

HOLY TRINITY CUCKFIELD

Joyfully serving Jesus



Weekly devotions, prayers and news
The Last Sunday after Trinity
24 October 2021

'Go! Your faith has healed you.'

My dear friends,

Little did I think when writing both for Cuckfield Life and last week's letter that we would have the terrible death of Sir David Amess. There can be no doubt that the Internet has had a profound effect on the way in which so many people can be misinformed and swayed by others in a terrible way; extremism, abuse, catastrophic misinformation and negative interaction - all are fed by the worst elements of humanity from the damaged to the plain wicked.

Yet we know that the same online 'life' can bring real benefits. We found this, along with countless others of faith (and indeed of none) during the pandemic. Where would many of us have been without the ability to engage with each other when our lives were locked down.

The medium is, of course, benign; it is what people do with it. So it is here that everyone who engages has a responsibility to interact with care and diligence, and to call out anything which leads others to sin or despair. The tech companies have much to do to address the sewer which exists in areas of the Internet, and legislation will probably become very necessary. What WE can do as people who know the Saviour within our lives is to point out the radical healing Jesus offers to everyone who comes to him. Through this healing, we know how to respond - to speak out and reveal where true life can be found.

With love,

Michael

Church website: www.holytrinitycuckfield.org

Last Sunday after Trinity (24th October 2021)

8.00 Holy Communion *(in church)* Reader: Roger Edmonston

9.45 Family Eucharist *(in church and online)*

Readers: Helen Swift & Carolyn Ponder; Intercessor: Vicky Peattie

12noon Holy Baptism Bethany Rose Barbosa Corbett

Services during the week:

Wednesday: 10.30 Holy Communion (C. Worship) *(in church & online)*

Readings: Romans 8: 26-30; Luke 13: 22-30

Wednesday 6.30 Space for Grace *(In Church only)*

Thursday: 9.00 Holy Communion **(PLEASE NOTE - ONLINE ONLY THIS WEEK)** *Simon & Jude, Apostles*

Readings: Isaiah 28: 14-16; Ephesians 2: 19-end; John 15: 17-end

Friday: 11.00 Holy Communion *(Book of Common Prayer)* Readings: Trinity XXI *(in church)*

Next Sunday: All Saints (31st October 2021)

8.00 Holy Communion *(in church)*

9.45 Family Eucharist *(in church and online)*

For 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 Last Sunday after Trinity

Merciful God, teach us to be faithful
in change and uncertainty,
that trusting in your word
and obeying your will
we may enter the unfailing joy
of 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 all grace,
your Son Jesus Christ fed the hungry
with the bread of his life
and the word of his kingdom:
renew your people with your heavenly grace,
and in all our weakness
sustain us by your true and living bread;
who is alive and reigns, now and for ever.
Amen

Jeremiah 31: 7-9

For thus says the Lord: Sing aloud with gladness for Jacob, and raise shouts for the chief of the nations; proclaim, give praise, and say, 'Save, O Lord, your people, the remnant of Israel.' See, I am going to bring them from the land of the north, and gather them from the farthest parts of the earth, among them the blind and the lame, those with child and those in labour, together; a great company, they shall return here. With weeping they shall come, and with consolations I will lead them back, I will let them walk by brooks of water, in a straight path in which they shall not stumble; for I have become a father to Israel, and Ephraim is my firstborn.

Hebrews 7: 23-end

Furthermore, the former priests were many in number, because they were prevented by death from continuing in office; but he holds his priesthood permanently, because he continues for ever. Consequently he is able for all time to save those who approach God through him, since he always lives to make intercession for them. For it was fitting that we should have such a high priest, holy, blameless, undefiled, separated from sinners, and exalted above the heavens. Unlike the other high priests, he has no need to offer sacrifices day after day, first for his own sins, and then for those of the people; this he did once for all when he offered himself. For the law appoints as high priests those who are subject to weakness, but the word of the oath, which came later than the law, appoints a Son who has been made perfect for ever.

Mark 10: 46-end

They came to Jericho. As he and his disciples and a large crowd were leaving Jericho, Bartimaeus son of Timaeus, a blind beggar, was sitting by the roadside. When he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to shout out and say, 'Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!' Many sternly ordered him to be quiet, but he cried out even more loudly, 'Son of David, have mercy on me!' Jesus stood still and said, 'Call him here.' And they called the blind man, saying to him, 'Take heart; get up, he is calling you.' So throwing off his cloak, he sprang up and came to Jesus. Then Jesus said to him, 'What do you want me to do for you?' The blind man said to him, 'My teacher, let me see again.' Jesus said to him, 'Go; your faith has made you well.' Immediately he regained his sight and followed him on the way.

A thought

What do you think normality was for Bartimaeus – living in a world of darkness - a beggar, relying on the meagre offering of others to even survive. His life certainly couldn't possibly be described as comfortable. Coming as we do toward the end of our exploration of Mark's Gospel during the past Church Year, today's Gospel leaves us on the point of Christ's triumphant entry into Jerusalem, and it closes a passage of the Gospel which is designed to lead the reader on a journey about the exploration of faith. If you thought that Mark was just gluing a few stories about Jesus together, trying to make some chronological order to real-time events, think again. Everything is there for a reason, and the Gospel writer challenges us to consider our own response to Jesus.

Bartimaeus, as I said, is living in a world of darkness. He has nothing – like so many who live in the world - dependant on others to even live. Yet in the hubbub of the passing crowd he calls out to Jesus the Nazarene, as Mark describes him for the only time in the Gospel. Then another first from Bartimaeus, 'Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me.' A question from Jesus – the same as Jesus asks of James and John, fighting for power in the new Kingdom Jesus is bringing about - 'What do you want me to do.' However, the unattractive answer of James and John is replaced by simply the desire to see, and Bartimaeus is healed. There is no laying on of hands, no saliva, no difficulty. The healing is immediate. So, too is the reaction of Bartimaeus. He followed him on the way – he follows the one who is the WAY, because Bartimaeus has wholeheartedly accepted the Lord. Jerusalem lays before Jesus, and it would seem to me that it is not impossible that this expression of faith on the part of Bartimaeus means it likely that he experienced the whole of the Lord's Passion, Death and Resurrection, from Upper Room to Easter Joy. Will you heed the voice of Christ in your life wholeheartedly and help to transform the world?



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, Justine, Sheila Mitchell, John Bernardi (priest), Trevor, Maureen Griffiths, Paul Simpson, Pam Sagar, John Smith, Ralphn Hollinghurst, Tim Burrows

Long Term Need: Young Georgia, Young Joshua, Young Reggie, Anne Greenhill, Ros Ayling, Wendy, Ann Went, Dave Cox, Julie Sadler, Mark Parker, Tony Burbidge, Christopher, Janet Card, George Snashall, Eileen Knight, Mary Todd, Gracie & Lucy Neiff, Carole Wooldridge, Kate Malby, Becky Parker, Wendy Hibling, Yvonne Godsmark, Carla Spear,

Those in Care Homes: Alan Prebble, Stephanie Gilpin, Jill Rockey, Jean Simmons, Mary Watts, Ruth Baker, Keith Thompson

Please remember the recently departed and their families: Andrew Thorp

In our Book of Remembrance this week we remember: 24th Grace Thunder, Lucy Travers, Vivian Griffin, Cathie Lang, Anthony Flight, Violet Jones, 25th Jim Burtenshaw, Margaret Simmonds, 26th Alfred Amer, Kenneth Walder, Amalia Guest, 28th James Jourdain, Theodore Wynne, 29th Vera Watts, 30th Linda Kruse