

# HOLY TRINITY CUCKFIELD

*Joyfully serving Jesus*



*Weekly devotions, prayers and news*

## **Remembrance Sunday (Second Sunday before Advent)**

*14 November 2021*

***'They shall grow not old.'***

My dear friends,

The First World War was the most terrible for Cuckfield in terms of those men who died, and when we think about the scale of that particular conflict - Eight and a half million dead; thirty seven million casualties; we see numbers so vast as to be almost meaningless. Within twenty years the countdown was in progress for the outbreak of the Second World War - one even more catastrophic for humanity.

The poppies we wear represent only the British and Commonwealth armed forces members who lost their lives. The total loss of life was far greater than that - and even that figure is dwarfed by the true cost of war when calculated in terms of broken hearts and shattered lives. The price they paid was a terrible one; and the gifts of peace and freedom which many of our own generation takes for granted were, in no small measure, bought at the expense of those who gave all they had in both World Wars and in those many conflicts since. We give thanks for the dedication of the armed forces to our welfare, and also recognise our call to both work and pray for peace for all peoples.

With my best wishes and blessings,

Michael

Church website: [www.holytrinitycuckfield.org](http://www.holytrinitycuckfield.org)

## **Remembrance Sunday (Second Sunday before Advent) (14th November 2021)**

**9.00 Parish Communion with Hymns** *(in church and online)*

*Readers: Liz & Peter Graydon; Intercessor: Fr. Michael*

**10.45 Parish Service of Remembrance** *(starting at the War Memorial)*

### **Services during the week:**

**Wednesday: 10.30 Holy Communion (C. Worship)** *(in church & online)* **Hugh, Bishop of Lincoln**

*Readings: 1 Timothy 6: 11-16; Luke 9: 51-56*

**Thursday: 9.00 Holy Communion (Iona/Celtic)** *(in church & online)* **Elizabeth of Hungary**

*Readings: Tobit 12: 6b-9; Matthew 25: 31-40*

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

## **Next Sunday: Christ the King (21st November 2021)**

**8.00 Holy Communion** *(in church)*

**9.00 Family Eucharist** *(in church and online)*

**4.00 Service of Thanksgiving and Commemoration** *(in church & online)*

**For services live on Zoom: Click the blue link on the front page of the church website**

### **The Collect for Remembrance Sunday**

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

### Daniel 12: 1-3

'At that time Michael, the great prince, the protector of your people, shall arise. There shall be a time of anguish, such as has never occurred since nations first came into existence. But at that time your people shall be delivered, everyone who is found written in the book. Many of those who sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, and some to shame and everlasting contempt. Those who are wise shall shine like the brightness of the sky, and those who lead many to righteousness, like the stars for ever and ever.

### Hebrews 10: 11-14

And every priest stands day after day at his service, offering again and again the same sacrifices that can never take away sins. But when Christ had offered for all time a single sacrifice for sins, 'he sat down at the right hand of God', and since then has been waiting 'until his enemies would be made a footstool for his feet.' For by a single offering he has perfected for all time those who are sanctified.

### Mark 13: 1-8

As Jesus came out of the temple, one of his disciples said to him, 'Look, Teacher, what large stones and what large buildings!' Then Jesus asked him, 'Do you see these great buildings? Not one stone will be left here upon another; all will be thrown down.'

When he was sitting on the Mount of Olives opposite the temple, Peter, James, John, and Andrew asked him privately, 'Tell us, when will this be, and what will be the sign that all these things are about to be accomplished?' Then Jesus began to say to them, 'Beware that no one leads you astray. Many will come in my name and say, "I am he!" and they will lead many astray. When you hear of wars and rumours of wars, do not be alarmed; this must take place, but the end is still to come. For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom; there will be earthquakes in various places; there will be famines. This is but the beginning of the birth pangs.

### A thought

The Herodian Temple, the third building on the site, was one of the glories of the ancient world – even the Romans thought that. The Emperor Augustus himself had made offerings to it – hedge-betting in religious terms we might say! Surrounded by the great courtyards, many of its stones weighing hundreds of tons- A structure whose stones were fashioned off-site so that it could be erected with virtually no noise. Gold, silver, the great bronze sea (containing the water for purification) standing on the backs of twelve life-sized bronze oxen- Crimson & purple materials, carved cedar wood - magnificence on an extraordinary scale when one considers the size of this small nation.



**'Not one stone will be left here upon another; all will be thrown down.'**

That is why these words of Jesus must have seemed unimaginable, and yet this is exactly what happened in 70 AD. After the deaths of thousands, perhaps hundreds of thousands of women, men and children in unspeakable suffering and barbarity at the hands of the Romans and their fellow compatriots following the breaking of a siege, the whole Temple structure was indeed destroyed – not one stone left on top of the other. All that the Romans left was the Western or Wailing Wall (as we know it) and that is merely the walled substructure to the Temple Mount.

With the events taking place in various parts of the world, we are completely shaken as we were during the London bombings or 9/11 - perhaps even more shaken than we have been seeing Syria reduced to ruins and children drowning in the Mediterranean and the Channel. It may even seem as if the comfortable world of the west is under threat of its very existence from the shadowy figures which inhabit the margins of Islam. Could our Western civilization be cast down as the Temple was?

In fact, the whole point of such writings like Daniel, Hebrews and the Book of Revelation which we have this Sunday is to point to the fact that God's love overcomes even the worst of situations, because he does make all things new through Jesus Christ. The words of Jesus

are as much for us as they are for the Disciples. WE are called to be alert and ready. Jesus is our new temple and in him we can find refuge, consolation and hope. His relationship and love for each of us is constant – it never gives up. It is not like the stones of the Temple the Romans cast down. In him is perfect freedom, and it is our response to his love that conditions our own lives and ultimately, I believe that it will transform humanity – we are called to be part of the plan.

### 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, John Bernardi (priest), Trevor, Maureen Griffiths, Paul Simpson, John Smith, 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, Carole Wooldridge, Kate Malby, Becky Parker, Wendy Hibling, Yvonne Godsmark, Carla Spear, Wendy Boys, Pam Sagar

**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:** Ralph Hollinghurst, Justine Mullins, Reginald Homes MBE, Sheila Mitchell

**In our Book of Remembrance** this week we remember: 14th Jeremy Gambrill, 15th John Levett, 16th Gordon Stuart, Derek Titheradge, 17th Jean Doublebeiss, Phil Goodwin, Anthony Giles, 18th Enid, Sheila Sanhc, Phyllis Brinley Codd, 19th Cicely Selby, Roderic James, David Pardey, Cyril Carter, Juliet Pegler, 20th Elsie Dean, Gertrude Grainger