan Tapp 2018, 6th Ivor John Owen 1998, Annie Voller 2001, Albert Smith 2017, 7th Bob Rowley 2001, Emily Sarah Bone 2007, Sir John Herbecq 2021

Praying through the week...

Mon Sep 2nd - We pray for our government and MPs, for leaders across the world and locally, that they be guided by a sense of duty and service, by wisdom, mercy, and a longing for justice and peace. We pray for refugees and asylum seekers fleeing war and violence. We pray for all agencies responding to emergency situations to repair, restore and rebuild, to bring aid and supplies, to witness and report to the rest of the world.

Locally we pray for the people of Brainsmead, for a neighbourhood of understanding, hospitality and care.

Tue Sep 3rd - We pray for all beginning a new term at school, college, or university, for all navigating feelings of disappointment or anxiety about grades achieved and new beginnings. We pray all who are beginning new jobs, apprenticeships or roles. Locally we pray for the people of Brainsmead Close that they may sense God's presence with them, whatever they are facing.

Wed Sep 4th - We pray for all who are raising awareness of the large number of endangered species of animal and plant. We pray for all who work to enable humans and wildlife to coexist in harmony. We pray for those in areas where there are tensions and difficulties in doing this. We give thanks for the wonders of our world, for the plants and animals, for all God's creation. We pray locally for the people of Brick Lane, that they may have a sense of the wonder and diversity of God's creation.

Thu Sep 5th - On this International Day of Charity, we pray for all those charities and volunteers working to make the world a better place, working to help the more vulnerable and those whose human rights are being eroded or abused. Locally we pray for the people of Broad Street, that they find the welcome and support of a caring neighbourhood.

Fri Sep 6th - As we approach World Literacy Day (8th) we remember the millions of adults worldwide who lack basic literacy skills. We pray for those who work to improve literacy and give thanks for those who teach individuals, classes and empower communities through literacy. Locally we pray particularly for the people of Brock End, that they may feel the joy of belonging and being valued.

Sat Sep 7th - We pray for emergency services around the world, for those doing their best to serve their communities, responding to sometimes horrendous and often dangerous situations. We give thanks for all that is good in these services and pray for those services badly served either by systemic failures or by bad recruitment, training or self-serving individuals. Locally we remember the people of Brook Green and pray for their safety, health and well-being.

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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