

# Cathedral Life Weekly

## 17th Sunday after Trinity Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> October 2020



### A Message from: Canon Imogen Nay

#### Meaning-Making

*'Telling our stories in the conviction that you are a story too'.*

How do we make-meaning from trauma or tragedy in our lives? Andy Griffiths (Director of Mission and Ministry) and I have been having conversations in order to 'make-meaning' from our experiences over the last six months. Dr. Meg Warner is involved with the *Tragedy and Congregations* project and through that work has reflected a lot about how we might be resilient in the face of trauma. One of the ways that she addresses this is through the concept of 'reframing':

'By 'reframing', [I] mean a form of flexibility which allows an individual or group to reinterpret negative experiences'.

p.58 'Joseph, A story of resilience', Meg Warner.

Over the last six months we have all been living through a national (global) trauma and we are not yet out the other side. How do we 'reframe' this experience both individually and collectively so that we can emerge from it changed but not broken?



In Breakfast with the Bible we have been reframing our experiences by turning to the Bible. For instance, the Rev'd Dr Paul Beasley-Murray chose Ecclesiastes 3:1-8, which begins: 'For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under the heaven'; a passage which brings a helpful perspective to our current troubles. Rev'd Kate Moore looked to words of comfort from Isaiah 54.10:

"Though the mountains be shaken and the hills be removed Yet my unfailing love for you will not be shaken Nor my covenant removed," says the Lord, Who has compassion on you.'

Dr. Nick Easton found solace in his garden, which led him to further contemplate the story of the Garden of Eden and our expulsion from it: what does living outside the Garden mean for us now and what role do gardens play in our salvation?

I looked at the end of the Torah, the point at which Moses is on the mountain surveying the Promised Land – but he dies and is not permitted to enter it. Our stories are part of a larger story and our roles are limited and defined by national events we cannot control. Our dreams and our hopes may be upset and challenged, but who are we amidst these journeys and what is our particular vocation in the here and now? These to me seem to be vital questions for each one of us, not alone, but together as the Body of Christ.

Listen in to our conversations here: [www.meaningmaking.card.co](http://www.meaningmaking.card.co)  
To join Breakfast with the Bible, email Imogen for the zoom code.

**Our next conversation will be with the Rev'd Dr. Isabelle Hamely, Chaplain to the Archbishop of Canterbury, being recorded on Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> October.**

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*Starting 1<sup>st</sup> October 8-9pm  
and 8<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup>, 22<sup>nd</sup> October;  
12<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> Nov.*

*Hosted on Zoom  
Email  
[imogen.nay@chelmsfordcathedral.org.uk](mailto:imogen.nay@chelmsfordcathedral.org.uk)  
to register for free.*

### Radical Presence: Green Christian

Join Andy Griffiths and Imogen Nay in conversation about faith, scripture, Covid-19 and the environment.

Based on Green Christian's new course 'Radical Presence' you are invited to explore with them various Christian responses to some of the most fundamental questions of our time.

What does Christian hope look like in our current context?  
What sort of action is God calling Christians to now?



### Faith Seekers

Ordinand Gary Fleming is running a new course for Faith Seekers. Starting in mid-October and taking place on a Wednesday evenings, via zoom, the course aims to help create a place where people can explore the Christian faith together and reflect on how it can be lived out each day.

### Pray with Us:

Animal Welfare Sunday: Pray for all charities involved in the care and protection of our animals, and for veterinary surgeons and all those who work for the welfare of animals.

Pray for Danbury and Howe Green URC

Pray for The Anglican Church of Tanzania, The Most Revd Dr Maimbo Mndolwa, Archbishop.

Please pray for those who are unwell including Jean Cooper, Rita James, Nicole Landon, Winnie Towers, Jill Withams and all those in need of our prayers.



### Daily Gospel Readings for this week and use in your prayers:

Monday: Luke 10. 25-37

Thursday: Luke 11. 42-46

Tuesday: Luke 10. 38 – 42B

Friday: Luke 12. 1-7

Wednesday: Luke 11. 1-4

Saturday: Luke 12. 8-12

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### Study with Us:

Philippians 3.4b-14  
Ps 80.8-16  
Matthew 21.33-46



#### The first reading - Philippians 3.4b-14

This is the third of four sections from Paul's letter to the Philippians, chosen in turn as the Reading on four consecutive Sundays. It has been referred to as 'one of the finest passages among the rich treasury of spirituality in Paul's Captivity Epistles'. Paul, concerned for his friends' peace of mind and heart, encourages them to have a positive frame of mind; to see everything in the light of God's love. He recommends essential ways of living their lives in Christ so as to attain the 'peace of God', from the 'God of peace' (one of Paul's favourite titles for God).

*There is no need to worry ... If you need anything, ask God for it ...*

Aside from the everyday concerns most of us experience, these new Christians in Philippi were also subject to persecution. To alleviate anxiety, their essential need is to pray. Paul encourages them to turn to God in prayer in each and every situation, both in petition and gratitude.

*Fill your minds with everything that is true*

To prevent suffering and hardship defeating them, Paul recommends they focus their attention on all that is 'good and pure' and so of God, leaving no room for thoughts that lead to despair.

*Keep doing all the things you have learnt from me*

Paul wants the Philippians to remember his word and example, that it might sustain them in times when he may no longer be with them. He seeks to protect the growing Church and wishes most especially that they may have peace.

#### Gospel: Matthew 21.33-46

Jesus is teaching in the Temple in Jerusalem after driving out sellers and money changers (Matt. 21: 12-16). The tension between Jesus and the Pharisees is growing. He tells the chief priests and elders this story in answer to their question: 'What authority have you for acting like this ...?' (v. 23)

*The vineyard, the winepress and the tower*

These details echo those of the Prophet Isaiah (see today's First Reading). In those days, the winepress was a large area, normally covered by mosaics where the grapes were laid and crushed by the feet of the workers to extract the juice. The tower provided shelter for the family of the overseer and was used as a look-out to protect the vineyard from thieves and marauders.

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*Listen to another parable*

This is the third parable involving a vineyard (see Matt. 20: 1–16, & 21: 28–32). For Matthew's audience, this particular story reflected a reality they knew only too well: the discontent expressed by tenants working for absentee landlords. They knew that Jesus's parables held a deeper meaning for them.

*This is the heir... Let us kill him*

The tenants wrongly assume that the owner has died. They knew that if a landowner died without an heir, his land would pass to the first claimant. By killing the heir, they become landowners.

*What will the owner do to those tenants?*

Jesus's question leads the Jews to pronounce their own condemnation.

*The Church in Matthew's time*

Matthew is writing for Jews who are now realising that their community of believers, the Church, is changing. More and more Gentiles are joining their ranks. This parable is helping them to understand why this is.

*A people who will produce its fruit*

The responsibility for running the vineyard – the Kingdom of God – no longer rests with a few leaders (the 'tenants') but with a whole new 'people', a mixed community of Jew and Gentile converts who formed the early Christian Church in the 1st-century AD.

### Sunday Services:

<b>7.45am</b>	Morning Prayer	Live streamed on the Facebook page	
<b>10.30am</b>	Cathedral Eucharist	In the Cathedral and live streamed	President: Canon Ivor Moody Preacher: Canon Imogen Nay
<b>10.30am</b>	Junior Church	In Guy Harlings Garden	
<b>5.15pm</b>	Evening Prayer	Live streamed on the Facebook page	
<b>8.15</b>	Compline	Live streamed on the Church at Home Cathedral Facebook page	Gary Fleming

Morning Prayer and the Cathedral Eucharist are available later on our YouTube channel – link from the Church at Home page of the Cathedral website.

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### News:

As of the 1<sup>st</sup> October the Cathedral will be open from 10.30am-3.30pm. We are also adding in a 10.30am Eucharist every Thursday. We look forward to welcoming you.

News

**Cathedral Eucharist 10.30am on Sundays:** Please note there is no longer a requirement to reserve a place/book a ticket. **However, if we reach capacity for any service and it would be unsafe to allow any more people into the building, it is with regret that we would have to close the doors and you would be unable to attend.** Following the latest Church of England guidance, it is now expected that all visitors to the Cathedral, for worship or private prayer, wear a facemask.

**Junior Church** is also back in Guy Harlings Garden. Please click on the link below to book in as numbers are currently limited in order to comply with government guidelines. You are very welcome to join Jean for some fun activities. <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/junior-church-in-the-garden-tickets-121208551039>

**Book Group** – This month we are reading “Black Dogs” by Ian McEwan. We will be meeting via Zoom to discuss the book on Monday October 5th at 7.30pm. All are welcome to join us – email: [sallydilley@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:sallydilley@tiscali.co.uk) to receive the Zoom link.

**Breakfast with the Bible:** has started, meeting via zoom from 8.45am to 9.30am. If you would like to join the sessions, please email Canon Imogen Nay on [imogen.nay@chelmsfordcathedral.org.uk](mailto:imogen.nay@chelmsfordcathedral.org.uk) for the Zoom code each week. Breakfast with the Bible is led by various members of the Cathedral congregation, lay and ordained. It includes time for discussion as well as some teaching input from the leaders. See the Breakfast with the Bible page on the website for full details.

### REFUGEE ENGAGEMENT.

The new Chelmsford refugee support group have now got Home Office approval and are beginning their important work, enabling a refugee family to settle in Chelmsford. They are currently writing welcoming materials in English and Arabic for the family. The group originated from the Catholic Diocese of Brentwood and is being supported by the Cathedral Fellowship Group run by Brian Cooper. £10,000 has already been raised and the group have found an appropriate house. Inevitably further progress is being hampered by Covid-19. The group has a wide network of contacts, including Chelmsford mosque and ‘Citizens UK’. Corporately we have invited them to submit an application for support from the Cathedral’s annual charitable donations, but if you would like to know more or support the work in any way, please contact Chris Thompson; [thompsoncjt01@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:thompsoncjt01@blueyonder.co.uk) or speak to Gervase Vernon.

### SARAH MOSS

We especially welcome Sarah Moss. Sarah lives in Romford but has just starting training for ordained ministry at Trinity College, Bristol. She will be on placement here at the Cathedral for around 16 hours a week for the next two years. Inevitably Sarah begins her placement at the Cathedral in very unusual circumstances and we will be pioneering something new – not least as the wider context continues to change rapidly and in unexpected ways!

**On-Line Giving:** if you would like to donate to support the mission and ministry of the Cathedral through these challenging times, please visit the Cathedral website. Towards the bottom of the

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opening page you will see a heading “Supporting your Cathedral”. Simply click the link in the paragraph below to make your donation.

**Stewarding at Sunday Services:** Since we have returned to public worship at Sunday Services the roles of the Welcome Stewards and Wardens have changed considerably. We are seeking to expand the team of Welcome Stewards for the future as a number of our current team are still shielding or are cautious about returning to the rota at the moment. Is this something that you would consider? We don't know yet what worship will be like as we progress towards Christmas but if we can expand our team, we will be ready when we need to step into action. Please speak to Elizabeth Marshall or Maureen Benson (or email [ej.marshall@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:ej.marshall@blueyonder.co.uk)) if you are interested.

### THURSDAY EUCHARIST:

We have now introduced a simple celebration of the Eucharist at 10.30 am on Thursdays. Everybody is warmly welcome – and all the procedures in place on Sundays will of course be in place on Thursdays too. That includes leaving contact details, wearing a mask and sitting in a socially distanced way. But – as with Sundays – we will begin to inhabit this new pattern of services as we continue to live through a very provisional time of change.

On Sunday 11 October there will be a special Evensong at which the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of **Paul Beasley-Murray's** ordination will be celebrated. Paul's original intention was to invite all Cathedral friends to a party following the service, when there would be food and wine and a jazz band to boot. Unfortunately Covid-19 now makes that impossible – indeed, because of social distancing numbers at the service have had to be seriously limited. However, the service will be streamed (for the link see under 'Church at Home' on the Cathedral website). Paul had hoped there would have been a book-signing for his latest book, *50 Lessons in Ministry: Reflections on 50 Years of Ministry*, but that too has had to go. However, do not despair because copies are available at a specially reduced price of £8.99 (including post and packing): email [paulbeasleymurray@gmail.com](mailto:paulbeasleymurray@gmail.com) or write to Paul at 3 Roxwell Road, Chelmsford CMI 2LY.

**Interfaith Cricket Match**  
**Family Fun Day**

**Muslims** **Christians**

**Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> October at 2pm**  
Willingale Cricket Club  
The Street,  
Willingale, CM5 0SJ

A shared, outdoor buffet of individually wrapped food & drinks will be available for a picnic!  
Food donations welcome

**JOIN THE FUN!**

For info, contact organisers:  
Sidra Naeem (Islamic Representative on Interfaith Forum ) [sidra\\_n@yahoo.com](mailto:sidra_n@yahoo.com)  
Ivor Moody (Cathedral Representative) [ivor.moody@chelmsfordcathedral.org.uk](mailto:ivor.moody@chelmsfordcathedral.org.uk)

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