

Sunday 27th April 2025

2nd Sunday of Easter

Holy Trinity Cuckfield

You are very welcome to our worship!



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A reflection by Rev'd Stephen Caple



The struggle between faith and doubt In our Gospel, Thomas is known as "Doubting Thomas" because he had difficulty believing in Jesus' resurrection without seeing Him first. After hearing from the other disciples that Jesus had appeared, Thomas said he would not believe until he could touch Jesus' wounds. When Jesus later came to him, He invited Thomas to see and feel His wounds. Jesus said, "Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe." This story shows the struggle between faith and doubt and teaches that true belief often comes from trust rather than sight. Thomas' experience encourages us to find our paths to faith, reminding us that doubt can help us understand and believe even more deeply

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

Lord God our Father, through our Saviour Jesus Christ you have assured your children of eternal Life and in baptism have made us one with him: deliver us from the death of sin and raise us to new life in your love, in the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, by the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

Sunday 27th April - 2nd Sunday of Easter

			Acts 5.27-32 Revelation 1.4-8 John 20.19-31
8.00 am	Holy Communion (BCP)	Reader	Roger Edmonston
9.45 am	Communion with hymns*	Reader 1	Clive Simmonds
Pr Hymn	194 Alleluia, Alleluia, Hearts to Heaven (LUX EOI)	Reader 2	Isobel Simmonds
Setting	Thorne - Mass of St. Thomas	Intercessor	Mark Parker
Gr Hymn	204 If Christ had not been raised from death (KINGSFOLD)		
Of Hymn	422 Alleluia, Sing to Jesus (HYFRYDOL)		
Anthem			
Cm Hymn	212 Now the Green Blade Rises NOEL NOUVELET)		
	217 The Strife is O'er (VICTORY)		
Fn Hymn	769 Rejoice, the Lord is King		

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

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First Reading

Acts 5.27-32

Peter defends himself before the High Priest; he follows God, who raised up Jesus

When they had brought them, they had them stand before the council. The high priest questioned them, saying, 'We gave you strict orders not to teach in this name, yet here you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching and you are determined to bring this man's blood on us.' But Peter and the apostles answered, 'We must obey God rather than any human authority. The God of our ancestors raised up Jesus, whom you had killed by hanging him on a tree. God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Saviour, so that he might give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey him.'

Second Reading

Revelation 1.4-8

'Look! He is coming with the clouds; every eye will see him'

John to the seven churches that are in Asia: Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth. To him who loves us and freed us from our sins by his blood, and made us to be a kingdom, priests serving his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion for ever and ever. **Amen.** Look! He is coming with the clouds; every eye will see him, even those who pierced him; and on his account all the tribes of the earth will wail. So it is to be. Amen. 'I am the Alpha and the Omega', says the Lord God, who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.

Gospel

John 20.19-31

Jesus appears in the upper room and disproves Thomas's doubts

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...

28/04 Mon	7.30 pm	Home Group (In Person)	
30/04 Wed	10.30 am	Holy Communion*	Acts 5.17-26
		followed by coffee and cake	John 3.16-21
	1.00 pm	Funeral T/L Alison Openshaw	Church
	7.30 pm	PCC Meeting	Old School
01/05 Thurs	9.00 am	Iona /Celtic Communion	Isaiah 30.15-21
			Ephesians 1.3-10
	1.30 pm	Arts & Craft Club	John 14.1-14
	7.30 pm	Lent Group Meet up	Church
02/05 Fri	11.00 am	BCP Communion	Old School
			Acts 5.34-42
	1.10 pm	Lunchtime Concert	John 6.1-15
			Church

Next Sunday...

Sunday 4th May - 3rd Sunday of Easter

			Zephaniah 3.14-20 Acts 9.1-6 John 21.1-19
8.00 am	Holy Communion (BCP)	Reader	Anthony van der Willigen
9.45 am	Parish Communion *	Reader 1	Susan Mayou
Pr Hymn	200b Christ the Lord is Risen Again	Reader 2	Brian Cutler
Setting	Thorne - Mass of St. Thomas	Intercessor	David Jamieson
Gr Hymn	501 Will You Come and Follow Me (The Summons)		
Of Hymn	718 Lord, Speak to Me That I May Speak		
Anthem	SS Wesley Lead me Lord		
Cm Hymn	447 Here, O My Lord, I See Thee Face to Face		
Fn Hymn	475 Forth in the Peace of Christ We Go		
11.15 am	Family Praise		
6.00 pm	Evensong		Isaiah 38.9-20 John 11.27-44
	<i>Music TBC</i>	Readers	Ben Halsey Philippa Tillyer

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

Notices and Parish News...

Sunday's Cool - Sunday's Cool runs on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month during our 9:45 AM service. Children enjoy Bible stories, crafts, play, and space for reflection in a welcoming setting. They leave after the first hymn and return before communion. All are welcome to join the fun and grow in faith!

We are seeking a part-time **Operations Manager** to oversee the Church Building and The Old School, ensuring they serve the parish and remain a leading community venue. Interested? Contact Clive Simmonds at reader@holytrinitycuckfield.org.

Are you comfortable with technology? We're looking for someone to take over the role of **Newsletter Editor** to collate and edit content, then prepare and send out the weekly parish email newsletter. ALSO a **Video Editor** to download recorded services, edit (usually for the sermon) and post to the HT channel on YouTube. Interested to find out more? Contact Peter Hutchinson on emails@holytrinitycuckfield.org

With Easter just in the rearview mirror, it doesn't stop at **HTC with the lunchtime concert** series. Friday May 2nd we continue the worldclass concerts with the Kelleth Piano Trio. Comprising of Piano, Violin and Cello we are treated to music by Dvořák and Joaquin Turina. We hope you will join us for the penultimate concert of the series and continue supporting the amazing musicians that come through the doors and offer their music for our benefit. Rachel Ellis - Violin, Siriol Hugh-Jones, Cello and Stephen Carroll Turner, Piano.

VE Day 80th Anniversary - Thursday 8th May 2025 Join us at Holy Trinity as we commemorate the 80th anniversary of VE Day in partnership with the Cuckfield Royal British Legion. As part of the national celebrations, we will gather in the churchyard at 6:30 pm while the church bells ring out in remembrance. At 7:00 pm, a special church parade service will take place, centred around the theme of *thanksgiving and peace*. Following the service, a fish and chip supper will be served in the church. Thanks to a generous donation from Mid Sussex District Council the meal will be subsidised, so we will only be asking for a donation towards the cost which would be gratefully received. Supper must still be booked in advance - please email office@holytrinitycuckfield.org to reserve your place. The evening will end on a high note with a sing-along of popular wartime songs, culminating in a community rendition of "I Vow To Thee My Country" at 9:30 pm.

Cuckfield Local Market - Holy Trinity Cuckfield monthly makers and food market returns on **Saturday May 10th 2025 from 9.30-12.30** providing locally sourced, sustainable goods. Dates for 2025 are, June 14th, July 12th, August 9th, September 13th, October 11th, November 8th and December 13th 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.

Confirmation - The Deanery Confirmation with Bishop Will, will take place on the evening of Thursday 5th June 2025, at St Wilfrid's, Haywards Heath. If you have a child of secondary school age, or you an adult and you have not been confirmed please send an email to Gina office@holytrinitycuckfield.org, and Fr Daniel will be in touch about confirmation preparation, there will be separate preparation for adults and young people.

Admission to communion - If you have a child in year 6, please let Toby know so that we can plan for them to be admitted to communion. There will be a fun course for preparation and a special service in the summer with the opportunity for a party. Please let Toby know so that this can be arranged for your child. Toby@holytrinitycuckfield.org.

Prayers...

Those to be married: Michael Anselmo Lord and Tricia Tanya Gina Luczak & Christian John Brough and Deena Annabel Sammakia.

Those in immediate need:

Becky Parker, Mark Herring, Ralph Colbran, Evelyn Stenning, Tina Heath, Tatyana

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, Rosemary Pardey, Janet Card, Keith Card,

The recently departed and those who mourn:

Alison Openshaw, Eleanor Belfrage, Diane Carter

Those whose year's mind falls at this time. 28th Barbara Cheal 1993, Trevor Graham Penfold 2004, Edith Gathercole 2009, Olive Leslie Gennoe Lyall 2013, Jean Alice Smith 2020, 29th Raymond Albert Hookham 2002, Patrick Arthur Toseland 2003, Jonathan Cavender 2015, 1st May Isabel Durham 2015, William Paul Llewellyn 2020, 2nd John Wilcox, Gerald David Leaney 2002, Derek Harold Wood 2003, Robert John Buckle 2004, Douglas Percy Simpson 2012, 3rd Eileen Hall 1999, 4th Iris Simmons 2001, Irene Evelyn Garley 2004, John Graham Williams 2006, Viola Edith Mary Muddle 2020.

Praying through the week...

Mon Apr 28th - As the Climate crisis impacts on planetary health, human health and the world of work we pray for workers around the globe who find themselves at an increased risk of exposure to hazards such as excessive heat, ultraviolet radiation, extreme weather events and air pollution. We pray for all those suffering the numerous health conditions linked to climate change, including cancer, cardiovascular disease, respiratory illnesses, and mental health disorders. We pray for the will and determination to address the impact of the climate crisis on health and safety in the work environment. We pray for all those suffering the effects of poor health and safety conditions at work. We pray locally for the housebound, that they may see something of God's love in their lives and in their community.

Tue Apr 29th - We give thanks for all involved in the media, in the streamed, tv and radio programmes we love; we give thanks for the integrity, skills, passion and courage of investigative journalists, drama and documentary makers, who take such effort to enable us to hear stories, others often wish to hide. We pray for those who genuinely search for the truth, often one of the first victims in any conflict. Locally we pray for the Independent State of Cuckfield.

Wed Apr 30th - We pray for our Church family at Holy Trinity, Cuckfield. We pray for our families and friends, for those we don't see often, for those with whom there is a rift, for those who are ill or sad, for those who grieve the loss of a loved one. We pray locally, for the people of Isaac's Lane, that they may have a sense of God's love and creation around them.

Thu May 1st - Philip and James, Apostles. We pray that we may grow in faith and love; that we may find and diligently follow our calling as disciples of Jesus. We pray for all who have been actively participating in the local elections, those candidates who are standing and all who will vote. We give thanks for all who fought so hard for universal suffrage and pray for those in our and other countries who feel they have no voice. We pray for honesty, integrity and a positive, inclusive vision and will for the future. Locally we pray for the people of Jeremy's Lane, that they find the welcome and support of a caring neighbourhood.

Fri May 2nd - We pray for our siblings and for the bonds of family and friendship. We pray that we recognise and appreciate the necessity of looking beyond our immediate family to embrace and celebrate our common humanity, that we respect and embrace families of all shapes, sizes and make-up. Locally we pray for the people of Ledgers Meadow, that they may sense God's presence with them, whatever they are facing.

Sat May 3rd - On this World Press Freedom Day, we celebrate our freedom of press. We pray for a greater global recognition of the need for free press, independent of the government of the day, committed to responsible investigation, reporting and evidence. We give thanks for the courage and commitment of investigative journalists and their teams of photographers, interpreters and technicians throughout the world and pay tribute to those who have lost their lives in the line of duty. Locally we pray particularly for the people of Leyton Lea, that they may feel the joy and pride of belonging to a community and being valued.

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