

Sunday 8th February

2nd Sunday before Lent

Holy Trinity Cuckfield

*You are very welcome
to our worship!*



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Reflection

To seek first the Kingdom of God is not to deny our needs or our anxieties, but to place them where they belong - within God's care. Jesus speaks to lives weighed down by concern for food, clothing, and tomorrow, and offers not dismissal but re-ordering. When the Kingdom comes first, what is broken is held, what is wounded is tended, and what is lacking is given space to heal. Jesus calls such lives salt and light: quiet signs of restoration in a world marked by fear and weariness. In this Eucharist we come as we are, carrying ache and hope alike. At God's table we receive what is sufficient for today - grace, mercy, and healing - and are gently made whole, to the glory of God.

Collect

Almighty God, you have created the heavens and the Earth and made us in your own image: teach us to discern your hand in all your works and your likeness in all your children; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who with you and the Holy Spirit reigns supreme over all things, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Post Communion Prayer

God our creator, by your gift the tree of life was set at the heart of the earthly paradise, and the bread of life at the heart of your Church: may we who have been nourished at your table on earth be transformed by the glory of the Saviour's cross and enjoy the delights of eternity; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Worship this Sunday...

Sunday 8th February - 2nd Sunday before Lent

Genesis 1.1-2.3

Romans 8.18-25

Matthew 6.25-end

8.00 am	Holy Communion (CW)	Reader:	Anthony Vander Willigen
9.45 am	Parish Eucharist with Healing (LS)		
Pr Hymn	630 Father Lord of all creation	Readers:	Ros Thunder
Gr Hymn	775 Seek ye first		David Thunder
Of Hymn	710 Lights abode		
Anthem	Look at the world	Intercessor	Eileen Caple
Cm Hymn	764 Peace perfect peace		
	439 Dearest Jesu		
Fn Hymn	650 Great is thy faithfulness		

4.00 pm Abide Contemporary Worship

(LS) Live Streamed on zoom - click the blue button on the church home page

First Reading

Genesis 1.1-2.3

The six days of creation and the Sabbath instituted

In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. Then God said, 'Let there be light'; and there was light. And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day. And God said, 'Let there be a dome in the midst of the waters, and let it separate the waters from the waters.' So God made the dome and separated the waters that were under the dome from the waters that were above the dome. And it was so. God called the dome Sky. And there was evening and there was morning, the second day. And God said, 'Let the waters under the sky be gathered together into one place, and let the dry land appear.' And it was so. God called the dry land Earth, and the waters that were gathered together he called Seas. And God saw that it was good. Then

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God said, 'Let the earth put forth vegetation: plants yielding seed, and fruit trees of every kind on earth that bear fruit with the seed in it.' And it was so. The earth brought forth vegetation: plants yielding seed of every kind, and trees of every kind bearing fruit with the seed in it. And God saw that it was good. And there was evening and there was morning, the third day. And God said, 'Let there be lights in the dome of the sky to separate the day from the night; and let them be for signs and for seasons and for days and years, and let them be lights in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth.' And it was so. God made the two great lights-the greater light to rule the day and the lesser light to rule the night-and the stars. God set them in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth, to rule over the day and over the night, and to separate the light from the darkness. And God saw that it was good. And there was evening and there was morning, the fourth day. And God said, 'Let the waters bring forth swarms of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the dome of the sky.' So God created the great sea monsters and every living creature that moves, of every kind, with which the waters swarm, and every winged bird of every kind. And God saw that it was good. God blessed them, saying, 'Be fruitful and multiply and fill the waters in the seas, and let birds multiply on the earth.' And there was evening and there was morning, the fifth day. And God said, 'Let the earth bring forth living creatures of every kind: cattle and creeping things and wild animals of the earth of every kind.' And it was so. God made the wild animals of the earth of every kind, and the cattle of every kind, and everything that creeps upon the ground of every kind. And God saw that it was good. Then God said, 'Let us make humankind in our image, according to our likeness; and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the wild animals of the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth.' So God created humankind in his image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them. God blessed them, and God said to them, 'Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth and subdue it; and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the air and over every living thing that moves upon the earth.' God said, 'See, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is upon the face of all the earth, and every tree with seed in its fruit; you shall have them for food. And to every beast of the earth, and to every bird of the air, and to everything that creeps on the earth, everything that has the breath of life, I have given every green plant for food.' And it was so. God saw everything that he had made, and indeed, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day. Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all their multitude. And on the seventh day God finished the work that he had done, and he rested on the seventh day from all the work that he had done. So God blessed the seventh day and hallowed it, because on it God rested from all the work that he had done in creation.

Second Reading

Romans 8.18-25

Creation waits with eager longing for redemption

I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God; for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to decay and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labour pains until now; and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen? But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

Gospel

Matthew 6.25-end

Do not worry about anything: consider the lilies of the field who neither reap nor sow

'Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds of the air; they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? And can any of you by worrying add a single hour to your span of life? And why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin, yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these. But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you-you of little faith? Therefore do not worry, saying, "What will we eat?" or "What will we drink?" or "What will we wear?" For it is the Gentiles who strive for all these things; and indeed your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. But strive first for the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. 'So do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will bring worries of its own. Today's trouble is enough for today.

This Week

09/02 Mon	7.30 pm	Home Group (In Person)	
10/02 Tues	9.30 am	HT Primary - KS2 Eucharist	Church
	2.00 pm	Bereavement Cafe	Old School
11/02 Wed	10.30 am	Holy Communion followed by coffee and cake	1 Kings 10.1-10 Mark 7.14-23
	1.15 pm	Funeral T/L Tessa Boyer	Church
12/02 Thurs	9.00 am	Iona/Celtic Communion	1 Kings 11.4-13 Mark 7.24-30
	2.00 pm	Pilgrim Course	Church
13/02 Fri	9.00 am	Morning Prayer	Church
	11.00am	BCP Communion	Kings 11.29-32, 12.19 Mark 7.31-end

	6.00 pm	Fuse Group	Old School
	6.00 pm	Choir Club	Church
	7.30 pm	Choir Practice	Church
14/02 Sat	9.30 am	Cuckfield Local Market	Church

Next Sunday...

Sunday 15th February - Sunday before Lent
The Gift of Love - St Valentine

Hosea 11.1-4
1 Corinthians 13.1-13
John 15.9-17

8.00 am	Holy Communion (CW)	Reader:	Graham Johnson
9.45 am	Parish Eucharist - The Gift of Love (LS)		
Pr Hymn	422 Alleluia sing to Jesus	Readers:	Evie Pinhey
Gr Hymn	454 Love is His word		Ian Walden
Of Hymn	383 Lord thy word abideth		
Anthem	If ye love me	Intercessor	Clive Simmonds
Cm Hymn	462 Soul of my Saviour		
	602 Blest are the pure in heart		
Fm Hymn	721ii Love divine		
12.15 pm	Baptism		
6.00 pm	Choral Evensong		2 Kings 2.1-12 Matthew 17.9-23
Introit	Lead me Lord		
Hymn	135 Take up thy cross		
Responses	Ayleward	Readers:	Roger Floyd
Psalm	84		Philippa Tillyer
Canticles	Stanford		
Anthem	Lord for thy tender mercy's sake		
Hymn	209 Love's redeeming work		
Hymn	16 God that madest earth & heaven		

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Notices and Parish News...

- **A New Way of Remembering Those We Have Loved and Lost** - From the beginning of Lent, the names of those whose year's mind falls at this time will no longer be routinely printed in the pew sheet. This change is intended to help us offer a more personal and meaningful way of remembering those who have died. We want to ensure that anyone who wishes to mark the anniversary of a loved one's death has the opportunity to do so in a visible and prayerful way. Families and friends are warmly invited to sponsor the church flower arrangements on the Sunday closest to the anniversary. When this happens, the person being remembered will be named in the pew sheet that week, with a note confirming that the flowers have been given in their memory. The suggested donation for sponsoring the flowers is £40. If you would like a loved one to be remembered in this way, please email Helen Loosley Verger1@holytrinitycuckfield.org with the date you have in mind and the full name of the person who has died. We will then provide details of how to make a donation to the flower fund. On Sundays during Advent and Easter, when flowers are not displayed, it will still be possible for a loved one to be remembered by name in the pew sheet and the flowers will be displayed on an alternative Sunday. We hope this approach offers a gentle and fitting way to honour those who remain in our hearts and prayers.
- **Eucharist – The Gift of Love (following St Valentine's Day)** - On **Sunday 15 February 2026**, we gather to celebrate love as God's gift - not simply romance, but faithfulness, commitment, and self-giving rooted in Christ. This service will have particular resonance for those recently married, and for couples preparing to be married at Holy Trinity, Cuckfield. During the service there will be an opportunity for couples preparing for marriage to be welcomed, and for those who are married to renew their commitment to one another through a simple promise. Music includes Alleluia, sing to Jesus, Love is his word, If ye love me, and Love divine, all loves excelling. All are warmly invited as we pray for God's blessing on relationships shaped by love, patience, and grace.
- Mark the beginning of Lent on **Ash Wednesday, 18 February, with a reflective Eucharist at 7.30pm**, including the Imposition of Ashes. This service offers space for stillness, prayer, and penitence as we turn again towards God at the start of the Lenten journey. The music for the evening will include the Lent Prose, Darke's Mass in F, Attwood's Turn thy face from my sins, and hymns that reflect the depth and honesty of the season, including Forty days and forty nights, Just as I am, Jesu, lover of my soul, Drop, drop, slow tears, and Be thou my guardian. All are warmly welcome.
- A **Prayer Partners box** will be available at the church entrance - please add your name and take a name to pray for throughout the year. Please see posters or speak to Jane Coan for more information
- **Bereavement Café** - A gentle, welcoming space to talk, listen, or simply be. If you have experienced loss, you are warmly invited to join others for understanding, quiet companionship, and care over tea and coffee. The next café is on **Tuesday 10th February 2-4pm**, at **The Old School, Committee Room**, and meets on the **second Tuesday of each month**. For more information, contact **Revd Stephen Caple** (pastoral-care@holytrinitycuckfield.org) or the **Parish Office** on 01444 456461

- **Pilgrim Course - The Lord's Prayer** - Details of our next Pilgrim Course, based on the theme of *The Lord's Prayer*, are now available. The Monday evening home group is currently full, so we are hoping to start a new **Thursday evening group**. All other groups still have spaces, and we would love more people to join us. If you are interested, please speak to us or complete a course form, available in church.
- **Cuckfield Local Market** - Holy Trinity Cuckfield local market will take place on **February 14th from 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.
- **Haywards Heath Eco Fair - Saturday 28 February, 9.30am-12.30pm** at Haywards Heath Baptist Church; free entry, refreshments provided, just turn up.
- **New Worship Opportunities**
 - **Abide Monthly Contemporary Worship Gathering:** You are warmly invited to the first monthly gathering of Abide, a new contemplative, contemporary worship space at 4.00 pm and the 2nd Sunday of each month. The first Gathering is on **Sunday 8 February 2025**. The theme will be Before Anything Else - The God Who Speaks Light. Set in candlelight and stillness, Abide offers a different way of worshipping - shaped by music, silence, scripture, and shared prayer rather than a formal service or long sermon. We will be led by our House Band, Guest, using a rich mix of contemporary and reflective music - from God of Wonders to modern classics such as Yellow, Fields of Gold, Saturn, and Bridge Over Troubled Water. Together we will listen for the God who speaks light before anything else - the Word present at creation and still speaking hope and wisdom today. This is a gentle, participatory space to pause, reflect, and be renewed, with prayer stations and the chance to stay afterwards for a simple shared supper. Whether you come regularly or are simply curious, you are warmly invited to experience this first gathering of Abide. If you are planning on attending, please drop Gina a line on office@holytrinitycuckfield.org for catering purposes.
 - **Friday Morning Prayer:** Our Friday Morning Prayer is now underway. The staff team and clergy meet each Friday at **9.00am in the Lady Chapel** to say Morning Prayer (the Daily Office), and this is an open invitation to anyone who would like to join us. It's a quiet and prayerful way to begin the day, and to pray together for the needs and concerns of the parish. No need to let us know you're coming - just come along.
- **The Quiet Revival: Myth memory or movement?** A symposium in Cambridge on **March 21st** available on-line is the short description of the apparent increase in the number of young adults, particularly men attending church, not only in Britain but in Finland and Sweden as well. To find out more enter quiet revival in your search engine or go to <https://simonjcross.substack.com> and search quiet revival or ask Jonathan Berry to email links
- **Save the date: Italian Evening and Quiz** Wednesday, 11th March 6.30pm Tudor Hall. A fun evening with great food!

Prayers...

Those in immediate need: Becky Parker, Ralph Colbran, Eileen Knight, Philip Chapman, Rev'd Stephen Caple, Jill Brotherton, David Meares, Pam Sutherland, Mary Watts, Daphne Stuart, Libby Heald

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, Sally Williams

The recently departed and those who mourn: Tessa Boyer, Kenneth Tingley, John Osbourne, Valerie Poxon,

Those whose year's mind falls at this time. 8th Peter Mackay 1995, John Humphries 1998, Geoffrey Arthur Clifton 2018, 9th Margaret (Peggy) Fellowes Humphries 2005, James Black Revell 2013, 10th Maurice Edgerton 2001, Ethel Mary Foreman 2003, 11th Mary Marchant 1997, Ethel May Harris 1972, 12th Donald Philpott 1993, Eric Grainger, Jack Brooker MBE 2004, James John Donovan 2007, John (Jack) Rennison 2015, 13th Jessie Piolet 2010, 14th Bill Dixon, Tom Williams, Stella Burgess 2013, Peter Harrison 2015.

Praying through the week...

Mon 9 Feb - We give thanks for love and commitment in all relationships, and pray for families and for fragile marriages. Locally, we pray for Cleaver's Lane.

Tue 10 Feb - We pray for all affected by mental ill health, and for those supporting mental health services. Locally, we pray for Colwood Lane.

Wed 11 Feb - We pray for all who produce and provide our food and drink, and for local businesses including Unicorn and Barbakan. Locally, we pray for Copyhold Lane.

Thu 12 Feb - We pray for those who rely on food banks, and for all working to reduce food waste and support those in need (including Trussell Trust and FareShare). Locally, we pray for Courtmeade Road.

Fri 13 Feb - We pray for those who feel lonely, and give thanks for the support of the Citizens Advice Bureau.

Sat 14 Feb - On St Valentine's Day, we pray that all may know they are loved by God. Locally, we pray for Cowfold Road.

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