

Sunday 21st September 2025

Matthew, Apostle and Evangelist

Holy Trinity Cuckfield

*You are very welcome
to our worship!*



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We believe in a Church that affirms all people and challenges exclusion based on disability, ethnicity, gender, sexuality, mental health, or economic status

Use this QR code to make your **offering** towards our ongoing **outreach, mission and ministry.**



Reflection

It is generally believed that Matthew and Levi are the same person. It suggests he had both a Jewish name (Levi, associated with priestly lineage) and another name (Matthew), possibly adopted after his call or used in certain contexts. Matthew (Mattithyahu in Hebrew) means "Gift of Yahweh." Matthew's story is one of radical change: a tax collector, known for self-interest, becomes an apostle proclaiming God's mercy. His response to Jesus' "Follow me" shows that discipleship begins with trust and continues in daily choices to serve rather than to possess. For us, and for the whole Church, mission flows from this same invitation - to share the good news not only in words, but in lives marked by prayer, fellowship, and generous love. United in Christ, our task is to open the way for others to encounter his transforming presence, that joy and truth may flourish in our community.

Collect

Almighty God, whose blessed Son called Matthew the tax collector, to be an apostle and evangelist: give us grace to forsake the selfish pursuit of gain and the possessive love of riches that we may follow in the way of 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 apostolic 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**

Worship this Sunday...

Sunday 21st September - St Matthew, Apostle and Evangelist (Festival)

Proverbs 3.13-18

2 Corinthians 4.1-6

Matthew 9.9-13

8.00 am	Holy Communion (CW)	Readers	Graham Johnson
9.45 am	Parish Eucharist including admission of Choristers and Sunday's Cool*	Readers	Isobel Simmonds
Setting	Shephard	Intercessor	Peter Graydon
Pr Hymn	671 I will sing the wondrous		Nick Jones
Gr Hymn	794i The King of Love		
Of Hymn	766 Praise my soul		
Anthem	Fairest Lord Jesus		
	Silesian folk song; Lord for thy tender mercy's sake		
Cm Hymn	430 Bread of heaven on thee		
	799 The Lord's my shepherd		
Fn Hymn	587 Amazing Grace		
6.00 pm	Choral Evensong		Ecclesiastes 5.4-12
Introit	God be in my head		Matthew 19.16-end

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Hymn	794i The King of Love		
Responses	Ayleward	Readers	Phillippa Tillyer
Psalm	129		Peter Graydon
Canticles	Dyson		
Anthem	Teach me O Lord		
Hymn	16 God that madest earth		
Hymn	766 Praise my soul		

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

First Reading

Proverbs 3.13-18

Wisdom better than gold or jewels

Happy are those who find wisdom, and those who get understanding, for her income is better than silver, and her revenue better than gold. She is more precious than jewels, and nothing you desire can compare with her. Long life is in her right hand; in her left hand are riches and honour. Her ways are ways of pleasantness, and all her paths are peace. She is a tree of life to those who lay hold of her; those who hold her fast are called happy.

Second Reading

2 Corinthians 4.1-6

If the gospel is veiled it is to those who are perishing

Therefore, since it is by God's mercy that we are engaged in this ministry, we do not lose heart. We have renounced the shameful things that one hides; we refuse to practise cunning or to falsify God's word; but by the open statement of the truth, we commend ourselves to the conscience of everyone in the sight of God. And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. For we do not proclaim ourselves; we proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and ourselves as your slaves for Jesus' sake. For it is the God who said, 'Let light shine out of darkness,' who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

Gospel

Matthew 9.9-13

Tax collector Matthew is called by Jesus

As Jesus was walking along, he saw a man called Matthew sitting at the tax booth; and he said to him, 'Follow me.' And he got up and followed him. And as he sat at dinner in the house, many tax-collectors and sinners came and were sitting with him and his disciples. When the Pharisees saw this, they said to his disciples, 'Why does your teacher eat with tax-collectors and sinners?' But when he heard this, he said, 'Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. Go and learn what this means, "I desire mercy, not sacrifice." For I have come to call not the righteous but sinners.'

This Week...

22/09 Mon	7.30 pm	Home Group (In Person)	
	7.30 pm	Pilgrim Monday Evening Course	Online
24/09 Wed	10.30 am	Holy Communion*	Ezra 9.5-9
		followed by coffee and cake	Luke 9.1-6
	5.00 pm	Clergy Surgery	Old School
	7.00 pm	Eucharist followed by PCC Meeting	
25/09 Thurs	9.00 am	Iona/Celtic Communion	Haggai 1.1-8
			Luke 9.7-9
	12.30 pm	Lunch "n" Linger	Old School
	2.00 pm	Pilgrim Thursday afternoon Course	
26/09 Fri	11.00 am	BCP Communion	Haggai 1.15b-2.9
			Luke 9.18-22
	6.00 pm	Treble Choir Club	Church
	7.30 pm	Choir	Church
27/09 Sat	10.00 am	Church Organ "taster" workshop	Church
	5.00 pm	Harvest Supper	Church

Next Sunday...

Sunday 28th September - 15th Sunday after Trinity
Harvest Thanksgiving (Festival)

Deuteronomy 26.1-11

Philippians 4.4-9

John 6.25-35

Eileen Caple

8.00 am Holy Communion (BCP) Readers

9.45 am "Holy Toast" Worship for All Harvest Festival* Readers

Young People

Setting	Gloria: Indescribable (Recorded) Sanctus, Benedictus, Agnus: Be Still
Pr Hymn	532 All creatures of our God
Gr Hymn	283 Fill your hearts with joy and gladness
Of Hymn	284 For the fruits of his creation
Cm Hymn	711ii Like a mighty river flowing
Fn Hymn	290 We plough the fields and scatter

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

Notices and Parish News...

Supporting the All Souls' Requiem - This year's All Souls' service taking place on **Sunday 2nd November 6.00pm**, will feature Duruflé's beautiful Requiem sung by Cantores Memoriam, a choir especially assembled for the service this evening made up of highly trained singers, drawn from across Sussex, with experience in churches, cathedrals, and renowned ensembles. We also welcome a professional string orchestra with the music directed by Dr Joe Paxton and organ played by Fearghus Beauchamp. It will be a very special evening of prayer, remembrance, and music of the highest quality and will be followed by refreshments. Staging an event of this scale costs in the region of £3,500, and we are inviting members of the congregation to consider making a pledge of £200 towards the costs of engaging professional musicians and supporting the event. If you feel able to help in this way, please speak to Fr Daniel. Your generosity will allow us to continue offering worship that brings both beauty and comfort to our parish and wider community.

Fuse Youth Club - Volunteer Role - Our new youth club is about to get going on Friday evenings for secondary school aged children. We need volunteers support the safe and positive running of the club by supervising activities, engaging with young people, and helping create a welcoming environment. Tasks may include helping with sign-in, leading or assisting with games, serving food, and maintaining a safe space in line with safeguarding procedures. Commitment is flexible - weekly, monthly, or occasional help on a Friday evening is welcome. Please let Toby know if you can assist.

Welcome to Mandi - I'm delighted to introduce myself to you as the new Operations Manager for the Old School and Holy Trinity Church, Cuckfield. It's such a pleasure to come on board and start working to renew the site as a thriving hub of the community for all of us, today and for future generations. My background is in theatre arts and running a performing arts school, along with mindfulness and hypnotherapy, which makes me perfectly placed to engage in this role and support community action. I hope that over the next few weeks you'll pop into the Old School office to say hello and meet me—I'll be in most mornings. Thank you all for such a warm welcome!

Cuckfield Local Market - Holy Trinity Cuckfield monthly makers and food market returns on **Saturday October 11th 2025 from 9.30-12.30** providing locally sourced, sustainable goods. Dates for 2025 are, 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.

Cuckfield & Bolney Men's Group Activities - On Tuesday 14th October 7.30-9.30 pm for a meal at the 8 Bells in Bolney. Please email clivesimmonds@btinternet.com to confirm your attendance. *Dates for the diary:* Tuesday 18th Nov for our usual Pizza & Skittles evening at the Bull in Henfield. There is no meeting in December.



Patcham Silver Band - On Saturday 18th October, Holy Trinity Cuckfield will be presenting a concert by the highly acclaimed Patcham Silver Band, presenting a varied programme of styles ranging from classical through to pop, jazz, TV and film themes and "world" music. Established nearly 80 years ago, they comprise Brass, Wind & Percussion players who play ensemble and solo items from quiet contemplative beauty to full-on jubilant fanfare. They are members of Brass Bands England and take part in the National Brass Band Championships of Great Britain. The concert, which is presented in association with the Friends of Holy Trinity, starts at 7.00pm. Tickets are £10 for adults and free for those aged 19 and under and can be booked in advance using the QR code or following this link <https://cuckfieldandbolneybenefice.churchsuite.com/events/pn4qssfl> or bought on the door.

Harvest Supper - Do join us for our lovely Bring and Share **Harvest Supper, Sat 27th September 5.30-8pm** in church. Bring a plate of food (savory or sweet) to put on the sharing table and your own drink. Soft drinks will be available. There will also be much-enjoyed "home-spun" entertainment so if you have a star turn and would like to offer a musical contribution whether singing or instrumental, a reading, a dance, then see Hilary or Toby

Macmillan Coffee Morning. Friday 26th September. 10.30 am to 12 noon. The Tudor Hall in the Old School. Delicious coffee and cakes. If you can't make it, please visit our fundraising page at <https://cm25.macmillan.org.uk/fundraising/CM25003465>.

Harvest Worship - HOLY TOAST! On Sunday 28th September at 9.45am we gather at Holy Trinity, Cuckfield, for a joyful all-age celebration of Harvest. This special service of Holy Communion comes with a twist - lively hymns, uplifting music, and an interactive talk that promises both bread-making a special guest and a little mayhem along the way! We'll bless the harvest produce, give thanks for God's abundant gifts, and be reminded that Jesus is the Bread of Life - food for our hearts as well as our tables. Everyone is invited to bring non-perishable food as a harvest offering, which will be passed on to support those in need through a local charity. Whether you're five or ninety-five, a regular or just curious, come as you are, bring a basket, and share in this feast of thanksgiving and joy.

Christmas tree festival - Café co-ordinator - Join Our Team! We're Looking for a Passionate Café Coordinator! Do you enjoy working with people and creating a welcoming space? We are looking for a friendly and organised Café Co-ordinator to help run our Christmas Tree Festival café (5th - 7th December 2025). You will be leading a team of

enthusiastic volunteers, ensuring everything runs smoothly, and making visitors feel at home. No experience needed - just a positive attitude and a smile! Please note, this is not a paid role. Interested? We would love to hear from you! Please speak to Jane Coan, Isobel Simmonds or Eunice Bates (07961 877980 or email eunice1569@gmail.com)

Poppy Appeal - We're creating a stunning poppy display for **Remembrance Sunday** and we need your help! Please donate **knitted or crocheted poppies** of any size or pattern (leave extra wool for tying). A collection box will be in the church porch until **October 1st**. Let's honour and remember together **everyone welcome to contribute!**

Worth Abbey invites you for a unique event on **Saturday 4th October at 10.30 am** to explore the vision and challenges behind one of Britain's most striking modern churches. Architect Fred Manson of Heatherwick Studio will offer insights into the creative process behind Francis Pollen's bold original design and of Thomas Heatherwick's acclaimed interior transformation, followed by a dialogue with Abbot Christopher Jamison, former Head Master of Worth School. A reflection on the legacy of Francis Pollen's work and the way architecture continues to shape the Abbey's life of prayer and community. This conversation will illuminate the dialogue between past and present, faith and design, creativity and continuity, in the making of a sacred space. email kohara@worth.org.uk to reserve a place.

Lunch "n" Linger will take place at the Old School on **Thursday 25th September 2025**. We gather from 12.30, **lunch is served at 1.00 pm**, the menu is to be determined. There are only 40 places, and these will be allocated on a first-come-first-served basis. Please let Jane know or email office@holytrinitycuckfield.org confirming your menu choices. We need to confirm final numbers by the Monday before the lunch (23rd September).

Prayers...

Those to be married:

Those in immediate need: Becky Parker, Mark Herring, Ralph Colbran, Eileen Knight, Eileen McDougall, Philip Chapman, Phil Simmonds, Sue Ferguson.

Those in long term need: Georgia, Ann Went, Julie Sadler, Wendy Hibling, Liz Graydon, Peter Graydon, Eileen MacDougall, George Snashall, Karen Leese, and Yvonne Godsmark

Those in care homes: Mary Watts, Rosemary Pardey, Janet Card, Valerie Poxon, Sally Williams

The recently departed and those who mourn: Keith Card

Those whose year's mind falls at this time. 22nd Olive Beatrice Caplan 2001, Joan Esme Stevens 2012, 23rd Jack Swain, Len Smith 1998, Patricia Hague 2016, 24th John Jellicoe 1994, 25th Donald Goldfinch 2014, 26th Jenifer Nancie Spear 2012, 27th Winifred Bailey 2001, David Robert Raynor Tapp 2014, Nicholas Bennett 2017, Ross Bennet 2022, 28th Mildred Magdalene Young 2002, Pauline Erlam 2019.

Praying through the week...

Mon Sep 22nd - We pray for clean water for all, for those made ill through its lack, and for protection of oceans, rivers, and land. Locally, we remember the people of Earwig Lane, giving thanks for their care of family, friends, and community.

Tue Sep 23rd - We pray for UK prisons facing pressure from cuts, overcrowding, and rising problems. We lift up inmates, staff, and those shaping wise and just policies. Locally, we pray for the people of Farr Close, giving thanks for good things and hope amid challenges.

Wed Sep 24th - We pray for those living with dementia and Alzheimer's, their families, carers, and those raising awareness and fighting stigma. Locally, we remember the people of Foxhole Lane, praying they find joy and light in their lives.

Thu Sep 25th - On World Maritime Day, we pray for all whose livelihoods depend on the oceans, for safety at sea, protection from pollution, and responses to crises. Locally, we pray for the people of Glebe Road, that they may be blessed.

Fri Sep 26th - We pray for the parts of the world most vulnerable to the climate crisis, for stronger global action, and for activists working for change, often at personal cost. We also pray for democracy under threat here and worldwide. Locally, we remember the people of Goreside Lane, praying they find comfort and strength in God.

Sat Sep 27th - On World Tourism Day, we pray for places relying on tourism, that the needs of communities, the environment, and visitors may be balanced wisely. Locally, we pray for the people of Hanlye Lane.

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