

# HOLY TRINITY CUCKFIELD

*Joyfully serving Jesus*



*The Adoration of the Lamb - Van Eyck (Ghent Cathedral)*

*Weekly devotions, prayers and news*

## All Saints Day

*1 November 2020*

Dear Friends,

This Sunday we celebrate the great festival of All Saints; rejoicing in all who have gone before us in faith, and remembering our own call to be saints—not an impossible task, but by being lights for Christ in the world. Next Sunday the theme changes as we think of all who gave their lives to enable our freedom:

### Remembrance Sunday - 8th November 2020:

**9.00: Parish Eucharist** with hymns (please note that there will be no 8.00)

**10.50: Annual Service of Remembrance (please note later start)** This will take place entirely in the churchyard around the war memorial - an abbreviated service lasting about 25 mins. - weather permitting. The main elements of the service will all take place: the laying of wreaths, the silence and the roll of honour. Our MP Mims Davies will be in attendance and lay a wreath. Should it rain, the service will be further curtailed. It is most important that people socially distance even outside and please note that only members of the choir may sing. Please wear warm clothes and appropriate footwear for standing on the grassed areas.

With best wishes,

Michael (Vicar)

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

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

### All Saints Day (1 November 2020):

**8.00 Holy Communion** (in church) Reader: Margaret Thistlethwaite

**9.45 The Family Eucharist** (in church and livestreamed—see website to book) Readings of the day.

**6.00 Choral Evensong** (in church and livestreamed) - Preacher: The Rev. Stephen Terry

#### Services during the week:

**Wednesday: 10.30 Holy Communion** (Common Worship) Readings: Philippians 2: 12-18; Luke 14: 25-33

**Thursday: 9.00am Holy Communion** (Iona/Celtic) Readings: Philippians 3: 3-8a; Luke 15: 1-10

**Friday: 11.00am Holy Communion** (Book of Common Prayer) Readings: Trinity 21

### Next Sunday: Remembrance Sunday (8 November 2020)

**9.00 Parish Eucharist** (in church and livestreamed—see website to book)

**10.50 Service of Remembrance** (at the War Memorial)

**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 All Saints*

God of holiness,  
your glory is proclaimed in every age:  
as we rejoice in the faith of your saints,  
inspire us to follow their example  
with boldness and joy;  
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:*

God, the source of all holiness  
and giver of all good things:  
may we who have shared at this  
table as strangers and pilgrims here on earth  
be welcomed with all your saints  
to the heavenly feast  
on the day of your kingdom;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen

### Revelation 7: 9-end

After this I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands. They cried out in a loud voice, saying, 'Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!' And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshipped God, singing, 'Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honour and power and might be to our God for ever and ever! Amen.' Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, 'Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?' I said to him, 'Sir, you are the one that knows.' Then he said to me, 'These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. For this reason they are before the throne of God, and worship him day and night within his temple, and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them. They will hunger no more, and thirst no more; the sun will not strike them, nor any scorching heat; for the Lamb at the centre of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of the water of life, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.'

### 1 John 3: 1-3

See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is. And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

### Matthew 5: 1-12

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying:

'Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

'Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

'Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

'Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

'Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

'Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

'Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

'Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

'Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.'

### A thought

Traditionally, preachers will either concentrate on pointing worshippers to particular saints or just round the whole up in casting the saint 'net' over everyone. To some extent, both approaches are very laudable, and understandable when one considers the readings for today. The Book of Revelation provides us with a stupendous vision of 'a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands. They cried out in a loud voice, saying, 'Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!' This wondrous vision focuses on the self-giving of the Lamb for humanity – Jesus – and John captures our imagination providing a sense of our ultimate union with God, and the peace and serenity of that divine union – 'they will hunger no more, and thirst no more; the sun will not strike them, nor any scorching heat; for the Lamb at the centre of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of the water of life, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.'

The Gospel reading seems almost down to earth in comparison – The Beatitudes from the Sermon on the Mount – familiar words, yet far more radical in nature than we give them credit for. If we say that the passage from Revelation reveals the multitude of saints gathered around the throne of God, then the Beatitudes represent a homely knowledge of the way in which all Christians may reveal the presence of God by fulfilling the actions suggested:

meekness, mercy, purity, and so on. However, we can go even further. Whilst Matthew paints the Beatitudes as a future consummation for humanity in God's fulfilment of love, I think that it is safe to say that they also point us to our life within the Kingdom of God in the here-and-now. They are NOT are some sort of entrance exam to the Kingdom, a requirement of some impossible tick-list to carry out before we are let in. Rather they call us to consider every aspect of our lives and the way in which we may ourselves be signs of the Kingdom to the world we inhabit. The Beatitudes are about journeying with Christ in his Resurrection Life - just being lights in the world as he calls us to be.

### 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, Reg Ruddock, Jenny, Heather Hollis, Carol Shepherd, Carla Spear, Clare, the Smith family

**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, Gracie & Lucy Neiff, David Dennis, Marilyn Archbold, Jo Kells, Rev. Sandra Hall

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

**In our Book of Remembrance** this week we remember: 1st John Temple, 2nd Charles Cadman, Priscilla Bennett, Joyce Donoghue, 3rd Cecil Rhodes, Florence Burleigh, Albert Voller, 4th Gillian Fabb, Margaret Rhodes, Reg Charles, Ethel Radcliffe, 5th June Wilde, 6th Heather Grant, Shelia O'Donoghue, 7th Elizabeth Vass