

Sunday 28th September 2025

Harvest Thanksgiving (Festival)

Holy Trinity Cuckfield

*You are very welcome
to our worship!*



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Reflection

At harvest we bring baskets of fruit and grain, but more than food is on offer here. In Deuteronomy, Israel remembers their story: once wandering, once enslaved, now free, they give thanks with the first fruits of the land. In John's Gospel, Jesus takes the image further: he is the true bread, given not just for daily strength but for eternal life. Harvest is therefore about memory and hope - remembering God's goodness, receiving Christ afresh, and living thankfully. As we share bread and wine today, may gratitude shape our discipleship, generosity guide our actions, and joy root our community.

Collect

Creator God, you made the goodness of the land, the riches of the sea and the rhythm of the seasons; as we thank you for the harvest, may we cherish and respect this planet and its peoples, through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Post Communion Prayer

Lord of the harvest, with joy we have offered thanksgiving for your love in creation and have shared in the bread and the wine of the kingdom: by your grace plant within us a reverence for all that you give us and make us generous and wise stewards of the good things we enjoy; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Worship this Sunday...

Sunday 28th September - Harvest Thanksgiving (Festival)

Deuteronomy 26.1-11
Philippians 4.4-9
John 6.25-35

8.00 am	Holy Communion (BCP)	Readers	Eileen Caple
9.45 am	"Holy Toast" Worship for All Harvest Festival*	Readers	Young People
Setting	Gloria: Indescribable; 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		

12.00 pm **Baptism**

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

First Reading

Deuteronomy 26.1-11

The First Harvest

Soon you will go into the land the Lord your God is giving you to own. You will take it over and live in it. Then you must take some of the first harvest of crops. It will grow from the land the Lord your God is giving you. Put the food in a basket. Then go to the place where the Lord your God will choose to be worshiped. Say to the priest on duty at that time, "Today I declare this before the Lord your God. I have come into the land the Lord promised to give us. He promised this to our ancestors." The priest will take your basket. He will set it down in front of the altar of the Lord your God. Then you shall announce before the Lord your God: "My father was a wandering Aramean. He went down to Egypt. He stayed there with only a few people. But they became a great, powerful and large nation there. But the

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Egyptians were cruel to us. They made us suffer and work very hard. So we prayed to the Lord, the God of our ancestors. He heard us. He saw our trouble, hard work and suffering. Then the Lord brought us out of Egypt. He did it with his great power and strength. He used great terrors, signs and miracles. Then he brought us to this place. He gave us this land where much food grows. Now I bring you part of the first harvest from this land. Lord, you have given me this land.” Then place the basket before the Lord your God. And bow down before him. Then you and the Levites and foreigners among you should rejoice. The Lord your God has given good things to you and your family.

Second Reading

Philippians 4.4-9

Rejoice and Be at Peace
Be full of joy in the Lord always. I will say again, be full of joy. Let all men see that you are gentle and kind. The Lord is coming soon. Do not worry about anything. But pray and ask God for everything you need. And when you pray, always give thanks. And God’s peace will keep your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus. The peace that God gives is so great that we cannot understand it. Brothers, continue to think about the things that are good and worthy of praise. Think about the things that are true and honourable and right and pure and beautiful and respected. And do what you learned and received from me. Do what I told you and what you saw me do. And the God who gives peace will be with you.

Gospel

John 6.25-35

Jesus, the Bread of Life
The people found Jesus on the other side of the lake. They asked him, “Teacher, when did you come here?” Jesus answered, “Are you looking for me because you saw me do miracles? No! I tell you the truth. You are looking for me because you ate the bread and were satisfied. Earthly food spoils and ruins. So don’t work to get that kind of food. But work to get the food that stays good always and gives you eternal life. The Son of Man will give you that food. God the Father has shown that he is with the Son of Man.” The people asked Jesus, “What are the things God wants us to do?” Jesus answered, “The work God wants you to do is this: to believe in the One that God sent.” So the people asked, “What miracle will you do? If we can see a miracle, then we will believe you. What will you do? Our ancestors ate the manna in the desert. This is written in the Scriptures: ‘God gave them bread from heaven to eat.’” Jesus said, “I tell you the truth. Moses was not the one who gave you bread from heaven. But my Father gives you the true bread from heaven. God’s bread is the One who comes down from heaven and gives life to the world.” The people said, “Sir, give us this bread always.” Then Jesus said, “I am the bread that gives life. He who comes to me will never be hungry. He who believes in me will never be thirsty.

This Week...			
29/09 Mon	2.00 pm	Pilgrim Monday Afternoon Course	
	7.30 pm	Home Group (In Person)	
	7.30 pm	Pilgrim Monday Evening Course	Online
30/09 Tues	9.30 am	HT Primary Harvest Service	Church
01/10 Wed	10.30 am	Holy Communion*	Nehemiah 2.1-8
		followed by coffee and cake	Luke 9.57-end
02/10 Thurs	5.00 pm	Clergy Surgery	Old School
	9.00 am	Iona/Celtic Communion	Nehemiah 8.1-12
			Luke 10.1-12
03/10 Fri	1.30 pm	Arts and Crafts meet up	
	2.00 pm	Pilgrim Thursday Afternoon Course	
	11.00 am	BCP Communion	Deuteronomy 31.7-13
04/10 Sat			Luke 10.13-16
	1.10 pm	Lunchtime Concert	Church
	6.00 pm	Treble Choir Club	Church
	7.30 pm	Choir Practice	Church
	9.30 am	Cuckfield Book Festival	Church

Next Sunday...

Sunday 5th October - 16th Sunday after Trinity

Lamentations 1.1-6
2 Timothy 1.1-14
Luke 17.5-10

8.00 am	Holy Communion (CW)	Readers	Anthony vander Willigen
9.45 am	Parish Eucharist with Healing, Commissioning & Sunday’s Cool*	Readers	Christine Best Nick Jones
Setting	Shephard		
Pr Hymn	679 In Christ there is no east	Intercessor	James Sanders
Gr Hymn	507 We have a gospel		
Of Hymn	335 My God accept my heart		
Anthem	212 Now the green blade		
Cm Hymn	448i I come with joy		
	524 When memory fades		

Fn Hymn 634 Firmly I believe

11.15 am Pet Blessing Service

6.00 pm	Harvest Praise		Exodus 23:16
Hymn	282: Come ye thankful people, come		Leviticus 23:39-44
Psalm	65		Joel 2:21-27
Anthem	Thou visitest the earth		2 Corinthians 9:6-12
Hymn	289 To thee, O Lord, our hearts we raise		Matthew 6:25-33
Anthem	Look at the world		
Hymn	537i: For the beauty of the earth	Readers	Pat Montague
Hymn	284: For the fruits of all creation		Rod Montague
Anthem	Fairest Lord Jesus		
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...

Pet Blessing Service - Sunday 5th October 2025, 11:15am - Join us in our beloved tradition of blessing the animals! Bring your furry, feathered or scaled friend and receive a special blessing. Refreshments for pets and owners, Pet Parade, Photo Booth, Come celebrate and join us to celebrate the joy pets bring into our lives and share in this beautiful community event.

Sunday 5th October 2025, 6.00 pm - Harvest Praise - An Evening of Readings and Music Celebrating the Wonder of Creation. Join us for a joyful celebration of Harvest with uplifting readings, hymns, and anthems sung by the acclaimed Holy Trinity Choir. The programme includes much-loved harvest hymns alongside glorious choral music by Maurice Greene, John Rutter, and traditional Anglican choral settings — weaving together Scripture, poetry, and song in thanksgiving for God's abundant gifts. Come and experience a moving evening in one of Sussex's most beautiful parish churches, filled with vibrant colour, words, and music. The service will be followed by refreshments, with a warm welcome for all.

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.

Remembrance Sunday - 9th November 2025 Holy Trinity Cuckfield in partnership with The Royal British Legion - Cuckfield Branch. 10.45am - Gathering at the War Memorial, 11.00am - Two Minutes' Silence & Wreath Laying followed by Civic Service & Church Parade in Holy Trinity Church with readings, prayers, traditional hymns, poetry and the Roll Call of Honour, with representatives from, civic and community groups, local schools the Armed Forces, and veterans. After the service Refreshments in the Old School. "At the going down of the sun and in the morning, we will remember them." **There will be no 8.00 am Holy Communion. Holy Communion (with hymns) will be celebrated at 9.00 am**

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.

25 Miles Across the Downs for Palestine - Revd Stephen Dando is doing a 25-mile walk from Ditchling Beacon to West Worthing Station will raise funds for Medical Aid for Palestinians (MAP) and The Sameer Project, highlighting the ongoing suffering in Gaza. Please consider sponsoring the walkers to support these vital causes. More details and donations at <https://chuffed.org/project/140302-25-miles-across-the-downs-for-palestine>

Lunchtime Concert - Free Admission Join us at Holy Trinity Church, Cuckfield, on **Friday 3rd October at 1:10 pm** for a lively concert by *Guests*, a talented group of young musicians playing everything from jazz to pop and musical theatre.

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.

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!**



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.

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)

Lunch "n" Linger will take place at the Old School on **Thursday 30th October 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 (27th October).

Prayers...

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, Carlo Komar

Those whose year's mind falls at this time. 29th Elizabeth (Betsy) St. Claire Roberts 2012, 30th Norman Albert Marchant 2018, 1st October Phyllis Grimwade 1998, 2nd Jane Larner 2005, 3rd Frederic Burrridge, Sybil McKinnan 1998, William John Bosco Byrne 2012, Bernadette Maria Selous 2013, 4th Charles Newnham 2000, Daphne Gossage 2002, John Bradshaw, 5th Joseph Chapman, Brenda Burbidge 1997, David Barrett.

Praying through the week...

Mon 29th - On the International Day of Awareness of Food Loss & Waste, for all those working to educate us about caring for our world, that we may waste less and be mindful of those who go without. We pray for the people of Harvest Hill to feel God's love and presence, especially in times of need or loneliness.

Tue 30th - We pray for everyone in our parish to know how precious they are to God and to feel God's comfort, mercy, and love. We remember especially the people of Hatchgate Close, asking that autumn brings colour, hope, and joy into their lives.

Wed 1st - On the International Day of Older Persons, we give thanks for older people, for the many ways they enrich our communities, and we pray for the people of Hatchgate Lane to experience the wonder and diversity of God's creation all around them.

Thu 2nd - On the International Day of Non-Violence, we give thanks for those who work and campaign for peace, often at great personal cost, and we pray for the people of Hatchlands to feel God's presence whatever they are facing.

Fri 3rd - On world Habitat Day, we pray for those who protect and care for our environment, enabling people and wildlife to live together in harmony. We pray for the people of High Street, that they may feel cherished and able to share kindness and love with others.

Sat 4th - As Black History Month begins, we pray for justice, peace, and understanding in our society. We pray for courage to challenge prejudice and for the people of Hillside Walk to enjoy neighbourhoods filled with hospitality, respect, and care.

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