

HOLY TRINITY CUCKFIELD

Joyfully serving Jesus



Weekly devotions, prayers and news

Pentecost

5 June 2022

After a week of celebrations, marking a unique event in our nation's history, we reach the culmination of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee commemorations this Sunday. This coincides with the great feast of Pentecost, which is often regarded as the birth of the church. Just as we begin to draw breath again, the celebrations continue, as the following Sunday, 12th June, is Trinity Sunday, our patronal festival. It also marks the 10th anniversary of the re-ordering of our beautiful church, so it's a time for the whole church family to get together and celebrate once again. Following our service, we will enjoy coffee or a glass wine together in church, and there may even be cake! And if that isn't enough, there is a Festival Choral Evensong at 6pm, followed by more refreshments, and a full programme of concerts to look forward to during Cuckfield Music Festival (11th -19th June.)

May we remind you that we are able to offer the chalice at the time of Holy Communion once again. If you do not feel comfortable sharing the common cup yet, please return to your seat after receiving the bread. Please note that dipping the wafer in the wine (intinction) is not allowed yet.

Jane & Brian

Pentecost (5 June 2022)

8.00 Holy Communion *(in church)*

Readers: Gerry Larner & Anthony Van der Willigen

9.45 The Parish Eucharist *(in church and online)*

Readers: Isobel Simmonds & Kate Berry; Intercessor: Revd. Stephen Caple

Hymns: 238, 258, 242, 259, 253+ National Anthem

Services during the week:

Wednesday: 10.30 Holy Communion *(C. Worship)*

Readings: 1 Kings 18: 20-39; Matthew 5: 17-19

Thursday: 9.00am Holy Communion *(Iona/Celtic)*

Readings: 1 Kings 18: 41-end; Matthew 5: 20-26

Friday: 11.00am Holy Communion *(Book of Common Prayer)* *Readings: Pentecost*

Next Sunday: Trinity Sunday (12 June 2022)

8.00 Holy Communion *(in church)*

9.45 Parish Eucharist *(in church and online)*

6.00 Festival Choral Evensong *(in church and online)*

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

The Collect for Pentecost

**Holy Spirit, sent by the Father,
ignite in us your holy fire;
strengthen your children with the gift of
faith, revive your Church with the breath of
love, and renew the face of the earth,
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:

**Faithful God,
who fulfilled the promises of Easter
by sending us your Holy Spirit
and opening to every race and nation
the way of life eternal:
open our lips by your Spirit,
that every tongue may tell of your glory;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen**

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

Acts 2: 1-21

When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability. Now there were devout Jews from every nation under heaven living in Jerusalem. And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each. Amazed and astonished, they asked, 'Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language? Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, Cretans and Arabs—in our own languages we hear them speaking about God's deeds of power.' All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, 'What does this mean?' But others sneered and said, 'They are filled with new wine.' But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them: 'Men of Judea and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say. Indeed, these are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only nine o'clock in the morning. No, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel: "In the last days it will be, God declares, that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh, and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams. Even upon my slaves, both men and women, in those days I will pour out my Spirit; and they shall prophesy. And I will show portents in the heaven above and signs on the earth below, blood, and fire, and smoky mist. The sun shall be turned to darkness and the moon to blood, before the coming of the Lord's great and glorious day. Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved."

Romans 8: 4-17

so that the just requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law—indeed it cannot, and those who are in the flesh cannot please God. But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

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 14: 8-17

Philip said to him, 'Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied.' Jesus said to him, 'Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, "Show us the Father"? Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own; but the Father who dwells in me does his works. Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; but if you do not, then believe me because of the works themselves. Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it.

'If you love me, you will keep my commandments. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you for ever. This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, because he abides with you, and he will be in you.

A thought: John 14. 18-17, 25-27

In our desire to have things explained, we can even domesticate our Pentecost story from Acts about the Holy Spirit descending with a loud noise like a violent wind and appearing on the disciples like tongues of fire. From our account, the coming of the Holy Spirit was a noisy and visibly stunning event, which turned a bunch of frightened disciples into bold proclaimers of the Gospel. But for many of us, we are much more comfortable confining the Holy Spirit to deep, interior experiences, often times occasioned by long walks along the beach, or in the mountains, preferably at sunset. Somehow in the quiet, in the solitude, in nature, in the sunset, the Holy Spirit speaks to something deep within our souls, in a way that seems to bring some comfort. And the response we get to these musings on the Holy Spirit is usually pretty much the same. Okay, that was kind of nice.

I guess the Holy Spirit is the nice part of the Trinity. The problem is that the Holy Spirit we meet in Pentecost blows the doors off the building, lights up the room like a fireworks display, and has the disciples speaking such strange and wondrous things that the crowd is bewildered and astounded. When people encounter the disciples after the Pentecost, they don't politely shake their hands and thank them for the lovely service, but rather shake their heads and wonder if these people are drunk. Peter goes on to talk in Acts about the Spirit turning the world upside-down. It is strange and wondrous and somewhat scary. It is about the power of the Holy Spirit let loose in the world, and a people filled with the Spirit of God who have been empowered to change the world.

**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), Paul Simpson, Martin Packham, Val Thompson, Ralph Wilkins, Martin Simmonds, Andrew

Long Term Need: Young Georgia, Joshua and Reggie, Wendy, Ann Went, Julie Sadler, Christopher, George Snashall, Wendy Hibling, Yvonne Godsmark, Carla Spear, Pam Sagar, Eileen Knight, Maureen Griffiths, Carol Cox,

Those in Care Homes: Alan Prebble, Jill Rockey, Jean Simmons, Mary Watts, Ruth Baker, Keith Thompson, Rosemary Pardey, Janet Card,

Please remember the recently departed and their families:

In our Book of Remembrance this week we remember: 5th William Chatfield, Mary Beard, Elsie Griffiths, Mollie Nettleton, Marilyn Catterall, 6th Jill Castle, Ronald Knight, David Salter, Penny Thornton, 8th Bill Macdougall, Alison Petitpierre, 9th Doris Humphrey, Elizabeth Wadstein, 10th John Stead, Basil Beard, 11th Elizabeth Howard