

HOLY TRINITY CUCKFIELD

Joyfully serving Jesus



Weekly devotions, prayers and news **Remembrance Sunday (Third Sunday before Advent)** *8 November 2020*

Dear Friends,

As you will be aware, we have now been asked to discontinue services in church during the new lockdown, although they will again take place online via the Zoom link on the church website. Please do join us—all are welcome! Our church remains open for private prayer and I know that this will be a great blessing to our community.

Herewith the details for this coming Sunday: **Both services will take place online only.**

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 feature the two minute silence and the roll of honour. Please do join us for this important commemoration.

Next Sunday we have our Service of Thanksgiving and Commemoration for our departed loved-ones. Please note that this service will also now be livestreamed only. If you wish a name to be remembered, please let Gill know.

With best wishes,

Michael (Vicar)

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

www.holytrinitycuckfield.org

Remembrance Sunday (Third Sunday before Advent) (8 November 2020):

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

Readers: Charles Solomon & Isobel Simmonds

10.50 Service of Remembrance (livestreamed)

Services during the week:

Wednesday: 10.30 Holy Communion (Common Worship) *Martin Bishop of Tours*

Readings: 1 Thessalonians 5: 1-11; Matthew 25: 34-40

Thursday: 9.00am Holy Communion (Iona/Celtic) Readings: Philemon 7-20; Luke 17: 20-25

Friday: 11.00am Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer) Readings: 22nd Sunday after Trinity

Next Sunday: Second Sunday before Advent (15 November 2020)

9.45 Parish Eucharist (livestreamed—see website for link)

4.00 Service of Commemoration and Thanksgiving (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 Third Sunday before Advent

God, our refuge and strength,
bring near the day when wars shall cease
and poverty and pain shall end,
that earth may know the peace of heaven
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 of peace,
whose Son Jesus Christ proclaimed the kingdom
and restored the broken to wholeness of life:
look with compassion on the anguish of the
world, and by your healing power
make whole both people and nations;
through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.
Amen

Amos 5: 18-24

Alas for you who desire the day of the Lord! Why do you want the day of the Lord? It is darkness, not light; as if someone fled from a lion, and was met by a bear; or went into the house and rested a hand against the wall, and was bitten by a snake. Is not the day of the Lord darkness, not light, and gloom with no brightness in it? I hate, I despise your festivals, and I take no delight in your solemn assemblies. Even though you offer me your burnt-offerings and grain-offerings, I will not accept them; and the offerings of well-being of your fatted animals I will not look upon. Take away from me the noise of your songs; I will not listen to the melody of your harps. But let justice roll down like waters, and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.

I Thessalonians 4: 13-end

But we do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about those who have died, so that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died. For this we declare to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will by no means precede those who have died. For the Lord himself, with a cry of command, with the archangel's call and with the sound of God's trumpet, will descend from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up in the clouds together with them to meet the Lord in the air; and so we will be with the Lord for ever. Therefore encourage one another with these words.

Matthew 25: 1-13

'Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. When the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. But at midnight there was a shout, "Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him." Then all those bridesmaids got up and trimmed their lamps. The foolish said to the wise, "Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out." But the wise replied, "No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves." And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet; and the door was shut. Later the other bridesmaids came also, saying, "Lord, lord, open to us." But he replied, "Truly I tell you, I do not know you." Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.

A thought

Paul, in his First Letter to the Thessalonians inspires us through vivid imagery to confront the face of death. Perhaps the first surviving Christian document to have been written and included in our Scriptures this letter predates all of the Gospels and gives us an insight into to the concerns of everyday living in relation to Christian Faith. The Thessalonians' worries over death are swept away by Paul in the most extravagant and evocative language. 'We believe that Jesus died and rose again and so we believe that God will bring with Jesus those who have fallen asleep in him.' 'The Lord himself will come down from heaven and the dead in Christ will rise first. After that we who are still alive and are left will be caught up together with those in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And so we will be with the Lord forever.'

Paul, whose own history was lived to its full potential through the knowledge of Jesus Christ's love for him, captures the relevance of our allowing the same transformative presence of Jesus into our lives.

On this Remembrance Sunday, as we give thanks for those who sacrificed themselves for the causes of justice and freedom - for you and for me - may we, like them - Children of Light - continue to lead others to the knowledge of God's love and the assurance of perfect peace found in him alone. They, through their sacrifice, in the words of Amos, allowed 'justice to roll on like a river, and righteousness like a never ending stream.'

They shape our histories, but for them and for us the love of Jesus is past, present and future. For all our histories, it is the love that never fails, because Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today and forever. (Hebrews)



A prayer for this time of anxiety:

God of all compassion, your love never fails. Help us to listen to the tranquility 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, 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, Reg Ruddock

Please remember the recently departed and their families: Chris Smith, Barbara Wiseman, Rosetta Massy, Annie Hatswell, Dr. Keith Rogers

In our Book of Remembrance this week we remember: 8th Esther Barnes, John Beveridge, 9th Charles Binns, Lady Pamela Herbecq, Helen Davidson, 10th Betty Clover-Brown, George Tidd, Catherine Hackett, 11th Patricia Cree, Rosemary Stevens, 12th Betty Earnshaw, Moira Parham, Harry Fry, 13th Ivor Williams, John Taylor, Albert Avery, 14th Jeremy Gambrill