

HOLY TRINITY CUCKFIELD

Joyfully serving Jesus



Weekly devotions, prayers and news

Harvest Festival

The Seventeenth Sunday after Trinity

4 October 2020

Dear Friend,

Welcome! 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 - and you will be added to the circulation list. Please note that you can unsubscribe at any time.

At present we ask that you 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. If you are unable to access the ticketing system, please contact Gill in the Church Office (01444 456461)

Please do join us. We would love to see you either in the church or online!

With every blessing,

Michael (Vicar)

Please check the church website for details of services, etc:
www.holytrinitycuckfield.org

Harvest Festival (TRINITY 17 - 4 October 2020):

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)

Services during the week:

Wednesday: 10.30 Holy Communion (Common Worship) Readings: Galatians 2: 1-2, 7-14; Luke 11: 1-4

Thursday: 9.00am Holy Communion (Iona/Celtic) Readings: Galatians 3: 1-5; Luke 11: 5-13

Friday: 11.00am (BCP ST Denys) Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer) Readings Trinity 17

Next Sunday: TRINITY 18 (11 October 2020)

8.00 Holy Communion (in church)

9.45 The Parish Eucharist CW Proper 23 (in church—see website to book)

11.30 The Annual Parochial Church Meeting (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 17

Eternal God, you crown the year with your goodness and you give us the fruits of the earth in their season: grant that we may use them to your glory, for the relief of those in need and for our own well-being; through Jesus Christ your Son 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:

Lord, of the harvest, with joy we have offered thanksgiving for your love in creation and have shared in the bread and the wine of the kingdom: by your grace plant within us a reverence for all that you give us and make us generous and wise stewards of the good things we enjoy; through Jesus Christ our Lord Amen

Deuteronomy 8: 7-18

For the Lord your God is bringing you into a good land, a land with flowing streams, with springs and underground waters welling up in valleys and hills, a land of wheat and barley, of vines and fig trees and pomegranates, a land of olive trees and honey, a land where you may eat bread without scarcity, where you will lack nothing, a land whose stones are iron and from whose hills you may mine copper. You shall eat your fill and bless the Lord your God for the good land that he has given you. Take care that you do not forget the Lord your God, by failing to keep his commandments, his ordinances, and his statutes, which I am commanding you today. When you have eaten your fill and have built fine houses and live in them, and when your herds and flocks have multiplied, and your silver and gold is multiplied, and all that you have is multiplied, then do not exalt yourself, forgetting the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery, who led you through the great and terrible wilderness, an arid waste-land with poisonous snakes and scorpions. He made water flow for you from flint rock, and fed you in the wilderness with manna that your ancestors did not know, to humble you and to test you, and in the end to do you good. Do not say to yourself, 'My power and the might of my own hand have gained me this wealth.' But remember the Lord your God, for it is he who gives you power to get wealth, so that he may confirm his covenant that he swore to your ancestors, as he is doing today.

2 Corinthians 9: 6-end

The point is this: the one who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and the one who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that by always having enough of everything, you may share abundantly in every good work. As it is written, 'He scatters abroad, he gives to the poor; his righteousness endures for ever.' He who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will supply and multiply your seed for sowing and increase the harvest of your righteousness. You will be enriched in every way for your great generosity, which will produce thanksgiving to God through us; for the rendering of this ministry not only supplies the needs of the saints but also overflows with many thanksgivings to God. Through the testing of this ministry you glorify God by your obedience to the confession of the gospel of Christ and by the generosity of your sharing with them and with all others, while they long for you and pray for you because of the surpassing grace of God that he has given you. Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift!

Luke 12: 16-30

Then Jesus told the crowd a parable: 'The land of a rich man produced abundantly. And he thought to himself, "What should I do, for I have no place to store my crops?" Then he said, "I will do this: I will pull down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. And I will say to my soul, Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry." But God said to him, "You fool! This very night your life is being demanded of you. And the things you have prepared, whose will they be?" So it is with those who store up treasures for themselves but are not rich towards God.'

He said to his disciples, 'Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat, or about your body, what you will wear. For life is more than food, and the body more than clothing. Consider the ravens: they neither sow nor reap, they have neither storehouse nor barn, and yet God feeds them. Of how much more value are you than the birds! And can any of you by worrying add a single hour to your span of life? If then you are not able to do so small a thing as that, why do you worry about the rest? Consider the lilies, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin; yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these. But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, how much more will he clothe you—you of little faith! And do not keep striving for what you are to eat and what you are to drink, and do not keep worrying. For it is the nations of the world that strive after all these things, and your Father knows that you need them.'

A thought

The proper use of possessions is a major concern in Luke's Gospel, together with the attitudes and assumptions of the wealthy towards the impoverished. Jesus doesn't start with a condemnation of wealth, but an understanding of the importance of what can be achieved for the less fortunate by those who have much. This is the sense behind the short parable—one which seems to have a grim message. Yet what it teaches us, together with the beautiful imagery Jesus uses in his further discussion with the disciples, is the acknowledgement that all comes from God. If we always give thanks for this, we will also open our hearts to the necessary help required by those less fortunate.

At present, charities are assailed by the situation over Covid, and also a weariness felt by many that sometimes their giving seems frittered away on administration. Yet would we really wish those bodies to disappear? We are called to remember that true life comes from God. We are called to share this gift.

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: Stuart, Rev Sandra Hall, Jo Kells, Marilyn Archbold, Jenny, Reg Ruddock, David Dennis, Jane Terry
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, Marjorie Chilton, Anne Norris, Alan Prebble, Stephanie Gilpin, Jill Rockey, Janet Card, Jocelyn Bentley, Yvonne Godsmark, Michael Hilton, George Snashall, Eileen Knight, Mary Todd, Gracie & Lucy Neiff,

Please remember the recently departed and their families: Stella Chantler

In our Book of Remembrance this week we remember: 4th Charles Newnham, Daphne Gossage, 5th Joseph Chapman, Brenda Burbidge, David Barrett, 6th Vera Philipson, Douglas Owens, Leslie King, Brian Peake, 7th Winifred Seldon, Evelyn Stead, Yvonne McMillar, 8th Hilda Evens, Derek Ball, 9th Bill Spear, John Bellenger, 10th Christina Cawton, Florence McDonald, Roy Laver,