

Cathedral Life Weekly | Trinity Sunday, 7th June 2020

A Message from Canon Imogen Nay: Greening the Church

On Trinity Sunday one of the themes is Creation; we read Psalm 8 in which God is praised:

***Creator God, source of all life,
how gloriously does your name resound,
echoing to the bounds of the universe!***

Trinity Sunday encompasses the entirety of Christian teaching, belief, and practice – reaching back to the moment of creation (with a long reading from Genesis 1-2) and towards the summation of Creation's renewal from Pentecost onwards. Pentecost reminds us that we are the missional actors in the world, tasked with the reconciling work of Christ himself – 'As the Father has sent me, so I send you'; 'Receive the Holy Spirit, if you forgive the sins of any they are forgiven, if you retain the sins of any they are retained'. The work of reconciliation is not simply between humankind and God, but also between God and the whole of Creation, broken and misused as it is. The Christian's task is to be a herald of a future reality in which the whole of Creation is renewed and restored; and to be a sign of the Kingdom of God through the choices that we make in relation to how we love and care for Creation itself.

Therefore, it is fitting to announce this Trinity Sunday that the Cathedral has been awarded its **Silver Eco Church Award** from A Rocha, a Christian environmental charity. The Award looks at all categories of church life, including worship, buildings, lifestyle, global engagement and more. It is a great achievement and is to be celebrated, it is the fruit of the dedication of the Environmental Group over many years.

Chelmsford Diocese is very keen on promoting the scheme across diocesan churches and the Cathedral was due to be hosting a conference on Saturday 13th June explaining the scheme and encouraging churches to get involved. This is now being hosted online. It will start at 9.30am with live-streamed worship from Guy Harlings Gardens and then there will be a keynote speaker from Tearfund, presentations from A Rocha on Eco Church, a question and answer session, outdoor Agape meal and much more! Material will be released throughout the day on the **Facebook Group Greening the Church**. <https://www.facebook.com/groups/727013254703425/> After this the material will be uploaded onto our website, YouTube channel and Diocesan website. If you would like to be on the mailing-list, please contact Imogen.

***'How awesome a task you entrust into our hands.
How fragile and beautiful is the good earth.'***

Psalm 8, translation Jim Cotter, 'Through Desert Places' a version of psalms 1-50.

More from Elizabeth Marshall on the following page.

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More Eco Church news ...

Chelmsford Cathedral is delighted to announce that we have been awarded the Eco Church Silver Level. We have been working on this for some time, making changes in the way we care for our buildings and in our practices as a community. As work has needed to be done, the Works Committee have kept sustainability high on their agenda: for example, in the Chapter House, dual flush lavatory cisterns, auto shut off taps and movement sensitive lighting have been installed. Lights have been changed to LED, we have reduced our plastic usage and increased recycling. Refreshments provided for lettings are Fair Trade and hospitality uses Fair Trade tea and coffee.

We have much more that we are doing to help play our part in achieving Net Zero by 2030 although in the current financial climate this may be a challenge in some areas. Gradual changes which we are all making soon become a regular pattern, so we continue to make our Cathedral a green environment, caring for creation and being good stewards of God's earth.

Elizabeth Marshall



Pray with Us:

On Trinity Sunday we pray: Holy, holy, holy, merciful, eternal, and mighty, by your grace you have shown us who you are, One in Three, and Three in One. We glorify you as Trinity, even as we worship you in your Unity. Open our hearts to receive your word to us, that not only in our worship but in our lives, we may serve and reflect your Triune Love all our days. Amen. (Adapted from John Wesley).

Pray for the Chelmsford Street Pastors who work in the City Centre.

Pray for the Anglican Church of Mexico & The Most Revd Francisco Moreno, Presiding Bishop.

For those who are unwell: Pray for those who are unwell: Jim, Brenda and Chris Cole, Jean Cooper, Rita James, Winnie Towers, Jill Withams and all those in need of our prayers.

Pray for the friends and family of Connie Ridgewell who died recently.

This Sunday is a day of Prayer for the next Bishop of Chelmsford.

God of provision and care, discernment and knowledge: lead us in your love, empower us by your Spirit, and equip us with your gifts; give us hearts full of love for all people, minds open to the signs of the times, and wisdom to know how to respond to the voice of your calling. We ask this through him who's coming is certain, whose day draws near, your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

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Study with Us:

Bible Notes for Trinity Sunday:

Isaiah 40.12-17,27-31

Ps 8

Matthew 28.16-20

‘The God of Love and Peace be with you!’

In the first reading we are invited to reflect on the majesty of God – God the creator of the world and everything in it; the source of and meaning and life. Isaiah invites us also to see something extraordinary about the character of God: yes, God is robed in majesty, “he creator of the ends of the earth”. But he is also the God who gives power to the faint and strengthens the powerless. God invites us into a relationship – to “wait upon the Lord”.

Majesty and mercy also walk hand in hand in Psalm 8. God is sovereign and yet he loves us with an everlasting love.

And in the Gospel – the closing verses of Matthew – we are given a promise and a command in response to the God – Father, Son and Holy Spirit – that we have come to know. The command is to go to tell people about the good news of the God we know in Jesus Christ, inviting them to become part of the community called by his name. And the promise is that God is with us always.

May the Grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all.

Daily Gospel Readings for this week, to use in your daily prayer:

Monday: Matthew 5. 1-12

Tuesday: Matthew 5. 13-16

Wednesday: Matthew 5. 17 - 19

Thursday: John 15. 12-17

Friday: Matthew 5. 27-32

Saturday: Matthew 5. 33-37



Public Worship: there have been many questions about when churches and cathedrals will be open again for public worship, and the only response is to say that we do not know, but that it is unlikely to be in the near future. That is challenging for all of us, but also an essential part of our care for one another and for the wider community. It is the case now that a single designated priest or designated lay minister is permitted to go into a church to lead a service which can be live streamed. However, the work that has to be done to make this safe and secure – especially in a building like the Cathedral – means that we will only be approaching this step by step and very much guided by the information that is being regularly updated by the Church and the Government.

The **Greening the Church Conference** will now take place online. This will be initially hosted on Facebook- join the Group: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/727013254703425/> to take part live on Saturday 13th June, starting with live worship at 9.30am. However - resources and information will then be shared on our Website, YouTube Channel and on the Diocesan Website - we will be letting you know more details nearer the time.

The Next Bishop of Chelmsford: please do play your part in the consultation. Simply go to the Diocesan website <https://www.chelmsford.anglican.org/> and click on the button on the home page marked “find out more”. This will take you to the consultation questionnaire.

A message from Pam Sharpe: "I would like to thank all those who were firstly praying for Norman, and then for me and my family". Although Pam had said no flowers at the funeral anyone who would like to make a donation, please donate to St Nicholas Church, Canvey Island.

Online giving on the website: you can now donate on-line to support the mission and ministry of the Cathedral. This is particularly important at the moment as the Cathedral works hard to continue ministering through these challenging times and begins to build for the future. If you want to donate now on-line, simply go to the home page of the website and click on the link, or click <https://givealittle.co/campaigns/0c7bf37c-62f7-4011-b9f0-854ead22f93a>

Being Resourced:

If you would like to receive the Dean's letter emailed to you once a week and you do not already receive it, please email clare.broome@chelmsfordcathedral.org.uk

Growing in Faith resources in a weekly email. If you would like to receive it, please sign up via the 'Church at Home' page of the website or email imogen.nay@chelmsfordcathedral.org.uk

Stations of the Resurrection: How do we encounter the Risen Lord in this time of darkness? Join with the Rev'd Canon Imogen and others as they lead us through personal encounters with the Risen Jesus, look at the website, or sign up to the Growing in Faith mailing, details above.

Social Time:

Quiz

It's quiz time again! John and Yvonne Spence are holding another quiz evening on Saturday 13th June at 8pm via Zoom. "It's a great opportunity SEE friends for the cathedral family". As before there is no charge, just email Yvonne to let you know you wish to take part. yvonnespence@hotmail.com.

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Diocesan Day of Prayer

Today is the special day of prayer for the next Bishop of Chelmsford. At all our streamed services from the Cathedral community we will be praying for all those involved in the discernment process, for the diocesan consultation, and those whom God is calling to consider the role. You can find resources for prayer from the homepage of the website.

The new Bishop of Chelmsford will be called to come to the Diocese at a time of unprecedented challenge and change. There will be some very difficult decisions to be made but also some extraordinary opportunities as the church discovers new patterns for its ministry and worship.

Please pray for those whom God is calling to think about responding to the call. And pray for the Cathedral – the “Bishop’s Church” – that we as a community can play our part in welcoming the new Bishop and enabling their ministry.

Here is the Diocesan Prayer material for all of us to use:

PRAYING FOR THE 11th BISHOP OF CHELMFORD

Some Bible passages for reflection.

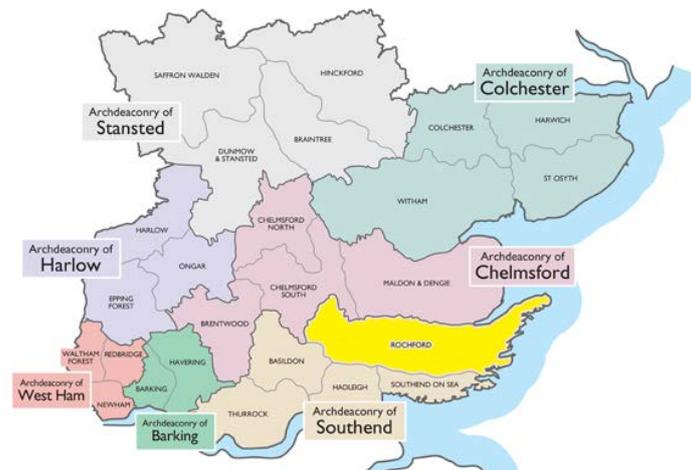
Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God’s sight, and like living stones, let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. (*1 Peter 2.4-5*)

You are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God’s own people, in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of him who called you out of darkness into his marvellous light. (*1 Peter 2.9*)

For this gospel I was appointed a herald and an apostle and a teacher. (*2 Timothy 1:11*)



In Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us. (*2 Corinthians 5:19*) used at the Ordination of Bishops.



Please pray for:

- *The life of our great and diverse diocese, and for all the communities we seek to serve from Clacton-on-Sea to Canning Town; from Southend to Saffron Walden*
- *For a deepening of our love for God and of our service in God's world*
- *For our church communities and all the places where God's people gather*
- *For God's provision and care for all those responsible for calling the 11th Bishop of Chelmsford*
- *For those God is preparing to respond to that call.*