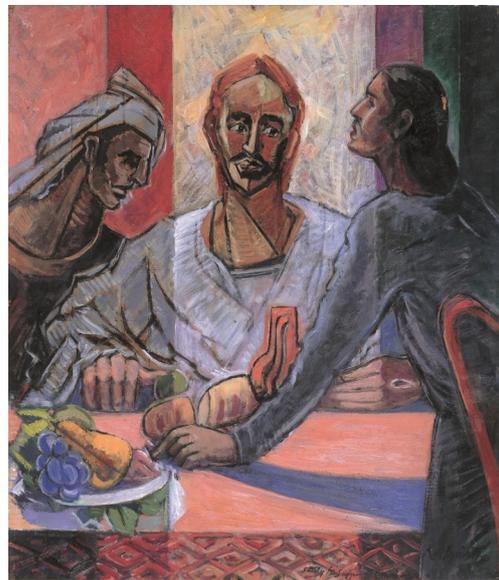


HOLY TRINITY CUCKFIELD

Joyfully serving Jesus



The Supper at Emmaus - Roy de Maistre 1894-1968

Weekly devotions, prayers and news The Sixth Sunday after Trinity 19th July 2020

My dear friends,

This past week has seen the consecration of both Ruth Bushyager and Will Hazelwood as suffragan bishops within our diocese; Ruth as Bishop of Horsham and Will as Bishop of Lewes. Please pray for them as they begin their ministries. Although not area bishops (as both posts were from 1984-2013), they will nevertheless be responsible for a degree of pastoral care within their respective areas. The post of Bishop of Lewes was created in 1909, when Leonard Headley Burrows became both bishop and Vicar of Hove from whence he left in 1914 to become the much-loved first Bishop of Sheffield. The Horsham post dates from 1968. Bishop Martin remains our chief pastor as Bishop of Chichester.

Guy Berkeley has, with regret, resigned both his role as Chairman of the Old School Board and Treasurer to the Friends of Holy Trinity due to ill-health. His contribution in both roles has been exceptional, and his stewardship of both laid strong financial foundations for the future, particularly in light of the current situation. We are so grateful for all that he has achieved. I know that all at Holy Trinity will wish me to thank him for such dedicated service. Thank you, Guy.

We express our gratitude to Mark Parker, who has agreed to take on the role of Chairman of the Old School Board, whose appointment has been unanimously confirmed by the PCC. The search for Treasurer of the FHTC continues.

Please don't forget the Bewbush Academy appeal for breakfast goods –details on the church website (*see below*).

With love and best wishes,

Michael (*Vicar*)

Picture from the Methodist Art Collection.

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

www.holytrinitycuckfield.org

TRINITY 6 (19th July 2020):

8.00 - Holy Communion (in church) BCP

9.45 - The Parish Eucharist CW Proper 11

Services during the week:

Wednesday: 10.30 Holy Communion *Saint Mary Magdalene* (Common Worship)

Readings: Song of Solomon 3: 1-4, 2 Corinthians 5: 14-17, John 20: 1-2, 11-18

Thursday: 9.00am Holy Communion (Iona/Celtic) *Readings: Jeremiah 2: 1-3, 7-8, 12-13; Matthew 13: 10-17.*

Friday: 11.00am Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer) *Readings: Trinity 6*

Next Sunday: TRINITY 7 (26th July)

8.00 - Holy Communion (in church)

9.45 The Parish Eucharist CW Proper 12

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 6

Merciful God
you have prepared for those who love you
such good things as pass our understanding;
pour into our hearts such love towards you
that we, loving you in all things and above all things,
may obtain your promises
which exceed all that we can desire;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the 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,
world without end. Amen

Wisdom 12: 13, 16-19

There is no god besides you, whose care is for all people, to whom you should prove that you have not judged unjustly; For your strength is the source of righteousness, and your sovereignty over all causes you to spare all. For you show your strength when people doubt the completeness of your power, and you rebuke any insolence among those who know it. Although you are sovereign in strength, you judge with mildness, and with great forbearance you govern us; for you have power to act whenever you choose. Through such works you have taught your people that the righteous must be kind, and you have filled your children with good hope, because you give repentance for sins.

Romans 8: 12-25

Brothers and sisters, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh—for if you live according to the flesh, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, 'Abba! Father!' it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ—if, in fact, we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him. I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God; for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to decay and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labour pains until now; and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen? But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

Matthew 13: 24-30, 36-43

Jesus put before them another parable: 'The kingdom of heaven may be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field; but while everybody was asleep, an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and then went away. So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared as well. And the slaves of the householder came and said to him, "Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where, then, did these weeds come from?" He answered, "An enemy has done this." The slaves said to him, "Then do you want us to go and gather them?" But he replied, "No; for in gathering the weeds you would uproot the wheat along with them. Let both of them grow together until the harvest; and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Collect the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn." ' Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples approached him, saying, 'Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field.' He answered, 'The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man; the field is the world, and the good seed are the children of the kingdom; the weeds are the children of the evil one, and the enemy who sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels. Just as the weeds are collected and burned up with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all evildoers, and they will throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Let anyone with ears listen!

A thought

Well, goodness - we see terrifying imagery from Jesus in his interpretation to the Parable of the Wheat and Tares. Should such language have a place within the Church, particularly in its missionary endeavour? It seems to me that the vividness portrayed in the difference between the wheat and tares (probably darnel—a nasty weed which enemies *would* sow within your wheat, as its root system spreads so quickly that you can't pull up one without the other), together with talk of angels casting out causes of sin and evildoers into a furnace of fire, does speak to us today. We are drawn on a journey in acknowledging the reality of everyday life both within the Church and wider society. The image of the pervasive roots of darnel amongst the wheat is a reminder that even within the Church there is a mixture of good and evil. The terrible scandals which have beset the Body of Christ have always been there, because the Church can never be perfect until the consummation of all things in Christ. The 39 Articles of Religion acknowledge this in regard to the clergy in No. 26 which starts with the words, 'Although in the visible Church the evil be ever mingled with the good...'

God of our pilgrimage,
you have led us to the living water:
refresh and sustain us
as we go forward on our journey,
in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen

Placing clergy on a pedestal sets them up to fail, and if they place themselves on a pedestal.....well, something is very wrong indeed! But this parable is for all of us. Evil must be addressed, and we must strive to be like wheat grown from the seeds of love which the Sower Christ scatters throughout the world. Whilst we may be distressed by such deeds, ultimately the Church - the Body of Christ - you and I - are called to deal with evil using patience and hope, rather than disillusionment and abandonment. In challenging evil both within and without, we know that we ourselves are never abandoned. Just look how God shows his love for each and every one of us through his beloved Son.



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Please remember those for whom we pray:

Immediate Need: Ken Taylor, Rev. Sandra Hall, Mark Parker, Eileen Knight, Mary Todd, Audrey Ryder, Olive Page, George Snashall, Gracie & Lucy Neiff, 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:

In our Book of Remembrance this week we remember: 19th Dorothy Duthie, 20th Tony Fabb, David Kerr, Barrie Galbraith, 21st Jack Barnard, Roger Petitpierre, Richard Hall, Douglas Hollis (Priest) 22nd William Sayers, Margaret Coomber, Gladys Tidey, Doris Prebble, 23rd Percival Abbot, Shirley Deakin, Brian Norman, 24th Richard Beard, William Baxter, 25th Stella Muir, Oscar Orpen, Simon Montfort Bebb, Dorothy Upton