

# HOLY TRINITY CUCKFIELD

*Joyfully serving Jesus*



James Joseph Jacques Tissot 1836-1902—Brooklyn Museum  
*Jesus disputes with the Chief Priests and Elders*

*Weekly devotions, prayers and news*  
**The Sixteenth Sunday after Trinity**  
*27 September 2020*

Dear Friend,

Herewith our weekly sheet and devotions. If you wish to receive this, together with the accompanying email, please contact Gill in the Church Office - [htcuckfield.churchoffice@talktalk.net](mailto:htcuckfield.churchoffice@talktalk.net) - and you will be added to the circulation list. Please note that you can unsubscribe at any time.

At present you will need to use the online ticketing system if you wish to attend the Sunday 9.45 Parish Eucharist in church. This service is also livestreamed on the Zoom link. The 8.00 is not ticketed, and the weekday services are on Zoom rather than in the church.

Please do join us. We would love to see you!

With every blessing,

Michael (Vicar)

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

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

## **TRINITY 16 (27th September 2020):**

**8.00 Holy Communion** (in church) Preacher at 8 and 9.45: Clive Simmonds

**9.45 - The Parish Eucharist** CW Proper 21 (in church—ticketed (see website) and on Zoom)

**11.30 Holy Baptism** Rupert Peter Bohanna

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

**Tuesday: 12 noon** Funeral of Roy Viccari (livestreamed on Church Zoon) *St Michael and all angels*

**Wednesday: 10.30** Holy Communion (Common Worship) *St Jerome* Readings: Job 9: 1-12, 14-16; Luke 9: 57-end

**Thursday: 9.00am** Holy Communion (Iona/Celtic) Readings: Job 19: 21-27a; Luke 10: 1-12

**Friday: 11.00am** Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer) Readings Trinity 16

### **Next Sunday: Harvest Festival (TRINITY 17 - 4 October)**

**8.00 Holy Communion** (in church)

**9.45 The Parish Family Eucharist** CW Proper 22 (in church—see website to book)

**6.00 Choral Evensong** Preacher: Kevin Carey (on Zoom)

**All services (other than the 8.00) live on Zoom: Click the blue link on the front page of the church website before services, entering a waiting 'area' before joining everyone.**

### **The Collect for Trinity 16**

Lord of creation  
whose glory is around and within us:  
open our eyes to your wonders,  
that we may serve you with reverence  
and know your peace at our lives' end,  
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

### **The Post Communion Prayer:**

Almighty God, you have taught us through your  
Son that love is the fulfilling of the law:  
grant that we may love you with our whole heart  
and our neighbours as ourselves;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

### **Ezekiel 18: 1-4, 25-end**

The word of the Lord came to me: What do you mean by repeating this proverb concerning the land of Israel, 'The parents have eaten sour grapes, and the children's teeth are set on edge'? As I live, says the Lord God, this proverb shall no more be used by you in Israel. Know that all lives are mine; the life of the parent as well as the life of the child is mine: it is only the person who sins that shall die.

Yet you say, 'The way of the Lord is unfair.' Hear now, O house of Israel: Is my way unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair? When the righteous turn away from their righteousness and commit iniquity, they shall die for it; for the iniquity that they have committed they shall die. Again, when the wicked turn away from the wickedness they have committed and do what is lawful and right, they shall save their life. Because they considered and turned away from all the transgressions that they had committed, they shall surely live; they shall not die. Yet the house of Israel says, 'The way of the Lord is unfair.' O house of Israel, are my ways unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair?

Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, all of you according to your ways, says the Lord God. Repent and turn from all your transgressions; otherwise iniquity will be your ruin. Cast away from you all the transgressions that you have committed against me, and get yourselves a new heart and a new spirit! Why will you die, O house of Israel? For I have no pleasure in the death of anyone, says the Lord God. Turn, then, and live.

### **Philippians 2: 1-13**

If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death—even death on a cross. Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence, but much more now in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

### **Matthew 21: 23-32**

When he entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching, and said, 'By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?' Jesus said to them, 'I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?' And they argued with one another, 'If we say, "From heaven", he will say to us, "Why then did you not believe him?" But if we say, "Of human origin", we are afraid of the crowd; for all regard John as a prophet.' So they answered Jesus, 'We do not know.' And he said to them, 'Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things. What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, "Son, go and work in the vineyard today." He answered, "I will not"; but later he changed his mind and went. The father went to the second and said the same; and he answered, "I go, sir"; but he did not go. Which of the two did the will of his father?' They said, 'The first.' Jesus said to them, 'Truly I tell you, the tax-collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. For John came to you in the way of righteousness and you did not believe him, but the tax-collectors and the prostitutes believed him; and even after you saw it, you did not change your minds and believe him.'

### **A thought**

Once a sinner, always a sinner. That seems to be the attitude of the self-righteous in the first reading and the Gospel; they object that God is unjust, because he gives sinners another chance. But God tells them quite clearly that such attitudes are the real injustice - to allow prejudice and hardness of heart to come between repentance and forgiveness. The words of Christ in the Gospel must have struck a chill into the hard hearts of the so-called righteous chief priests - even today they can make us stop and think.

'Prostitutes,' said Jesus, 'are making their way into the kingdom of God before you.' All our outward show matters little, if it does not correspond with what is deep in our hearts; all our words are meaningless, if they do not correspond with the way we live our lives. The wonderful passage from Philippians tells us of the self-emptying of Christ—the greatest example we can seek to emulate in grace.

### **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**

### **Please remember those for whom we pray:**

**Immediate Need:** Gracie & Lucy Neiff, Stuart, Rev Sandra Hall, Jo Kells, Marilyn Archbold, Reg Ruddock, Jenny

**Long Term Need:** Young Georgia, Young Joshua, Julia Settle, Young Reggie, Ros Ayling, Wendy, Ann Went, Jean Simmons, Dave Cox, Jenny, Julie Sadler, Becky & Mark Parker, Tony Burbidge, Christopher, Jenny, Jane Terry, Marjorie Chilton, Anne Norris, Alan Prebble, Stephanie Gilpin, Jill Rockey, Janet Card, Jocelyn Bentley, Yvonne Godsmark, Michael Hilton, George Snashall, Eileen Knight, Mary Todd

### **Please remember the recently departed and their families:**

**In our Book of Remembrance** this week we remember: 27th Winifred Bailey, David Tapp, Nicholas Bennett, 28th Mildred Young, Pauline Erlam, 29th Elizabeth St. Clair Roberts, 30th Norman Marchant, 1st Phyllis Grimwade, 2nd Jane Larner, 3rd Frederic Burridge, Sybil McKinnan, William Byrne, Bernadette Selous