

HOLY TRINITY CUCKFIELD

Joyfully serving Jesus



Weekly devotions, prayers and news

Christ the King

22 November 2020

Dear Friends,

A couple of weeks ago the Sagrada Familia Church in Barcelona hosted the ceremony of the beatification of Jorge Roig I Diggle, a 19 year old murdered during the Spanish Civil War. His mother was English, his father Spanish. Jorge was a devout young man, who, when restrictions were placed on worship, started to take the Sacrament to the old and sick, and to comfort others as things became darker. When the sound of a car and urgent knocks on the door came one night to the family home, he asked his mother to stall those at the door. He consumed the sacrament entrusted to him to ensure it didn't fall into irreverent hands, and kissing his mother said (in English), 'God is with me.' Taken nearby, before he was shot, he forgave those who were to end his life, and his final words were, '¡Viva Cristo Rey!' 'Long live Christ the King.'

As we celebrate this Feast, let us give thanks for the examples of those who have found such grace in the knowledge that the Divine Kingship of Christ is revealed through passion, death and resurrection—achieved for Jorge, for you and me.

With blessings,

Michael

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

www.holytrinitycuckfield.org



Christ the King (22 November 2020)

9.45 The Parish Eucharist (livestreamed—see website for link)

Readers: Peter & Liz Graydon, Intercessor: Philip Richings

4.30pm IGNITE - our new act of worship for the young and young at heart on our Zoom link

Services during the week:

Monday: 11.00 Funeral - Marilyn Archbold (livestreamed on church Zoom link)

Wednesday: 10.30 Holy Communion (Common Worship) **Catherine of Alexandria**

Readings: Revelation 15: 1-4; Luke 21: 12-19

Thursday: 9.00 Holy Communion (Iona/Celtic) *Readings: Revelation 18: 1-2, 21-23; Luke 21: 20-28*

11.15 Funeral - David Elliott

Friday: 11.00 Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer) *Readings: Twenty-fifth Sunday after Trinity*

Saturday: 8.30 Service of Light (On Zoom) *Our beautiful service to start Advent. Breakfast at home this year!*

Next Sunday: First Sunday of Advent (29 November 2020)

9.45 Parish Eucharist (livestreamed—see website for link)

All services 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 Christ the King

God the Father,
help us to hear the call of Christ the King
and to follow in his service,
whose kingdom has no end;
for he reigns with you
and the Holy Spirit,
one God, one glory.
Amen

The Post Communion Prayer:

Stir up, O Lord,
the wills of your faithful people;
that they, plenteously bringing forth
the fruit of good works,
may by you be plenteously rewarded;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen

Ezekiel 34: 11-16, 20-24

For thus says the Lord God: I myself will search for my sheep, and will seek them out. As shepherds seek out their flocks when they are among their scattered sheep, so I will seek out my sheep. I will rescue them from all the places to which they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries, and will bring them into their own land; and I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the water-courses, and in all the inhabited parts of the land. I will feed them with good pasture, and the mountain heights of Israel shall be their pasture; there they shall lie down in good grazing land, and they shall feed on rich pasture on the mountains of Israel. I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I will make them lie down, says the Lord God. I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, but the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them with justice.

Therefore, thus says the Lord God to them: I myself will judge between the fat sheep and the lean sheep. Because you pushed with flank and shoulder, and butted at all the weak animals with your horns until you scattered them far and wide, I will save my flock, and they shall no longer be ravaged; and I will judge between sheep and sheep.

I will set up over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he shall feed them: he shall feed them and be their shepherd. And I, the Lord, will be their God, and my servant David shall be prince among them; I, the Lord, have spoken.

Ephesians 1: 15-end

I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love towards all the saints, and for this reason I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

Matthew 25: 31-end

'When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. Then the king will say to those at his right hand, "Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me." Then the righteous will answer him, "Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?" And the king will answer them, "Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me." Then he will say to those at his left hand, "You that are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me." Then they also will answer, "Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not take care of you?" Then he will answer them, "Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me." And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.'

A thought

Shepherd-King o'er mountain steep, homeward guide thy wandering sheep. The hymn 'Hail Redeemer, King Divine' which will be sung at the 9.45 on Sunday captures the readings perfectly: our King is not a cruel tyrant or despot, but a shepherd who loves his flock, who gives his life for us. Love for the flock means that he will judge us, but in absolute love. Coming to the end of the Church's year leads us to look to our final ending, the homecoming the hymn speaks, yet we are here and now - living our lives in faith, longing for the Day of the Lord to come. The way in which Jesus draws so many images of human life into his vision of Christian discipleship in the parable calls us to seek to know him in the face of all with whom we interact with. This, I think, leads us also on a journey to consider the gifts of love we are called to share as signs of the Kingdom.

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, Jenny, Clare, The Smith Family, Ryan and his mother Katherine, Barbara Booth

Long Term Need: Young Georgia, Young Joshua, Julia Settle, Young Reggie, Ros Ayling, Wendy, Ann Went, Dave Cox, Jenny, Julie Sadler, Becky & Mark Parker, Tony Burbidge, Christopher, Jenny, Marjorie Chilton, Janet Card, Yvonne Godsmark, George Snashall, Eileen Knight, Mary Todd, Gracie & Lucy Neiff, Jo Kells, Rev. Sandra Hall, Reg Ruddock, Heather Hollis, Carol Shepherd

Those in Care Homes: Anne Norris, Alan Prebble, Stephanie Gilpin, Jill Rockey, Jean Simmons

Please remember the recently departed and their families: Dr.Keith Rogers, Barbara Wiseman , Chris Smith, Marilyn Archbold, David Elliott

In our Book of Remembrance this week we remember: 22nd Derek Tidey, 23rd George Pinney, Colin Stockton, Jacqueline Clinton, 25th Ambrose Upton, Christopher Collins, Queenie Searle, Janet Bradbury, 27th Marjorie Harrison, Lilian Carter, David Hansom, 28th Roger Coleman, Seonaid Collins,