

Sunday 17th May

7th Sunday of Easter

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

Jesus' friends lived through the pain of parting not once but twice: the farewell discourses in John's Gospel tell of how Jesus prepared them for his coming death, and for his ascension back into heaven. Here he prays aloud, for their benefit, in words that are full of mystery and poetry, hope and comfort, reassuring them that they are already being drawn into the very love of God, and that the closer they come to God, the closer they become to each other. To be at one with God is to be at one with one another.

Collect

O God the King of glory, you have exalted your only Son Jesus Christ with great triumph to your kingdom in heaven: we beseech you, leave us not comfortless, but send your Holy Spirit to strengthen us and exalt us to the place where our Saviour Christ is gone before, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

Post Communion Prayer

Eternal God, giver of love and power, your Son Jesus Christ has sent us into all the world to preach the gospel of his kingdom: confirm us in this mission, and help us to live the good news we proclaim; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Worship this Sunday...

Sunday 17th May - 7th Sunday of Easter

8.00 am Holy Communion (CW)

Reader: Acts 1.6-14
1 Peter 4.12-14, 5.6-11
John 17.1-11
Graham Johnson

9.45 am Parish Eucharist (LS)

Readers: Brian Cutler
Susan Mayou

Setting Thorne
Pr Hymn 228 Hail the day
Gr Hymn 691i Jesus shall reign
Of Hymn 224 Ascended Christ
Anthem Come down O Love divine
Cm Hymn 460 O thou who at thy eucharist
232 The head that once
Pr Hymn 612 Christ triumphant

Intercessor: Mark Parker

6.00 pm Choral Evensong

Introit Before the ending of the day
Hymn 612 Christ triumphant
Responses Ebdon
Psalm 18 v1-20
Canticles Dyson in D minor
Anthem Lord I trust thee
Hymn 681 In heavenly love abiding
Hymn 769 Rejoice the Lord is King

2 Samuel 23.1-5
Ephesians 1.15-end

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

First Reading

Acts 1.6-14

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The Ascension and the choosing of Matthias by casting lots

So, when they had come together, they asked him, 'Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?' He replied, 'It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.' When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. While he was going and they were gazing up towards heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. They said, 'Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up towards heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.' Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a sabbath day's journey away. When they had entered the city, they went to the room upstairs where they were staying, Peter, and John, and James, and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James's son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James. All these were constantly devoting themselves to prayer, together with certain women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, as well as his brothers.

Second Reading

1 Peter 4.12-14, 5.6-11

Do not be surprised if you suffer as a Christian

Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal that is taking place among you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. But rejoice in so far as you are sharing Christ's sufferings, so that you may also be glad and shout for joy when his glory is revealed. If you are reviled for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the spirit of glory, which is the Spirit of God, is resting on you. Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, so that he may exalt you in due time. Cast all your anxiety on him, because he cares for you. Discipline yourselves; keep alert. Like a roaring lion your adversary the devil prowls around, looking for someone to devour. Resist him, steadfast in your faith, for you know that your brothers and sisters throughout the world are undergoing the same kinds of suffering. And after you have suffered for a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, support, strengthen, and establish you. To him be the power for ever and ever. Amen.

Gospel

John 17.1-11

Jesus prays for his disciples, that they may be one

After Jesus had spoken these words, he looked up to heaven and said, 'Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son so that the Son may glorify you, since you have given him authority over all people, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. And this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent. I glorified you on earth by finishing the work that you gave me to do. So now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had in your presence before the world existed. 'I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. Now they know that everything you have given me is from you; for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world, but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them. And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one.

This Week

18/05 Mon	7.30 pm	Home Group	
	7.30 pm	Pilgrim Online Group	
19/05 Tue	9.30 am	The Nest Parent/Carer Baby & Toddler Group	Old School
	7.00 pm	Men's Group Meet Up	The Bull
20/05 Wed	9.30 am	The Nest Parent/Carer Baby & Toddler Group Rhyme Time & Dance	Old School
	10.30 am	Holy Communion followed by coffee and cake	1 Kings 19.9-18 Acts 4.32-35
	2.00 pm	Art, Craft & Company	Old School
21/05 Thurs	9.00 am	Iona/Celtic Communion	Acts 22.30, 23.6-11 John 17.20-end
	9.30 am	The Nest Parent/Carer Baby & Toddler Group	Old School
22/05 Fri	1.30 pm	Arts & Craft Group	Old School
	9.00 am	Morning Prayer	Church
	11.00 am	BCP Communion	Acts 25.13-21 John 21.15-19
	11.30 am	Interment - T/L Paul Duffy	
	6.00 pm	Treble Choir Club	Church
	6.00 pm	Fuse Youth Club	Old School

Next Sunday...

Sunday 24th May - Pentecost / Whit Sunday

Acts 2.1-21
1 Corinthians 12.3b-13
John 20.19-23

8.00 am	Holy Communion (BCP)	Readers:	Roger Edmonston
9.45 am	Worship for All (LS)		
Setting	Gloria: TBC (Video) Sanctus, Benedictus Slane; Agnus: Repton	Readers:	Young People
Pr Hymn	Spirit of God unseen as the wind (A&M 389)		
Gr Hymn	We have a gospel to proclaim (A&M 507)		
Of Hymn	O holy Spirit breathe on me (Warren) (MP500)		
Cm Hymn	O thou who camest from above (A&M258) Make me a channel of your peace (A&M 725)		
Pr Hymn	You shall go out with joy (A&M 484)		

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

Notices and Parish News...

Christian Aid Week Thank you for your support of Christian Aid this week. If you have not yet returned your envelope, please place it on the collection plate or through the church office letterbox. You can also give via the Church Fundraising page using the QR code. Please Gift Aid if you can. Devotionals are available at the back of church to find out more about the difference Christian Aid makes to communities around the world.



Save the date: Old School Working Party Saturday 23rd May. We need help to tidy the Old School Patio and Garden area on Church Street. Lots of gardening tasks and DIY activities. Please join us from 9am and bring your gardening and own DIY tools. Contact reader@holytrinitycuckfield.org if you have any questions

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!**



An Evening with Choir & Ko - Saturday 20th June at Holy Trinity Church, Cuckfield. Join Choir & Ko for an evening of favourite songs, fun, refreshments and a raffle in support of **Lotus Lamb & Animal Sanctuary**. Doors open at 6.30pm for a 7.00pm start. Tickets £12 (including refreshments), under 18s free. Scan the QR code on the here or on poster for tickets and more information.



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: **Skittles and Pizza evening at The Bull- Tuesday 19 May, 7.30pm** Please confirm your attendance. We also hope to join the **Taverners at Cuckfield Cricket Club** in June or July once their programme is released.

Mens Group - We are starting a Men's Breakfast Club as a new monthly regular event on the first Saturday of each Month. Our first one is at the Wheatsheaf on Saturday 6th June starting at 9am. Please book using QR code or link below for Church suite. <https://cuckfieldandbolneybenefice.churchsuite.com/events/gx5wvs20> For more information please contact Clive: reader@holytrinitycuckfield.org



Pilgrim Course: Our next Online Pilgrim Course of 6 sessions looks at **the Ten Commandments**. Session 1 "Priorities" is on Monday 11th May. Session 2 "Reverence" is on Monday 18th May. **No Meeting on Bank Holiday Monday 25th May**. The other 4 sessions are on 1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd June. The Monday Afternoon and Thursday Afternoon Groups are having a break and will start again in September.

Home Groups: The Monday Evening Group is currently full but if anyone is interested in joining a group please contact reader@holytrinitycuckfield.org

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 9th June 2-4pm**, Old School Committee Room. Contact Revd Stephen Caple: pastoral-care@holytrinitycuckfield.org.

Daphne Stuart Funeral Friday 29th May, 12 noon at Holy Trinity Church, Cuckfield. Bright, cheerful colours requested (no black attire required). Refreshments will follow at The Old School, Cuckfield. Family flowers only. Donations in memory of Daphne may be made in support of St Catherine's Hospice.

The Nest - Parent/Carer, Toddler & Baby Group - Launched in February and already a great success. Come along on **Tuesdays, Wednesdays & Thursdays at 9.30am** in the Old School, £3.50 per family. More information is available on the website: www.oldschoolcuckfield.com/heavenly-hugs

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, Liz Graydon, Peter Graydon, Ian Buckeridge, Lucy Rowe

Those in long term need: Georgia, Ann Went, Julie Sadler, Wendy Hibling, 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 18th May - We pray for those who feel lonely, and for organisations offering warmth, welcome and companionship. Locally we pray for the people of Stocklands Close, giving thanks for all they bring to the community.

Tue 19th May - On World Day for Cultural Diversity for Dialogue and Development, we pray for greater understanding, empathy and acceptance of diversity. Locally we pray for the people of The Brambles, that they may know God's hope and comfort.

Wed 20th May - On World Bee Day, we pray for all protecting bees, pollinators, habitats and wildlife. We give thanks for the gifts of creation, beauty and well-being. Locally we pray for the people of The Dell.

Thu 21st May - We give thanks for all working in hospitality, especially those under pressure, and pray for strength and encouragement. Locally we pray for the people of Redland Crescent and The Highlands, for health, well-being and kindness.

Fri 22nd May - We give thanks for the gifts of humour, fun and laughter. Locally we pray for all living on The Knowle, for their health and well-being.

Sat 23rd May - We pray for all involved in the legal and justice system, for fairness, integrity and access to justice for all. Locally we pray for the people of The Street, their families and loved ones.

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