

HOLY TRINITY CUCKFIELD



Joyfully serving Jesus

Weekly devotions, prayers and news

PENTECOST 31st May 2020

Alleluia! The Lord is risen!

He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

My dear friends,

We reach the end of Eastertide with our final Alleluias on the great Feast of Pentecost. Many of us felt greatly blessed by Bishop Rose's sermon last week. It was so good of her to make time to join us in worship. This week Canon Julia Peaty is preaching at the 9.45. Julia is Assistant Priest of St Swithun's East Grinstead, Rural Dean and acting Archdeacon for our part of the archdeaconry. We look forward to her words.

Some good news:

To date £1,490 has been donated via the church Just Giving page for **Christian Aid**. This wonderful response is greatly appreciated, particularly at this time when we are unable to carry out the usual house collection within the parish. Thank you so much. The Big Brekkie was also much enjoyed, so to celebrate our patronal festival next Sunday (Trinity) there will be an extended 'Zoom' coffee time after the 9.45 for people to socialise, with a 'moving tables' opportunity (breakout rooms) as well. Please do stay if you can!

At the PCC meeting this week, the decision was taken to equip our church with the capacity to live stream worship. It is likely that we will be unable to return to normal 'distancing' for some considerable time, and the great blessings we have experienced in live streaming thus far have, I hope, greatly encouraged everyone in this strange new world we now inhabit. Everyone will wish me to sincerely thank the anonymous donor who has generously offered to fund this work, costing over £8,000 - a most generous gift to our community.

Finally, Brian Cutler heard recently that the Ernest Kleinwort Charitable Trust has awarded Holy Trinity £10,000 towards the cost of the urgent stonework repairs required on the tower. We sincerely thank the trust as it means that we will now be able to approach other trusts and charities because (added to the sum we already have allocated) it means that we reach the halfway point in terms of money available. Please hold this project in your prayers. It is essential that this work is proceeded with as soon as possible. The roof project follows on from that!

With love and best wishes,

Michael (*Vicar*)

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

www.holytrinitycuckfield.org

PENTECOST (May 31st 2020):

9.45 - The Parish Eucharist Preacher: Canon Julia Peaty

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: TRINITY SUNDAY (7th June)

9.45 The Parish Family Eucharist and Zoom coffee!

6.00pm Choral Evensong Preacher: Kevin Carey



I. Come, Ho - ly Spir-it, our souls in-spire



and light-en with ce - les - tial fire;

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 Pentecost

Holy Spirit, sent by the Father
ignite in us your holy fire;
strengthen your children with the gift of faith;
revive your Church with the breath of love,
and renew the face of the earth,
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who with you and the Creator of all,
reign in unity,
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 2: 1-21

When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability. Now there were devout Jews from every nation under heaven living in Jerusalem. And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each. Amazed and astonished, they asked, 'Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language? Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, Cretans and Arabs—in our own languages we hear them speaking about God's deeds of power.' All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, 'What does this mean?' But others sneered and said, 'They are filled with new wine.' But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them: 'Men of Judea and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say. Indeed, these are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only nine o'clock in the morning. No, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel: "In the last days it will be, God declares, that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh, and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams. Even upon my slaves, both men and women, in those days I will pour out my Spirit; and they shall prophesy. And I will show portents in the heaven above and signs on the earth below, blood, and fire, and smoky mist. The sun shall be turned to darkness and the moon to blood, before the coming of the Lord's great and glorious day. Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved."

1 Corinthian 2 12: 3b-13

I want you to understand that no one speaking by the Spirit of God ever says 'Let Jesus be cursed!' and no one can say 'Jesus is Lord' except by the Holy Spirit. Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. To one is given through the Spirit the utterance of wisdom, and to another the utterance of knowledge according to the same Spirit, to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit, to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another the discernment of spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. All these are activated by one and the same Spirit, who allots to each one individually just as the Spirit chooses. For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.

John 7: 37-39

On the last day of the festival, the great day, while Jesus was standing there, he cried out, 'Let anyone who is thirsty come to me, and let the one who believes in me drink. As the scripture has said, "Out of the believer's heart shall flow rivers of living water.'" Now he said this about the Spirit, which believers in him were to receive; for as yet there was no Spirit, because Jesus was not yet glorified.

A thought

The 'Pentecost' reading from the Book of Acts is one of the most powerful and vivid in the New Testament. That is, of course, why Luke wrote it in such a way - to draw the reader or listener into the understanding of the overflowing grace of the Holy Spirit. Luke wants us to understand that through faith in Jesus Christ, we are all called to explore the possibilities of what life 'in the Spirit' can mean. How will we allow ourselves to both respond to the inward pull of grace within our lives, and then act on that in the way we interact with the world? One of the primary actions of our Christian journey (also revealed in all of the Gospel accounts of the Resurrection) is recognising the Risen Lord and then proclaiming his presence to others. In the age in which we live, many find this difficult. How are we to talk of Jesus as the one who reveals the fulness of life to us? Sometimes we ourselves struggle at knowing this presence at work within our own lives, let alone sharing it! Yet each of us have gifts, different gifts, to bring to humanity through faith. Read again that shortest of Gospel readings today (John 7: 37-39) when Jesus cries out that in him we are to know rivers of living water flowing from our hearts through following him through the interior work of the Holy Spirit within us. John hints to the fact that the fulness of the Spirit-led life cannot be known in its entirety until Jesus gives himself on the cross - the moment of supreme love and identification shown by God within our humanity. This offers the fulness example to us of seeking lives which are indeed spirit-led; lives of self-giving love and service to the world.

**Faithful God,
Who renewed the promises of Easter
By sending us your Holy Spirit
And opening to every race and nation
The way of life eternal;
Open our lips by your Spirit,
That every tongue may tell of your glory;
Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

Imagine how the Apostles, Mary and the other followers found themselves released from a closed room, bursting into the sunlight and calling others to know the power of God's Love.

Through that same power of the Holy Spirit, we and our brothers and sisters in Faith - in every time, language and nation - are called to draw all we meet to the life found in Jesus Christ. The Day of Pentecost is **every** day!

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Please remember those for whom we pray:

Immediate Need: Ken Taylor, Rev. Sandra Hall, Mark Parker, Eileen Knight, 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, Michael Hilton

Please remember the recently departed and their families: Vi Muddle, William Llewelin, Cyril Dixon

In our Book of Remembrance this week we remember: 31st Klara Graf, 1st Dorothy Moore, Florence Cuxson, Norma Keen, 2nd Anthony Allanson, 3rd Gwyneth Webster, 5th William Chatfield, Mary Beard, Elsie Griffiths, Mollie Nettleton, Marilyn Catterall, 6th Jill Castle, Ronald Knight, David Salter, Penny Thornton