

Sunday 26th April

Mark the Evangelist

Holy Trinity Cuckfield

You are very welcome to our worship!



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Inclusive Church

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

On this feast of Saint Mark the Evangelist, we give thanks for a gospel shaped by witness, memory, and mission. Mark, cousin to Barnabas, travelled with Paul, served alongside Barnabas in Cyprus, and later accompanied Peter in Rome. His Gospel, likely the earliest, bears the imprint of Peter's preaching: urgent, direct, and unvarnished. Mark does not hide the apostles' failures, but reveals how grace works through weakness. In a world of uncertainty, he calls us to endurance, to speak the truth in love, and to trust the Spirit who gives us words when we need them. To share in Christ's resurrection glory is also to share in his self-giving: generous, costly, and faithful, even to the end.

Collect

Almighty God, who enlightened your holy Church through the inspired witness of your evangelist Saint Mark: grant that we, being firmly grounded in the truth of the gospel, may be faithful to its teaching both in word and deed; through 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

Almighty God, who on the day of Pentecost sent your Holy Spirit to the disciples with the wind from heaven and in tongues of flame, filling them with joy and boldness to preach the gospel: by the power of the same Spirit strengthen us to witness to your truth and to draw everyone to the fire of your love; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Worship this Sunday...

Sunday 26th April - St Mark the Evangelist

Proverbs 15.28-end
Ephesians 4.7-16
Mark 13.5-13
Reader: Roger Edmonston

8.00 am Holy Communion (BCP)

9.45 am Parish Eucharist (LS)

Pr Hymn A&M 42, Longing for light (Christ be our light)
Gloria TBC
Gr Hymn A&M 249, Holy Spirit, living breath of God
San/Ben/Agn Slade, Repton
Of Hymn A&M 557, Beauty for brokenness
Cm Hymn A&M 800 - The Lord's My Shepherd,
A&M 263 - Spirit of the living God,
A&M 31 - Come, light of the world
Fn Hymn A&M 494 - I, the Lord of sea and sky (Here I am, Lord)

Readers & Intercessors: Young People

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

First Reading

The Way of Wisdom

The mind of the righteous ponders how to answer, but the mouth of the wicked pours out evil. The LORD is far from the wicked, but he hears the prayer of the righteous. The light of the eyes rejoices the heart, and good news refreshes the body. The ear that heeds wholesome admonition will lodge among the wise. Those who ignore instruction despise themselves, but those who heed admonition gain understanding. The fear of the LORD is instruction in wisdom, and humility goes before honour.

Proverbs 15.28-end

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Second Reading

Ephesians 4.7-16

Growing together in Christ

But each of us was given grace according to the measure of Christ's gift. Therefore, it is said, 'When he ascended on high he made captivity itself a captive; he gave gifts to his people.' (When it says, 'He ascended', what does it mean but that he had also descended into the lower parts of the earth? He who descended is the same one who ascended far above all the heavens, so that he might fill all things.) The gifts he gave were that some would be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, until all of us come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to maturity, to the measure of the full stature of Christ. We must no longer be children, tossed to and fro and blown about by every wind of doctrine, by people's trickery, by their craftiness in deceitful scheming. But speaking the truth in love, we must grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, from whom the whole body, joined and knitted together by every ligament with which it is equipped, as each part is working properly, promotes the body's growth in building itself up in love.

Gospel

Mark 13.5-13

Standing firm with faith

Then Jesus began to say to them, 'Beware that no one leads you astray. Many will come in my name and say, "I am he!" and they will lead many astray. When you hear of wars and rumours of wars, do not be alarmed; this must take place, but the end is still to come. For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom; there will be earthquakes in various places; there will be famines. This is but the beginning of the birth pangs. 'As for yourselves, beware; for they will hand you over to councils; and you will be beaten in synagogues; and you will stand before governors and kings because of me, as a testimony to them. And the good news must first be proclaimed to all nations. When they bring you to trial and hand you over, do not worry beforehand about what you are to say; but say whatever is given you at that time, for it is not you who speak, but the Holy Spirit. Brother will betray brother to death, and a father his child, and children will rise against parents and have them put to death; and you will be hated by all because of my name. But the one who endures to the end will be saved.

This Week

27/04 Mon	7.30 pm	Home Group	
28/04 Tue	9.30 am	Heavenly Hugs Baby and Toddler Stay & Play	Old School
29/04 Wed	9.30 am	Heavenly Hugs Baby and Toddler Rhyme Time & Dance	
	10.30 am	Holy Communion followed by coffee and cake	1 Kings 3.11-14 1 Corinthians 1.18-25 Matthew 5.13-19
	2.00 pm	Art, Craft & Company	Old School
	7.00 pm	PCC Eucharist	Church
	7.30 pm	PCC Meeting	Old School
30/04 Thurs	9.00 am	Iona/Celtic Communion	Acts 13.12-25 John 13.16-20
	12.30 pm	Lunch & Linger	Old School
01/05 Fri	9.00 am	Morning Prayer	Church
third	11.00 am	BCP Communion	Isaiah 30.15-21 Ephesians 1.3-10 John 14.1-14
	1.10 pm	Lunchtime Concert	Church
	6.00 pm	Treble Choir Club	Church
	6.00 pm	Fuse Youth Club	Old School
	7.30 pm	Choir Practice	Church
02/05 Sat	3.00 pm	Marriage of George Orpen & Anna Kulak	Church

Next Sunday...

Sunday 3rd May - 5th Sunday of Easter

Acts 7.55-end
1 Peter 2.2-10
John 14.1-14

8.00 am	Holy Communion (CW)	Reader:	Anthony Van der Willigen
9.45 am	Worship for All – Holy Communion (LS)	Readers:	Peter Graydon Eileen Caple
Setting	Shephard	Intercessor:	Anthony Lawrence
Pr Hymn	584 All my hope on God		
Gr Hymn	165 An upper room		
Of Hymn	208 Light's glittering morn		

Cm Hymn 209 Loves redeeming work
456ii Now let us from this table
Pr Hymn 506 The church's one foundation

6.00 pm Sung Evensong
Hymn 18 Light of gladness
Responses Ferial
Psalm 105 v1-15
Canticles Set B
Anthem The Lord's Prayer
Hymn 764 Peace, perfect peace
Hymn 594 Be still my soul

Zechariah 4.1-10
Revelation 21.1-14

Readers: Pat Montague
Rod Montague

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

Notices and Parish News...

Brighton Gay Men's Chorus - Heroes: On Tour, Saturday 30 May, 7:30pm - We are delighted to be hosting the Brighton Gay Men's Chorus here at Holy Trinity in a jointly promoted concert with the Cuckfield Festival. Their acclaimed show Heroes is a joyful and moving celebration of the artists and stories that have shaped LGBTQ+ life - from Bowie, Freddie Mercury and George Michael to voices and experiences still unfolding today. It promises to be an uplifting evening of music, humour and powerful storytelling, right here in the heart of our village. Tickets are £20 (£15 under 18s) and are available via ChurchSuite <https://cuckfieldandbolneybenefice.churchsuite.com/events/m5gtglus> or by scanning the QR code. Do come along - whether as a regular member of the congregation or simply for a good evening out, all are very welcome. **Booking early is advised we are expecting a high demand for tickets!**



Bishop Martin retires at the end of May, and as a diocesan family we are beginning the search for his successor. Have your say in the appointment at tinyurl.com/next-bishop It will take only a few minutes to complete, and it is open until May 26th. We welcome responses from everyone. Find out more about the process for appointing our next bishop at www.chichester.anglican.org/vacancy-in-see/



Lunch "n" Linger - Thursday 30 April 2026. The Old School - gather from 12.30pm, lunch at 1.00pm. Menu: Roast pork with gravy or vegetable wellington with carrot & green beans and roast potatoes, with treacle & pear ginger cake and custard or fruit salad. Please book with Jane or email office@holytrinitycuckfield.org by Monday 27 April.

Art, Craft & Company (New Group) every Wednesday, **2-5pm** (Old School - upstairs, lift available). A relaxed, self-led group for art, craft and card making. No experience needed - come along to create, share ideas, or simply enjoy the company. Free to attend. Please bring your own materials (some basics provided). Tea and biscuits available. Drop-ins very welcome.

Thursday Arts and Craft Group are knitting and crocheting for local charities. If anyone has any yarn or needles to spare, we would be most grateful. Donations can be left in the container in the Church porch, or at the group on the first and Thursdays of the month. 2-4pm.

Mens Group - Upcoming social events: **Meal at the Eight Bells, Bolney - Tuesday 19 May.** Please confirm your attendance. We also hope to join the **Taverners at Cuckfield Cricket Club** in June or July once their programme is released.

Confirmation Preparation - Preparation begins after Easter with five sessions (April-June) ahead of the Confirmation Service on **Monday 29 June at 7.00pm.** If interested, please contact Clive Simmonds: Reader@holytrinitycuckfield.org.

Bereavement Café - A gentle space for those who have experienced loss. Next meeting: **Tuesday 12th May, 2-4pm,** Old School Committee Room. Contact Revd Stephen Caple: pastoral-care@holytrinitycuckfield.org.

Pilgrim Course - The Lord's Prayer - Our next Pilgrim Course will start after Easter details will be available soon. Please speak to us or complete a form in church.

Heavenly Hugs - Parent/Carer, Toddler & Baby Group - Launched in February and already a great success. **Tuesdays and Wednesday's at 9.30am** in the Old School, £3.50 per family. More information is available on the website: www.oldschoolcuckfield.com/heavenly-hugs

Abide - Contemporary Worship Gathering. Our monthly contemplative worship gathering followed by a simple supper takes place at **4.00pm on Sunday 10th May.** A mix of contemporary and reflective music. Please email Gina (office@holytrinitycuckfield.org) if you plan to attend.

Help Our Voices Shine - New Choir Robes Appeal - After nearly 35 years our choir robes need replacing. We are raising £12,000 to provide robes for our adult and junior choirs. You can donate, sponsor a robe in memory of someone, attend fundraising events or share the appeal. Thank you for helping our music flourish.



Save the Date: Parish Pilgrimage & Retreat - We are planning a parish pilgrimage and retreat to the Community of the Resurrection, Mirfield, from **Friday 25th to Sunday 27th September 2026**. This Anglican religious community in West Yorkshire is a place of prayer, worship, and theological formation, and holds a special connection for us, as both of your last two vicars trained for the priesthood there. The visit will also deepen our links with Fr Nicholas and Tariro, the charity he founded to support deprived and orphaned teenagers in Zimbabwe, reminding us that a life of prayer is always bound up with a life of service. The weekend will offer space to step back from the pace of daily life, to share in the Community's rhythm of prayer, and to spend time together as a parish. Places will be limited, so if you may be interested, please do register your early interest with Revd Elaine Dando (evd.macrina@btinternet.com). Further details will follow.

Prayers...

For the recently departed: Daphne Stuart

Those in immediate need: Becky Parker, Ralph Colbran, Jill Brotherton, David Meares, Mary Watts, Brian Mayou.

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

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

Praying through the week...

Mon Apr 27th - As we begin National Gardening week, we give thanks for the benefits of gardening, in terms of physical and mental health, and getting to know others. We pray for those enabling gardening projects and those who participate. We give thanks for our public parks and gardens and pray for all who look after them and ensure their access to all. We pray locally for the people of Parkfield Way, that they may feel God's loving presence, especially when they feel alone, sad or lost.

Tue Apr 28th - We pray for all involved in health care, that they may feel valued and supported, well trained and properly paid. We pray for all who are coping with sickness and difficult conditions, that they may feel heard, well-treated and hopeful. We pray locally for the people of Paynesfield, that they may have a sense of the love and strength of God in their lives.

Wed Apr 29th - We pray for all those in our parish who are struggling with financial difficulties or debts. We pray for those agencies and organisations offering advice, counselling and support. We pray locally for those in sheltered accommodation, giving thanks for all that is helpful and hopeful in this area.

Thu Apr 30th - We pray for families of all shapes and sizes. We pray for those living with financial instability, inadequate housing and insecurity of different kinds. We pray for all with the responsibility of ensuring the safety and well-being of children or vulnerable adults. Locally, we pray for all businesses in our parish: trades, retail, hospitality and leisure.

Fri May 1st - We celebrate the warmer weather, the hope and joy of Spring. We pray for all involved in public exams: for good teaching, support and encouragement. We pray for all, looking to new ventures. We pray for all involved in the May elections: for attitudes of service, desire to make the world a better place, integrity and care for those most vulnerable in our society. Locally we pray for the residents of Pickwell Lane, for health, safety and well-being.

Sat May 2nd - Looking to World Press Freedom Day we pray for an independent press, unrestricted by extreme political controls, controlled by a vision of truth and transparency, rather than beholden to political paymasters: a press enabled and encouraged to reach for high levels of integrity, scrutiny and investigative journalism. We pray for those working in an atmosphere of fear, threat and invasive controls. We pray locally for the people of Street: Polestub Lane, that they may have a sense of the hopefulness this Spring.

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