

HOLY TRINITY CUCKFIELD

Joyfully serving Jesus



Weekly devotions, prayers and news

Trinity Sunday 30 May 2021

My dear friends,

This coming Sunday marks the day when we celebrate the fulness of life which our Faith reveals to the world - the Most Holy and Undivided Trinity. As a church, we have cause to celebrate further as a community as our parish bears one of the ancient dedications to the Holy Trinity - so for us a real family celebration!

In many ways the human concept of our understanding of God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit seeks to explain an indefinable mystery, yet at its core is the knowledge that all creation is drawn into the majesty of God's love, revealed within our humanity in the face of Jesus, He who through every action and word offers meaning to our hearts, and we are then called to be prepared to allow the power of the Spirit to continually lead us to view the world through eyes of faith and overflow that grace into the world. Last Sunday, Clive reminded us in his sermon of the power of the Spirit - the pneuma or breath of God - which intimately draws us into lives where the indwelling grace of the Trinity transforms who we are. Yet it is very much our choice to respond to the overwhelming generosity of God's desire to make the divine presence known to us throughout our lives.

Do join us this Sunday, either in church or online. In addition to the 8.00 Holy Communion and our Festival Eucharist at 9.45, we also have a Family Trinity Praise at 11.15 (hopefully in the churchyard!) and then a lovely Sequence of Music, Reading and Hymns led by the choir at 6.00pm.

With love and prayers,

Michael

Church website: www.holytrinitycuckfield.org

Trinity Sunday (30 May 2021)

8.00 Holy Communion *(in church)* Reader: Graham Johnson

9.45 The Parish Eucharist *(in church and online - see website to book)* Readers: Jim & Eileen Knight;
Intercessor: Clive Simmonds

11.15 Family Trinity Praise—a short joyful service in the churchyard *(in church if wet!)*

6.00pm A Sequence of Music Readings and Hymns for Trinity Sunday

Services during the week:

Wednesday: 10.30 Holy Communion (C. Worship) Readings: Tobit 3: 1-11, 16-end ; Mark 12: 18-27

Thursday: 9.00am Holy Communion (Iona/Celtic) Readings: Tobit 6: 10-11, 7: 1-15, 8: 4-8; Mark 12: 28-34

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

Next Sunday: First Sunday after Trinity (6th June 2021)

8.00 Holy Communion *(in church)*

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

6.00 Choral Evensong

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 Trinity Sunday

Holy God,
faithful and unchanging:
enlarge our minds with the knowledge
of your truth,
and draw us more deeply
into the mystery of your love,
that we may truly worship you,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. Amen

The Post Communion Prayer:

Almighty and eternal God,
you have revealed yourself
as Father, Son and Holy Spirit,
and live and reign in the perfect unity of love:
hold us firm in this faith,
that we may know you in all your ways
and evermore rejoice in your eternal glory,
who are three Persons yet one God,

Isaiah 6: 1-8 The In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord, high and exalted, seated on a throne; and the train of his robe filled the temple. Above him were seraphim, each with six wings: With two wings they covered their faces, with two they covered their feet, and with two they were flying. And they were calling to one another: "Holy, holy, holy is the Lord Almighty; the whole earth is full of his glory." At the sound of their voices the doorposts and thresholds shook and the temple was filled with smoke. "Woe to me!" I cried. "I am ruined! For I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips, and my eyes have seen the King, the Lord Almighty." Then one of the seraphim flew to me with a live coal in his hand, which he had taken with tongs from the altar. With it he touched my mouth and said, "See, this has touched your lips; your guilt is taken away and your sin atoned for." Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send? And who will go for us?" And I said, "Here am I. Send me!"

Romans 8: 12-17 So then, brothers and sisters, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh—for if you live according to the flesh, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, 'Abba! Father!' it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ—if, in fact, we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him.

John 3 1-17 Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. He came to Jesus by night and said to him, 'Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God.' Jesus answered him, 'Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above.' Nicodemus said to him, 'How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother's womb and be born?' Jesus answered, 'Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not be astonished that I said to you, "You must be born from above." The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.' Nicodemus said to him, 'How can these things be?' Jesus answered him, 'Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things? Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.

A thought The account of Nicodemus which John tells us is near the beginning of the Gospel for a reason. We have, in John's Prologue the way in which John draws us to understand the intimacy and ground of being of the Word or Wisdom of God, which is then made known in the face of the Word made Flesh – Jesus Christ. John starts to build up the picture of the way in which this is to be fully revealed to humanity, together with the call to us to participate in a new creation here and now. We have the first disciples following Jesus as he says, 'Come and see – Follow me.' The wedding Feast at Cana, where the figure of earthly wisdom seen in the mother of Jesus says, 'Do whatever he tells you.' Then Temple worship is disrupted as this angry man overturns corruption in holy places. Now we have a Pharisee – someone who knows the Law of Moses inside-out, coming at night – metaphorically because this is to do with faith. The complexity of this passage can mean that we lose the plot. What John wants us to know is that Faith is not to depend on miracles, nor on the stupendous vision Isaiah gives us, seemingly to terrify us to believe. Rather, we are to see in the face of Jesus all that we can know of God within our humanity, and that the working of faith within us is Spirit-led. Ultimately, any understanding of God must be grounded in love - a call to each one of us to be open to the transformation of God's love on every step of our earthly journey. We are called to respond as Isaiah, '**Here I am. Send me!**'

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, Justine, Sheila Mitchell, John Bernardi (priest), Kate Malby, Ros Thunder, Shirley Lewis, Rodney and Peta Pratt

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

Please remember the recently departed and their families: Diana Hoile

In our Book of Remembrance this week we remember: 30th Audrey Ducker, Mabel Davies, Jo Lambert, Betty Cobby, 31st Klara Graf, 1st Dorothy Moore, Florence Cuxson, Norma Keen, 2nd Anthony Allanson, 3rd Gwyneth Webster, 5th William Chatfield, Mary Beard, Elsie Griffiths, Mollie Nettleton, Marilyn Catterall