

HOLY TRINITY CUCKFIELD

Joyfully serving Jesus



Weekly devotions, prayers and news

Easter Day

4 April 2021

The Lord is risen. Alleluia! He is risen indeed. Alleluia!

My dear Friends,

Today is the day of days, when we celebrate the Lord's resurrection - a day which changes our understanding of humanity's relationship with God. Through the resurrection we're drawn to know that we are greatly loved daughters and sons of God - each called to reveal the divine light in every aspect of our lives through Jesus Christ. He has broken down all barriers for you and me. He has opened the Kingdom of Heaven to all believers, and in doing so draws heaven to earth and earth to heaven through his wondrous love.

The great Pascal candle stands like the pillar of fire, reminding us that our faith offers the ultimate freedom to humanity. The Exodus is over. Through Christ we have entered the Promised Land - and through him we are called to be signs of faith and hope - to bring the balm of God's love to a broken world.

The Lord is risen. Alleluia!

With love and Easter Blessings,

Michael

Please check the church website for more details
www.holytrinitycuckfield.org

Easter Day (4 April 2021)

8.00 Holy Communion *(in church)* Reader: Gerry Larner

9.45 The Parish Easter Eucharist *(in church and online - see website to book)*

Readers: Kate Berry & Jane Haughton; Intercessor: James Sanders

11.15: Family Easter Praise *(Outside weather permitting)* - a short joyful service to celebrate Easter!

6.00 Choral Evensong *(online only)*

Services during the week:

Wednesday: 10.30am Holy Communion (C. Worship) Readings: Acts 3: 1-10; Luke 24: 13-35

Thursday: 9.00am Holy Communion (Iona/Celtic) Acts 3: 11-end; Luke 24: 35-48

Friday: 11.00am Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer) Readings: Easter Day

Next Sunday: Second Sunday of Easter (11 April 2021)

8.00 Holy Communion *(in church)*

9.45 Parish Eucharist *(in church and online - see website to book)*

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 Easter Day

God of glory,
by the raising of your Son
you have broken the chains of death and hell:
fill your Church with faith and hope;
for a new day has dawned
and the way to life stands open
in our Saviour Jesus Christ
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 Life,
who for our redemption gave your
only-begotten Son to the death of the cross,
and by his glorious resurrection
have delivered us from the power of our enemy;
grant us so to die daily to sin,
that we may evermore live with him
in the joy of his risen life;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen

Isaiah 25: 6-9

On this mountain the Lord of hosts will make for all peoples a feast of rich food, a feast of well-matured wines, of rich food filled with marrow, of well-matured wines strained clear. And he will destroy on this mountain the shroud that is cast over all peoples, the sheet that is spread over all nations; he will swallow up death for ever. Then the Lord God will wipe away the tears from all faces, and the disgrace of his people he will take away from all the earth, for the Lord has spoken. It will be said on that day, Lo, this is our God; we have waited for him, so that he might save us. This is the Lord for whom we have waited; let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation.

Acts 10: 34-43

Then Peter began to speak to them: 'I truly understand that God shows no partiality, but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.'

Mark 16: 1-8

When the sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint him. And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. They had been saying to one another, 'Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?' When they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had already been rolled back. As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man, dressed in a white robe, sitting on the right side; and they were alarmed. But he said to them, 'Do not be alarmed; you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised; he is not here. Look, there is the place they laid him. But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him, just as he told you.' So they went out and fled from the tomb, for terror and amazement had seized them; and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

A thought

In the early Church there was a custom where the Bishop or priest, after the sermon on Easter Day, would cry out to the faithful: 'Conversi ad Dominum' – 'turn towards the Lord'. This meant in the first place that they would turn towards the East, towards the rising sun, the sign of Christ returning, and who we meet as we celebrate Eucharist together.

This call was one to turn inwardly towards the Lord – continual conversion of our souls towards Jesus Christ and thus towards the living God, towards the One True Light. Linked with this was the other exclamation still used today in the Eucharistic Prayer, 'Sursum corda' – 'Lift up your hearts', a call to 'Lift up your hearts, high above all our misguided concerns, desires, anxieties and thoughtlessness' - a call to turn away from false paths, turning towards the one who is the Way, the Truth and the Life, turning with our whole lives towards the Lord - lifting our hearts from the force of gravity, which pulls them down, and inwardly raising them high in truth and love – a call to which we reply, 'We lift them to the Lord.'

Yes, Lord, make us Easter people, people of light, messengers of your divine healing and filled with the fire of your Resurrection love.

Alleluia, The Lord is risen – he is risen indeed, Alleluia.

Lift up your hearts – we lift them to the Lord.

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: Barbara Booth, Wendy Boys, Carla Spear, Wendy Hibling, Ben Brindley Codd, Justine, Sheila Mitchell, Graham Hibbert, Joe Eaton, Anne Greenhill, Mark Parker, John Bernardi (priest)

Long Term Need: Young Georgia, Young Joshua, Young Reggie, Ros Ayling, Wendy, Ann Went, Dave Cox, Jenny, Julie Sadler, Becky Parker, Tony Burbidge, Christopher, Jenny, Marjorie Chilton, Janet Card, Yvonne Godsmark, George Snashall, Eileen Knight, Mary Todd, Gracie & Lucy Neiff, Reg Ruddock, Heather Hollis, Carol Shepherd **Those in Care Homes:** Anne Norris, Alan Prebble, Stephanie Gilpin, Jill Rockey, Jean Simmons, Mary Watts, Diana Hoile, Ruth Baker

Please remember the recently departed and their families: Jack Leppard

In our Book of Remembrance this week we remember: 4th Mark Danton, Shirley Milham, 5th Doris Cox, Marjorie Sinclair, 6th Alan Scholes, Audrey Selby, 7th Fraya Turner, Col. John Buckeridge, 9th Frank Ridley, 10th Georgina Bugden, Beryl Williams