

Sunday 7th September 2025

12th Sunday after Trinity

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

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towards our ongoing
**outreach, mission and
ministry.**



Reflection

When Jesus spoke to the great crowds that followed him, he did not soften his message to keep their interest. Instead, he laid before them the stark reality of what it means to be his disciple. Discipleship, he makes clear, is not a casual association or a matter of convenience—it is a costly, life-defining commitment. In this passage, Jesus confronts us with uncompromising demands: love for him above even our closest family ties, willingness to carry the cross of suffering and self-denial, sober recognition of the sacrifices involved, and a readiness to release our grip on possessions. These words strip away illusions of an easy path and reveal that following Christ requires radical allegiance and total surrender. What Jesus offers is not cheap grace but the costly grace that transforms life, because true discipleship means placing him above everything else.

Worship this Sunday...

Collect

Almighty and everlasting God, you are always more ready to hear than we to pray and to give more than either we desire or deserve: pour down upon us the abundance of your mercy, forgiving us those things of which our conscience is afraid and giving us those good things which we are not worthy to ask but through the merits and mediation 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

God of all mercy, in this eucharist you have set aside our sins and given us your healing: grant that we who are made whole in Christ may bring that healing to this broken world, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Sunday 7th September - 12th Sunday after Trinity

Jeremiah 18.1-11
Philemon 1-21
Luke 14.25-33

8.00 am	Holy Communion (CW)	Readers	Anthony vander Willigen
9.45 am	Parish Eucharist * with Sunday's Cool	Readers	Alan Curren Jane Coan
Setting	Shepherd		
Pr Hymn	Awake my soul		
Gr Hymn	790 Teach me my God & King	Intercessor	Mark Parker
Of Hymn	57 Ye servants of the Lord		
Cm Hymn	441 Draw nigh and take		
Fm Hymn	455 My God and is thy table		
11.15 am	Family Praise		
6.00 pm	Sung Evensong		Isaiah 43.14-44.5; John 5.30-end
Hymn	737 New songs of celebration		
Responses	Ferial	Readers	Roger Floyd Carolyn Ponder
Psalm	121		

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Canticles M: 54; N: 147
 Anthem From the rising of the sun
 Hymn 7 This is the day the Lord hath made
 Hymn 549 The heavens declare

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

First Reading

Jeremiah 18.1-11

The people of Israel are like clay in the potter's hand

The word that came to Jeremiah from the LORD: 'Come, go down to the potter's house, and there I will let you hear my words.' So I went down to the potter's house, and there he was working at his wheel. The vessel he was making of clay was spoiled in the potter's hand, and he reworked it into another vessel, as seemed good to him. Then the word of the LORD came to me: Can I not do with you, O house of Israel, just as this potter has done? says the LORD. Just like the clay in the potter's hand, so are you in my hand, O house of Israel. At one moment I may declare concerning a nation or a kingdom, that I will pluck up and break down and destroy it, but if that nation, concerning which I have spoken, turns from its evil, I will change my mind about the disaster that I intended to bring on it. And at another moment I may declare concerning a nation or a kingdom that I will build and plant it, but if it does evil in my sight, not listening to my voice, then I will change my mind about the good that I had intended to do to it. Now, therefore, say to the people of Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem: Thus says the LORD: Look, I am a potter shaping evil against you and devising a plan against you. Turn now, all of you from your evil way, and amend your ways and your doings.

Second Reading

Philemon 1-21

Paul asks that Philemon find a good use for his servant Onesimus

Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus, and Timothy our brother, To Philemon our dear friend and co-worker, to Apphia our sister, to Archippus our fellow-soldier, and to the church in your house: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. When I remember you in my prayers, I always thank my God because I hear of your love for all the saints and your faith towards the Lord Jesus. I pray that the sharing of your faith may become effective when you perceive all the good that we may do for Christ. I have indeed received much joy and encouragement from your love, because the hearts of the saints have been refreshed through you, my brother. For this reason, though I am bold enough in Christ to command you to do your duty, yet I would rather appeal to you on the basis of love—and I, Paul, do this as an old man, and now also as a prisoner of Christ Jesus. I am appealing to you for my child, Onesimus, whose father I have become during my imprisonment. Formerly he was useless to you, but now he is indeed useful both to you and to me. I am sending him, that is, my own heart, back to you. I wanted to keep him with me, so that he might be of service to me in your place during my imprisonment for the gospel; but I preferred to do nothing without your consent, in order that your good deed might be voluntary and not something forced. Perhaps this is the reason he was separated from you for a while, so that you might have him back for ever, no longer as a slave but as more than a slave, a beloved brother—especially to me but how much more to you, both in the flesh and in the Lord. So if you consider me your partner, welcome him as you would welcome me. If he has wronged you in any way, or owes you anything, charge that to my account. I, Paul, am writing this with my own hand: I will repay it. I say nothing about your owing me even your own self. Yes, brother, let me have this benefit from you in the Lord! Refresh my heart in Christ. Confident of your obedience, I am writing to you, knowing that you will do even more than I say.

Gospel

Luke 14.25-33

Disciples must renounce family and take up their cross

Now large crowds were travelling with him; and he turned and said to them, 'Whoever comes to me and does not hate father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, yes, and even life itself, cannot be my disciple. Whoever does not carry the cross and follow me cannot be my disciple. For which of you, intending to build a tower, does not first sit down and estimate the cost, to see whether he has enough to complete it? Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, all who see it will begin to ridicule him, saying, "This fellow began to build and was not able to finish." Or what king, going out to wage war against another king, will not sit down first and consider whether he is able with ten thousand to oppose the one who comes against him with twenty thousand? If he cannot, then, while the other is still far away, he sends a delegation and asks for the terms of peace. So therefore, none of you can become my disciple if you do not give up all your possessions.

This Week...

08/09 Mon	7.30 pm	Home Group (In Person)	
		Pilgrim Monday Evening Course session 1	Old School
09/09 Tues	5.00 pm	Christmas Tree Festival Meeting	
10/09 Wed	10.30 am	Holy Communion*	Colossians 3.1-11
		followed by coffee and cake	Luke 6.20-26
	5.00 pm	Clergy Surgery	Old School
	6.00 pm	Standing Committee	Vicarage

11/09 Thurs	9.00 am	Iona/Celtic Communion	Colossians 3.12-17 Luke 6.27-38
	2.00 pm	Pilgrim Thursday Afternoon Course session 1	
12/09 Fri	11.00 am	BCP Communion	Timothy 1.1-2, 12-14 Luke 6.39-42
	6.00 pm	Choir Club	Church
	7.30 pm	Choir	Church
13/09 Sat	9.30 am	Cuckfield Local Market	Church
	1.30 pm	Wedding of James Norris & Georgia Morison	Church

Next Sunday...

Sunday 14th September - 13th Sunday after Trinity
Holy Cross Day

8.00 am	Holy Communion (BCP)	Readers	Numbers 21.4-9 Philippians 2.6-11 John 3.13-17 Charles Solomon James Sanders
9.45 am	Parish Eucharist* with Sunday's Cool	Readers	David Thunder Ros Thunder
Setting	Shepherd		
Pr Hymn	682i In the cross of Christ		
Gr Hymn	489 From heav'n you came	Intercessor	Eileen Caple
Of Hymn	628 Father of heaven		
Anthem	God so loved the world		
Cm Hymn	181 O sacred head		
	432 Bread of the world		
Fn Hymn	805 There is a redeemer		

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

Notices and Parish News...

Join Our Team – Part Time Verger / Caretaker - Holy Trinity Church, Cuckfield

We are looking for a friendly and reliable person to join us as Verger / Caretaker. This rewarding role is at the heart of our historic parish church, helping ensure it is always welcoming, safe, and ready for worship, community events, and visitors. The role includes preparing the church for services, assisting with concerts and festivals, supporting volunteers, and overseeing cleaning, security, and the general care of the building. It requires someone practical, organised, approachable, physically fit, and sympathetic to the ethos of the Church of England. This is a part-time role of 10 hours a week, worked flexibly (including some evenings and weekends). Pay is £13.00 per hour, reviewed after six months, with 33 days' holiday per year pro rata. For a full job description and application form, please email pa@holyltrinitycuckfield.org. Come and play your part in the life of one of Sussex's most welcoming churches.

Clergy Surgery and Suggestions - Following feedback from our Pastoral Care Survey, we're introducing two new ways to share your thoughts on life at Holy Trinity:

Suggestion Box - now by the North Door. Ideas will be reviewed weekly by the Leadership Team. Named suggestions will receive a response where possible, but anonymous ones are equally welcome.

Clergy Surgery - from Wednesday 3rd September 2025, Fr Daniel will hold weekly 15-minute appointments (5.00-6.00pm) to talk about parish life, faith, or anything on your mind. Please book in advance via the Parish Office (01444 456461 / pa@holyltrinitycuckfield.org).

We hope you'll use these opportunities, whether to celebrate what's going well or to suggest what needs attention.

Cuckfield Local Market - Holy Trinity Cuckfield monthly makers and food market returns on **Saturday 13th September 2025 from 9.30-12.30** providing locally sourced, sustainable goods. Dates for 2025 are 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.

Cuckfield & Bolney Men's Group Activities - On Tuesday 16th September 7.30-9.30 pm for a meal at the Whyte Harte, in Cuckfield. Please email clivesimmonds@btinternet.com to confirm your attendance. *Dates for the diary:* Tuesday 14th Oct for a meal at the 8 Bells in Bolney, 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

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.

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!**

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@holyltrinitycuckfield.org confirming your menu choices. **We need to confirm final numbers by the Monday before the lunch (23rd September).**

Prayers...

Those to be married: James Norris and Georgia Morison

Those in immediate need: Becky Parker, Mark Herring, Ralph Colbran, Eileen Knight, Eileen McDougall, Philip Chapman

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,

The recently departed and those who mourn: Keith Card

Those whose year's mind falls at this time. 8th Gerald Keith Honeysett 2018, 9th James Taylor 2009, Adrian Russell 2023, 10th Tony Osborne 2000, Dorothy Florence Bumpus 2006, Veronica Charlwood Ross 2021, Judy Margaret Amey 2023, 11th Sybil Eaton 1998, Rosemary Vivien Gooderham 2020, 12th Lilian Wilson, Anne Allemand 2001, John Cuxson 2005, Margaret Brooker 2017, 13th Peter Brown, Ivy Eileen Christophers 2004, Bettina Pauline Flower 2011, 14th Ellen Ford 1998, Bridget Dunnett.

Praying through the week...

Mon Sep 8th - We pray for all who teach and encourage literacy, and for the nearly 800 million adults worldwide without basic skills. We give thanks for the Cricket Club and pray they continue to enjoy a safe, caring community.

Tue Sep 9th - We pray for everyone in education—students, teachers, assistants, support staff, technicians, leaders, and governing bodies. We remember those denied education through poverty, conflict, or exclusion. Locally we pray for the people of Cross Colwood Lane, that they may know kindness and safety in their neighbourhood.

Wed Sep 10th - We give thanks for the beauty and joy of parks and gardens, and for all who care for and maintain them. Locally we pray for the people of Crossways, that they may share in a community of respect, care, and inclusivity.

Thur Sep 11th - We give thanks for writers whose words inspire, challenge, and bring delight, broadening our imaginations and understanding. Locally we pray for the people of Crouch Fields, that they may live with peace and joy.

Fri Sep 12th - We pray for charities like Freedom from Torture and Amnesty International, holding oppressors to account and defending human rights. We give thanks for our freedoms and pray we never take them for granted. Locally we pray for the people of Crouchlands Farm, grateful for their role in community life.

Sat Sep 13th - As Pride events continue, we celebrate the diversity of God's people and pray for those living in fear because of their gender or sexuality. We give thanks for organisers and participants, asking that all may know God's love. Locally we pray for the people of Cuckfield Baptist Church, that they may know comfort and God's presence.

Contacts

Vicar

The Rev'd Daniel Valentine
01444 454007
vicar@holyltrinitycuckfield.org

Parish Administrator

Gina Parker
01444 456461
office@holyltrinitycuckfield.org

Churchwarden

Jane Coan
churchwardenjane@holyltrinitycuckfield.org

Vergar

Vacant
01444 456461
office@holyltrinitycuckfield.org

Children & Youth Worker

Toby Dawson
07423 817842
Toby@holyltrinitycuckfield.org

Director of Music

David Curtis-Brignell
07710 052628
DOM@holyltrinitycuckfield.org