

HOLY TRINITY CUCKFIELD

Joyfully serving Jesus

Weekly devotions, prayers and news

THE MOST HOLY TRINITY

7th June 2020



My dear friends,

Why is our lovely church one of the early dedications to the Holy Trinity? Relatively few bear the title from such a date. Others include Stratford upon Avon, Hull (Minster) and Holy Trinity, Coventry. The devotion became popular in England and one of first acts Thomas à Beckett ordered after his consecration as Archbishop of Canterbury on the Sunday after Pentecost in 1162, was its future celebration as a Feast of the Holy Trinity, something which spread gradually to the rest of Europe. St Richard of Chichester had a great devotion to the Trinity, and he, of course, endowed the 'living' of Cuckfield and installed his personal chaplain as first Vicar in 1250, so may have rededicated the church from whatever dedication it had previously borne. We give thanks today for the wonderful history of our church as a beacon of faith locally, and also rededicate ourselves to its ongoing and future mission to draw others to the knowledge of life in Jesus Christ and the richness of our Trinitarian Faith.

After the 9.45 on Sunday, if you can, please do join us for a Zoom coffee celebration on our patronal festival. There is also a Choral Evensong at 6.00pm at which Kevin Carey will be preaching. Kevin is a Reader at Hurstpierpoint Parish Church and former Chair of the Royal National Institute of Blind People and currently Chair of the WBU World Braille Council. Kevin was the first blind child to attend a non-specialist school in Liverpool and graduated with degrees from both the University of Cambridge and Harvard University. He was recently awarded an honorary doctorate by the University of York. His sermons are always very thought provoking, and sometimes controversial! Do join us if you can.

Next Sunday (Trinity 1) we will be giving thanks for the contribution of musicians to the life of the Church (a suggestion by the Royal School of Church Music). We are greatly blessed at Holy Trinity by wonderful musicians: our Musical Director, choristers, instrumentalists, bell ringers etc. and it will be good to honour and pray for them at this time when we miss their 'live' enrichment of our worship.

If you are reading this on the church website and would like to be on our regular mailing list, please let me know at michaeljmaine@btinternet.com

With love and best wishes,

Michael (Vicar)

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

www.holytrinitycuckfield.org

TRINITY SUNDAY (7th June 2020):

9.45 - The Parish Family Eucharist followed by Zoom coffee!

6.00pm Choral Evensong Preacher: Kevin Carey

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 I (14th June)

9.45 The Parish Eucharist



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 Trinity

Holy God, faithful and unchanging;
enlarge our minds
with the knowledge of your truth,
and draw us more deeply
into the mystery of your love,
that we may truly worship you,
Father Son and Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. 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,

Isaiah 40: 12-17, 27-end

Who has measured the waters in the hollow of his hand and marked off the heavens with a span, enclosed the dust of the earth in a measure, and weighed the mountains in scales and the hills in a balance? Who has directed the spirit of the Lord, or as his counsellor has instructed him? Whom did he consult for his enlightenment, and who taught him the path of justice? Who taught him knowledge, and showed him the way of understanding? Even the nations are like a drop from a bucket, and are accounted as dust on the scales; see, he takes up the isles like fine dust. Lebanon would not provide fuel enough, nor are its animals enough for a burnt-offering. All the nations are as nothing before him; they are accounted by him as less than nothing and emptiness. Why do you say, O Jacob, and speak, O Israel, 'My way is hidden from the Lord, and my right is disregarded by my God'? Have you not known? Have you not heard? The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary; his understanding is unsearchable. He gives power to the faint, and strengthens the powerless.

Even youths will faint and be weary, and the young will fall exhausted; but those who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint.

2 Corinthian 2 13: 11-end

Finally, brothers and sisters, farewell. Put things in order, listen to my appeal, agree with one another, live in peace; and the God of love and peace will be with you. Greet one another with a holy kiss. All the saints greet you. The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with all of you.

Matthew 28: 16-20

Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. When they saw him, they worshipped him; but some doubted. And Jesus came and said to them, 'All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.'

A thought

Some will have heard me say before that although I sometimes enjoy watching tennis, particularly when a match at Wimbledon is particularly exciting, the truth is that the scoring of matches is a closed book to me – an absolute mystery! I have had it explained time and time again, but all to no avail. It is as though the commentator starts to speak in a different language. This year, we are Wimbledonless, as it were, but there is perhaps one tennis score that I wish to appropriate on the Feast of the Holy Trinity. You will find it if you read further!

On this Sunday when we honour the Trinity, the words of Paul in our second reading, give us an insight into the relational and completely life-giving nature of the three facets of the Trinity Paul describes this as: The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit. These familiar words seem to me to give great scope to our imagination as far as being drawn to have some knowledge of our Trinitarian Faith. Grace is found in the one who hung upon the tree in order to lead us to the fulness of life. His selfless act was a sign within our humanity of God's love, a love some great that we can only understand it within our humanity through Jesus Christ. Our own fellowship with the Holy Spirit draws us to understand OUR call to participate within our inmost being in the very life of God through a wonderful communion of grace and love. Our ultimate destination is a wondrous unity with the Trinity. You know that I am very fond of Charles Wesley's hymns, and in one he talks of being 'lost in an ocean of love.' What he means (using imagery from the Book of Revelation) is our journey's end will be **knowing** the fulness of God's Love. Remember what Paul says in 1 Corinthians 13: 'Then I will know fully, even as I am fully known.' (1 Cor: 13: 12). St John Chrysostom – one of the great early doctors of the church in the thick of those early discussions about the nature of Jesus and the concept of the Holy Trinity wrote this: *Do you not see, beloved, how boundless God's blessings are? I have counted a great many, but there are many more which I have not been able to mention. Do you not see the excellence of these gifts, and how God's blessings surpass all understanding? No human heart has ever imagined them. If we desire to reckon them it will make us ready to rise above present circumstances and place all our hope in the giver of such great gifts, longing for God more and more every day.'*

**Almighty and Eternal God,
you have revealed yourself as
Father, Son and Holy Spirit,
and live and reign in the
perfect unity of love;
hold us firm in this faith,
that we may know you in all your ways
and evermore rejoice
in your eternal glory,
who are three persons, yet one God,
now and for ever. Amen**

Do you not see, beloved, how boundless God's blessings are? I have counted a great many, but there are many more which I have not been able to mention. Do you not see the excellence of these gifts, and how God's blessings surpass all understanding? No human heart has ever imagined them. If we desire to reckon them it will make us ready to rise above present circumstances and place all our hope in the giver of such great gifts, longing for God more and more every day.'

In our Trinitarian Faith we might say in tennis scoring terms that the Holy Trinity is 3 Love – never separate, never outdoing each other – a perfect harmony of Love - longing for our participation and with us to the end of the age.

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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, Grace & Lucy, Leonard Robinson

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, Cyril Dixon

In our Book of Remembrance this week we remember: 8th Bill Macdougall, Alison Petitpierre, 9th Doris Humphrey, Elizabeth Wadstein, 10th John Stead, Basil Beard, 11th Elizabeth Howard, 13th Claire Taverner, Clarice Malins, Kay Salisbury, Eva Sayers, Stephanie Vander, Dorothy Barton