

# HOLY TRINITY CUCKFIELD

*Joyfully serving Jesus*



*Weekly devotions, prayers and news*  
**Eleventh Sunday after Trinity**  
*28th August 2022*

The British summer of '22 is one we are unlikely to forget in a hurry. Scorching temperatures, drought, industrial action, and the financial crisis to name but a few. While the weather seems to be settling down, at least temporarily, to a more normal pattern, there are many challenges ahead for our new Prime Minister to get to grips with, and we must keep him or her in our prayers; asking for wisdom, compassion and a genuine desire to protect the most vulnerable in our society. But each one of us has a part to play in creating a more just society. It may be tempting, during these uncertain times, to cling to our resources in order to protect our individual futures, but, as the letter to the Hebrews teaches us, we are to do good and to share what we have. We are also called to show hospitality to strangers, and to be a welcoming and inviting congregation, for in doing so we may indeed be entertaining angels without knowing it.

Jane & Brian

Please check the church website for more details  
[www.holytrinitycuckfield.org](http://www.holytrinitycuckfield.org)

## **Eleventh Sunday after Trinity (28 August 2022)**

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

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

Reader: Wendy Bloomer; Intercessor: Tony Lawrence

Hymns 2, 664, 641, 698, 704

**12noon Holy Baptism** Imogen Florence Joan Lloyd

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

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

Readings: 1 Corinthians 3: 1-9; Luke 4: 38-end

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

Readings: 1 Corinthians 3: 18-end; Luke 5: 1-11

**Friday: 11.00 Holy Communion** (Book of Common Prayer) Readings: Eleventh Sunday after Trinity

## **Next Sunday: Twelfth Sunday after Trinity (4 September 2022)**

**8.00 Holy Communion** (in church)

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

**11.15 Family Praise**

**6.00 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 Eleventh Sunday after Trinity**

God of glory,  
the end of our searching,  
help us to lay aside  
all that prevents us from seeking your kingdom,  
and to give all that we have  
to gain the pearl beyond all price,  
through 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:**

Lord of all mercy,  
we your faithful people have celebrated that one  
true sacrifice which takes away our sins and  
brings pardon and peace:  
by our communion  
keep us firm on the foundation of the gospel  
and preserve us from all sin;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

## Jeremiah 2: 4-13

Hear the word of the Lord, O house of Jacob, and all the families of the house of Israel. Thus says the Lord:

What wrong did your ancestors find in me that they went far from me, and went after worthless things, and became worthless themselves?

They did not say, 'Where is the Lord who brought us up from the land of Egypt, who led us in the wilderness, in a land of deserts and pits, in a land of drought and deep darkness, in a land that no one passes through, where no one lives?' I brought you into a plentiful land to eat its fruits and its good things. But when you entered you defiled my land, and made my heritage an abomination. The priests did not say, 'Where is the Lord?'

Those who handle the law did not know me; the rulers transgressed against me; the prophets prophesied by Baal, and went after things that do not profit. Therefore once more I accuse you, says the Lord, and I accuse your children's children. Cross to the coasts of Cyprus and look, send to Kedar and examine with care; see if there has ever been such a thing. Has a nation changed its gods, even though they are no gods?

But my people have changed their glory for something that does not profit. Be appalled, O heavens, at this, be shocked, be utterly desolate, says the Lord, for my people have committed two evils: they have forsaken me, the fountain of living water, and dug out cisterns for themselves, cracked cisterns that can hold no water.

## Hebrews 13: 1-8, 15-16

Let mutual love continue. Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it. Remember those who are in prison, as though you were in prison with them; those who are being tortured, as though you yourselves were being tortured. Let marriage be held in honour by all, and let the marriage bed be kept undefiled; for God will judge fornicators and adulterers. Keep your lives free from the love of money, and be content with what you have; for he has said, 'I will never leave you or forsake you.' So we can say with confidence, 'The Lord is my helper; I will not be afraid. What can anyone do to me?'

Remember your leaders, those who spoke the word of God to you; consider the outcome of their way of life, and imitate their faith. Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and for ever. Through him, then, let us continually offer a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that confess his name. Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.

## Luke 14: 1, 7-14

On one occasion when Jesus was going to the house of a leader of the Pharisees to eat a meal on the sabbath, they were watching him closely. When he noticed how the guests chose the places of honour, he told them a parable. 'When you are invited by someone to a wedding banquet, do not sit down at the place of honour, in case someone more distinguished than you has been invited by your host; and the host who invited both of you may come and say to you, "Give this person your place", and then in disgrace you would start to take the lowest place. But when you are invited, go and sit down at the lowest place, so that when your host comes, he may say to you, "Friend, move up higher"; then you will be honoured in the presence of all who sit at the table with you. For all who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted.'

He said also to the one who had invited him, 'When you give a luncheon or a dinner, do not invite your friends or your brothers or your relatives or rich neighbours, in case they may invite you in return, and you would be repaid. But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind. And you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you, for you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous.'

## A thought : 11th Sunday after Trinity: 28th August 2022

On a sabbath Jesus went to dine at the home of one of the leading Pharisees, and the people there were observing him carefully. What an interesting line. This line should not be overlooked in that it reveals a common reaction that some have to Jesus. What is the reaction? It's the tendency to observe Jesus carefully from a distance.

Look at the context of this statement. Jesus was invited to the home of a leading Pharisee and many other people were present. Those who were there would have been considered the "movers and shakers" of that time. They were the influential, wealthy, educated, and prestigious members of the community. Many would have been quite concerned about their reputation and quite curious about Jesus since He was growing in such popularity with the people. So, as a result, they were all "observing him carefully."

Notice the implication present in this description of their reaction to Jesus. Unlike the manifest sinners of that time, they did not come to Him, falling at His feet, begging for mercy. Rather, they appear to be quite interested in how Jesus will be accepted by others, what He will say and what they should think about Him. Even though it is unfortu-

nate that they do not all completely turn to Jesus in faith, it's at least good that they are attentive to Jesus and realize He is unique. This curiosity on their part is not all bad. In fact, it may lead some of them to salvation. By observing Jesus, they are clearly pondering Him, His words and His actions.

This is good if and only if it results in each one of them turning to Him in faith and choosing to embrace our Lord regardless of what others think. This is a risk for those consumed with their own public image. But it's a risk that is worth taking. For those who are willing to humbly allow their observations to turn into true faith, their lives will change. But in order to do so, they must let go of any fear they have of what others may think.

### A prayer for this time of Vacancy:

Send us your Holy Spirit at this time of change and uncertainty, to fill us with vision, energy and faithfulness in prayer that we may be true to our calling to bring new life to our community; and guide with your heavenly wisdom those who are to choose a new priest for this Benefice, so that the one whom we receive may be a wise and gentle shepherd of your people, ready to serve us with joy, to build us up in faith, and to lead us by example, in loving obedience to your Son our Saviour, Jesus Christ. Amen

### Please remember those for whom we pray:

**Immediate need:** John Bernardi (priest), Paul Simpson, Martin Packham, Val Thompson, Ralph Wilkins, Becky Parker, George Snashall, Eileen Macdougall

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

**Those in Care Homes:** Jill Rockey, Jean Simmons, Mary Watts, Ruth Baker, Rosemary Pardey, Janet Card

### Please remember the recently departed and their families: Martin Simmonds, Marilyn Gander Christopher Cripps, Paul Rowe, Sidney Eddols

**In our Book of Remembrance** this week we remember: 28th Hilda Saunders, 29th Diana, Princess of Wales, Jessie Punnett, 30th Stuart Ingram, 31st Brian Wright, 2nd Phyllis Porter, Nelson Jones, Olive Carrington, Ronald Clark, 3rd Jonathan Ranger, Frank Marshall