

HOLY TRINITY CUCKFIELD

Joyfully serving Jesus



Weekly devotions, prayers and news

The Last Sunday after Trinity

23 October 2022

It sometimes feels that we are being bombarded with appeals from charities and good causes; there is so much need out there, and the outlook is increasingly bleak. However hard things are in the UK, our brothers and sisters in Syria are having a much tougher time of it. With a harsh winter approaching, and a desperate shortage of food and fuel, it isn't just the poorest who are suffering. On Sunday 30th October, Samara Levy will be coming to the 9.45am service to tell us about her charity, Samara's Aid, and how it is supporting widows, orphans and other desperate people in this war-torn country. There is an immediate need for warm clothing for both adults and children to help protect them from the ravages of winter. The authorities will only permit certain items into the country so, if you are moved to support this appeal, please check the list before buying anything. The deadline for contributions is Sunday 30th October as the goods need to be dispatched as quickly as possible, so time is running out. We are reminded in this week's reading from Ecclesiasticus to, "Give to the Most High as he has given to you, and as generously as you can afford." So let us thank God for all the blessings we enjoy and reach out in love to those less fortunate than ourselves.

Jane & Brian

Church website: www.holytrinitycuckfield.org

Last Sunday after Trinity (23rd October 2022)

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

9.45 Family Eucharist *(in church and online)*

Readers: Carolyn Ponder & Isobel Simmonds; Intercessor: Jane Coan

Hymns: 362, 698, 422, 358, 739

12noon Holy Baptism Renzo Jude Lewry & Roman Peter Lewry

Services during the week:

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

Readings: Ephesians 6: 1-9; Luke 13: 22-30

Thursday: 9.00 Holy Communion *(in church)*

Readings: Ephesians 6: 10-20; Luke 13: 31-end

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

Next Sunday: All Saints (30th October 2022)

8.00 Holy Communion *(in church)*

9.45 Family Eucharist *(in church and online)*

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 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;

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Ecclesiasticus 35: 12-17

Give to the Most High as he has given to you,
and as generously as you can afford.
For the Lord is the one who repays,
and he will repay you sevenfold.
Do not offer him a bribe, for he will not accept it;
and do not rely on a dishonest sacrifice;
for the Lord is the judge,
and with him there is no partiality.
He will not show partiality to the poor;
but he will listen to the prayer of one who is wronged.
He will not ignore the supplication of the orphan,
or the widow when she pours out her complaint

2 Timothy 4: 6-8, 16-18

As for me, I am already being poured out as a libation, and the time of my departure has come. I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. From now on there is reserved for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will give to me on that day, and not only to me but also to all who have longed for his appearing.

At my first defence no one came to my support, but all deserted me. May it not be counted against them! But the Lord stood by me and gave me strength, so that through me the message might be fully proclaimed and all the Gentiles might hear it. So I was rescued from the lion's mouth. The Lord will rescue me from every evil attack and save me for his heavenly kingdom. To him be the glory for ever and ever. Amen.

Luke 18: 9-14

He also told this parable to some who trusted in themselves that they were righteous and regarded others with contempt: 'Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax-collector. The Pharisee, standing by himself, was praying thus, "God, I thank you that I am not like other people: thieves, rogues, adulterers, or even like this tax-collector. I fast twice a week; I give a tenth of all my income." But the tax-collector, standing far off, would not even look up to heaven, but was beating his breast and saying, "God, be merciful to me, a sinner!" I tell you, this man went down to his home justified rather than the other; for all who exalt themselves will be humbled, but all who humble themselves will be exalted.'

A thought Last Sunday after Trinity: Luke 18. 9-14

The Pharisee may have felt good about himself to a certain extent in that he elevated himself for all to see. He was convinced of his own self-righteousness but, in truth, was not righteous. He was only self-righteous. He was living a lie and most likely believed that lie and even may have convinced others of that lie. But the fact remained, the Pharisee was not righteous, and he was not truly justified.

What we must take from this passage is a profound realization of the importance of living in the truth. Those who paint a false image of themselves may fool themselves and may even fool others. But they will never fool God and they will never be able to achieve true peace in their soul. We each must realize the humble truth of our sin and weakness and, in that realization, beg for the only remedy – the mercy of God. Acknowledging our need for the mercy of God and allow his mercy to exalt us within the righteousness of God.

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, Eileen Cagle

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: Ross Bennet, Elliot Jones

In our Book of Remembrance this week we remember: 23rd Bill Pinnell, Pamela Edgerton, 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