

# Cathedral Life Weekly | Trinity 12, 30<sup>th</sup> August 2020

## A Message from The Revd Kate Moore:

**NEXT WEEK** marks the beginning of a new school year. Many of our young people will be starting new classes, moving into new year groups at school or heading to college or university. September is a milestone month in the world of education.

There will be lots of excitement! New uniforms, new shoes, new lunch boxes, new friends to make. But alongside that there will be the usual nerves with anything new. Will my new teacher like me? Will I fit in? Have I chosen the right course?

And this year in particular I think our young people need our support and prayers. Some have not been in school since March. Many returned to school for just a few keeping in touch sessions in the summer. Some were in school for longer, but it didn't look much like the school they were used to. This year the return to school will perhaps be more daunting than usual for children and the adults who work with them.

Perhaps this week is the time to be in touch with the young people that you know and wish them well. Let them know that you are thinking of them; that they are surrounded by a community that counts them as precious and understands that none of this is easy for them.

September this year will hold the usual excitement and new beginnings, but I think it will also include the need to look carefully after our young people's mental health and wellbeing more than ever before. I feel that we can all find ways to support those we know simply by being in touch and giving a word of encouragement and understanding.

With my best wishes

The Revd Kate Moore



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

Monday: Luke 4. 16-30  
Tuesday: Luke 4. 31-37  
Wednesday: Luke 4. 38-end

Thursday: Luke 5. 1-11  
Friday: Luke 5.33-39  
Saturday: Luke 6. 1-5

## Pray with Us:

Please pray for the work of the Dean and Chapter in their daily work of the administration of the Cathedral.



Please pray for the work of CHES, the homeless centre in the city centre.

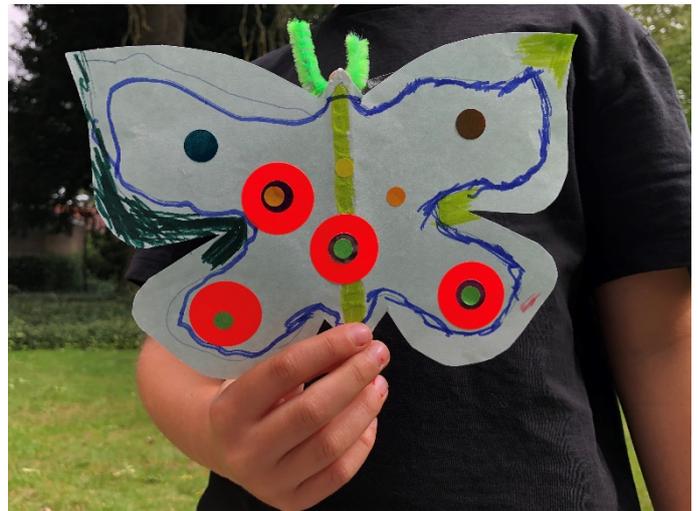
Please pray for the United Church of South India, The Most Revd Dharmaraj Rasalam, Moderator.

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

## Lots of fun at Junior Church last Sunday with our Children and Family's Minister, Jean Elliott.

You are welcome to join her this week, just book your free ticket on Eventbrite.

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/junior-church-in-the-garden-tickets-117952223275>



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## Study with Us:

### Study Notes on the Sunday Gospel: 30<sup>th</sup> August 2020



Romans 12.9-21 Ps 26.1-8 Matthew 16.21-28

#### Take up your cross and follow me

This week's readings make it clear that discipleship isn't easy. But they also reassure us that the cost of following Jesus is always a cost worth paying. Even when taking up our cross brings real suffering, God is there, offering us something far greater – the promise of life in all its fullness.

Paul, too, knows well how costly discipleship can be (first reading), but he urges us to demonstrate in how we live the marks of what a living faith really look like. It is a list worth pondering.

The psalm is a plea for justice and a declaration of righteousness

#### Gospel: Matthew 16: 21–27

This passage follows last week's, when Simon acknowledges Jesus as Messiah and is given the name Peter. Here, for the first time, Jesus speaks of his passion, death and resurrection.

##### *He was destined to go to Jerusalem*

So far Jesus had stayed in small towns gathering followers and making himself known through miracles and healings. The following four chapters will relate his journey to Jerusalem, the city where Prophets are put to death (Matthew 23: 37).

##### *Suffer at the hands of the elders, chief priests and scribes*

These three groups make up the Sanhedrin, an assembly of 23 to 71 men, appointed in every city to act as supreme court. Elders were lay leaders. It is interesting to note that Matthew does not mention Pharisees here.

##### *Peter started to remonstrate with Jesus*

Jewish culture could not imagine a Messiah who would suffer and be killed. Their long-awaited new leader was expected to bring them glory and fame. Peter here is voicing the feelings of the other disciples and the people.

##### *Get behind me, Satan!*

Jesus sees in Peter a continuation of the temptations Satan put in his way in the desert at the beginning of his ministry (Matthew 4: 10).

##### *You are an obstacle in my path*

The Greek word used here: skandaloi (from which we derive the word 'scandal') meant any large block or rock which barred someone's way. It also had moral overtones. It is perhaps also used here ironically, since Jesus has just called Peter his rock.

##### *If anyone wants to be a follower of mine ...*

The sayings which follow are reminiscent of the great Jewish prayer, the Shema (Deuteronomy 6: 5): 'You shall love the Lord with all your heart: the seat of drives and impulses, hence the need for renouncement or

self-denial; with all your soul: your life, which you might have to lose through martyrdom; with all your strength: your property and wealth, the whole world.

*Take up your cross*

This is not an allusion to Jesus' crucifixion. Dying on the cross was a common Roman punishment and the cross had come to mean suffering or agony.

*He will reward each according to his behaviour*

A reference to Psalm 62: 12 'You repay us all according to our deeds'.

**I might pray this week to be ever more open to Jesus's call to me to help him carry the cross, and I ask him to help me respond to that call with joy and generosity**



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-117952223275>

**Book Group** – This month we are reading “My Name is Asher Lev” by Chaim Potok, a novel about a young Hasidic artist. We will be meeting via Zoom to discuss the book on Monday September 7th at 7.30. All are welcome to join us – email [sallydilley@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:sallydilley@tiscali.co.uk) for more information.

On **Friday 4th September** there is an **End of Summer Social** from 5.30pm-7.30pm, in Guy Harlings Garden. All are welcome, but as is the case at the moment, please bring your own chair, drink and food.

**Breakfast with the Bible:** from September 6th, Breakfast with the Bible will be meeting on Zoom from 9am to 9.45am. 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.

The date for the postponed **annual meeting** has been confirmed as Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> September. It will follow on from the Sunday service and will also be live streamed. It is anticipated that it will be finished by 12 noon. The minutes of the last meeting and agenda will be on the website by the end of August. These can be accessed from the annual report link at the bottom of the home page (in blue) under 'Useful Links'. All documents will be displayed in the Cathedral, as usual, two weeks before the meeting.

**Being Resourced:** Bible Reading notes for the September - December period now on sale at the Bookstall in the Cathedral. You can pay for them either by putting the correct money in the slot in the wall or by using our new contactless giving plate.

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](mailto: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](mailto:imogen.nay@chelmsfordcathedral.org.uk)