

# HOLY TRINITY CUCKFIELD



*Joyfully serving Jesus*

*Weekly devotions, prayers and news*

## The Seventh Sunday of Easter

24th May 2020

**Alleluia! The Lord is risen!**

**He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

My dear friends,

I saw a neighbour in Barrowfield this week and pointed to the glorious day we were experiencing. He agreed, but said that the problem was that it was the same every day! Whilst there is an element of truth to that, something tells me that many would feel very different had lockdown occurred during the wet weather we experienced earlier in the year. Until recent decades, the great Festivals of the Church very much marked the year for people, even if it meant that some were annoyed by Sunday and Bank Holiday closing! I vividly remember demonstrations outside the 'International Store' next to Truro Cathedral when it opened on Good Friday for the first time when I was a boy.

The great benefit of the Christian Year is that it *does* give us a pattern to the year, even as the civil calendar continues to unanchored itself from its past. This ancient marking of our Faith helps us to consider those important markers of Christianity. Next Sunday is Pentecost or Whitsun and allows us the yearly opportunity to pause and reflect on the different ways in which our Faith offers us space to consider how we open our lives to the transformative knowledge of the God of all grace, made known to us in Jesus Christ through the power of the Holy Spirit. This is always a journey worth making—indeed, the world has never needed the Good News of Jesus Christ more. **We** are the messengers. We are called not to leave it to others!

Please do read the email to which this is attached containing details of various things to note; including the opportunity to join a new homegroup online, and also important information about our Zoom link for services.

I would also be grateful to know of people who might like a phone call or distanced visit from their vicar. Phone 07595 415143.

With my love and prayers

Michael (*Vicar*)

### **The Seventh Sunday of Easter (May 24th 2020):**

#### **9.45 - The Parish Eucharist**

#### **Services during the week**

**Wednesday: 10.30 Holy Communion (Common Worship)**

**Thursday: 9.00am Holy Communion (Iona/Celtic)**

**Friday: 11.00am Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer)**

**Next Sunday: PENTECOST (May 31st)**

#### **9.45 The Parish Eucharist**



Please check the church website for details of services etc.:

[www.holytrinitycuckfield.org](http://www.holytrinitycuckfield.org)



*The Ascension Icon*

**All services live on Zoom: Click on the link on the front page of the church website before services and you will be admitted, entering a waiting 'area' and then joining everyone.**

*The Collect for Easter VII*

O God the King of glory,  
you have exulted 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 comfort us  
and exult us to the place  
where our Saviour Christ has gone before,  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
In the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
One God, now and forever. Amen

*A prayer for this time of anxiety:*

God of all compassion, your love never fails.  
Help us to listen to the tranquillity  
of your presence within our lives,  
so that we may grow in the knowledge  
that your Son, Jesus Christ, walks beside us,  
and your Holy Spirit comforts us  
at the heart of our being;  
for you are One God,  
world without end. Amen

### Acts 1: 6-14

Then they gathered around Jesus and asked him, "Lord, are you at this time going to restore the kingdom to Israel?" He said to them: "It is not for you to know the times or dates the Father has set by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." After he said this, he was taken up before their very eyes, and a cloud hid him from their sight. They were looking intently up into the sky as he was going, when suddenly two men dressed in white stood beside them. "Men of Galilee," they said, "why do you stand here looking into the sky? This same Jesus, who has been taken from you into heaven, will come back in the same way you have seen him go into heaven." Then the apostles returned to Jerusalem from the hill called the Mount of Olives, a Sabbath day's walk from the city. When they arrived, they went upstairs to the room where they were staying. Those present were Peter, John, James and Andrew; Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew; James son of Alphaeus and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James. They all joined together constantly in prayer, along with the women and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with his brothers.

### 1 Peter 4: 12-14 & 5: 6-11

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.

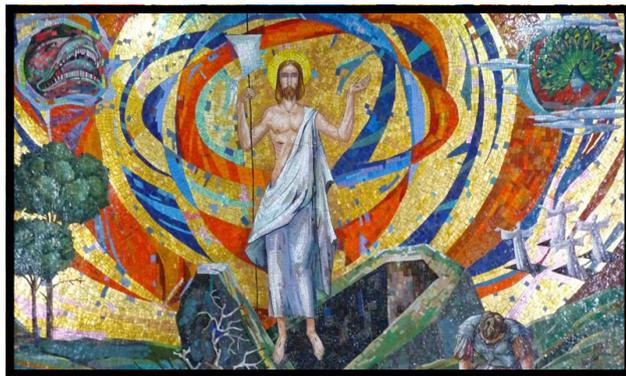
### John 17: 1-11

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.

### A thought

*The spirit of glory - which is the Spirit of God, is resting on you. What wonderful words we hear from Peter today! They tie in with the Gospel reading last week about the Holy Paraclete - the Advocate, who Jesus tells us will be our friend. Today he prays 'in the Spirit' to the Father. Prayer is central to our journey of Faith. The opening of ourselves to the work of the Holy Spirit is fundamental to bringing the Kingdom about, not just within our own lives, but transforming the world in which we live. Prayer is open to us in so many ways - through silence and contemplation, time-honoured words, or the silences of our hearts. Prayer can be brought about through action or listening to music or the spoken word of others. All can be opportunities to allow the working of God within our lives. Sometimes it's difficult to pray, but St Basil the Great suggested looking at daily life as an opportunity for prayer: "When you sit down to eat, pray. When you eat bread, do so thanking Him for being so generous to you. If you drink wine, be mindful of Him who has given it to you. When you dress, thank Him for His kindness in providing you with clothes. When you look at the sky and the beauty of the stars, throw yourself at God's feet and adore Him who in His wisdom has arranged things in this way. Similarly, when the sun goes down and when it rises, when you are asleep or awake, give thanks to God, who created and arranged all things for your benefit, to have you know, love and praise their Creator."*

**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**



Mosaic of the Risen Christ - Congregation of the Resurrection, Chicago

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### Please remember those for whom we pray:

**Immediate Need:** Ken Taylor, Rev. Sandra Hall, Mark Parker, Eileen Knight, Michael Hilton, Sally Cruse, Hannah, Mary Todd, Audrey Ryder, Olive Page, George Snashall, Carla Spear

**Long Term Need:** Young Georgia, Young Joshua, Julia Settle, Young Reggie, Ros Ayling, Wendy, Ann Went, Jean Simmons, Dave Cox, Jenny, Julie Sadler, Becky Parker, Tony Burbidge, Christopher, Jenny, Jane Terry, Marjorie Chilton, Anne Norris, Alan Prebble, Stephanie Gilpin, Marilyn Archbold, Jill Rockey, Janet Card, Jocelyn Bentley, Yvonne Godsmark

**Please remember the recently departed and their families:** Jean Smith, Vi Muddle, William Llewellyn, Cyril Dixon

**In our Book of Remembrance** this week we remember: 24th Peter Poxon, Brian Beales, 26th James Roberts, 27th Margaret Cockburn, Hazell Liddell, Agatha Riley, 28th James Hall, 29th John Fielder, Nancy Halsall, John Weir, 30th Audrey Ducker, Mabel Davies, Jo Lambert, Betty Cobby