

WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES FOR SUNDAY, 6th SEPTEMBER

LECTIONARY READINGS FOR THE 13th SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY:

Ezekiel 33: 7-11; Romans 13: 8-14; Matthew 18: 15-20 Psalm 119: 33-40

WEEKLY REFLECTION & STORY:

The Rector has written a brief reflection and prayer for the Thirteenth Sunday after Trinity Sunday – the document is attached.

There is a recording of the Rector reading this reflection and prayer, plus the story of “A Sad Day” from the Lion Storyteller Bible read by Stuart Leeming, filmed in the cemetery at Bow Brickhill.

These can be found on the following links:

- **Reflection & Prayer:-** <https://youtu.be/dF7moGVLLIs>
- **“A Sad Day”:-** <https://youtu.be/6E8SjMpTjBs>

RADIO 4:

Sunday Worship at 8.10am “Heaven is a noisy place”

Neil MacGregor finds spiritual inspiration in the religious art of the National Gallery. The former Director of the National Gallery and British Museum is accompanied on his walk round the gallery's Sainsbury Wing by the Revd Lucy Winkett.

After months of Covid and confinement, today's service considers how community — within society and across time — has traditionally been fostered by close contact with the saints. For centuries the saints gave shape to the calendar and cohesion to communities. They helped individuals in distress, constantly affirming that we are never alone. They made the universal local and individual — and they were flawed humans, just like us. Virtually everybody had their own name saint, as did every trade, town and community. Looking at these paintings is like joining a really good party: You immediately recognise a lot of the guests, wearing not name tags, but symbols — Peter and Margaret, Catherine and George — and you know what bits of life they can help you with. They are shown with realism or fantasy, with admiration or humour, as people we have come to know well, and can relax with.

Crivelli's Madonna of the Swallow is an intact Renaissance altarpiece. In its small, lower scenes, it shows the love of God among fallen humanity. On top of the altar perches a swallow — who builds her nest in the temple (Psalm 84) and who, for centuries symbolised the Incarnation, as out of the dirt and mud of her nest, she soars to heaven. The community of saints includes the natural world, as well as the living and the dead.

Finally, the saints are shown by Jacopo di Cione making music in heaven with all sorts of instruments, even bagpipes. Heaven is being with other people and heaven is a noisy place.

BBC TELEVISION:

Sunday Morning Live BBC 1 at 10.00am Episode 12 of 20

Sean Fletcher and Sally Phillips take a look at the week's talking points and explore the ethical and religious issues of the day. Alongside lively chat, the show also shines a light on inspiring, unique and occasionally unusual stories and people.

Songs of Praise BBC 1 at 1.15pm Eden Project

Claire McCollum visits the Eden Project in Cornwall, where founder Sir Tim Smit tells her how he created a garden paradise out of a clay pit. Claire speaks to one of the Eden Project's gardeners to hear how she worships God whilst looking after the two million plants on site.

An open-air theatre stages a socially distanced performance of Jesus Christ Superstar, a musical based on the New Testament gospels, and a Christian cast member shares what it means to be involved in a performance that explores the life and death of Jesus.

JB Gill goes surfing with a man who came back to faith whilst catching waves, and who is now part of Christian Surfers UK – an organisation celebrating its 30th anniversary. We also visit a church in Newquay that has adapted its Sunday services during the pandemic by becoming England's first drive-in church.

With brand new music recorded at the Eden Project according to government guidelines, and congregational hymns captured before current restrictions:

OXFORD DIOCESE LIVE STREAMING:

Church at Home for the Thirteenth Sunday after Trinity, 6th September at 10am.

The Diocesan Church at Home services resume this Sunday, 6th September. To download the order of service and to watch the service, live or at a later time, follow the link:- <https://www.oxford.anglican.org/coronavirus-covid-19-2/livestream/>

To access by telephone, dial 01865 920930 to hear the latest service (press 0= short service, 1= full service). Standard call rates apply.

CHURCH OF ENGLAND ONLINE:

Worship at Home, an Online Service at 9am

Recognising teachers and school staff as unsung heroes

Featuring contributions from St Thomas CofE Academy, this online service is led by Rev Tim Bateman from Gas Street Church, recognising teachers and school staff as unsung heroes and praying for the start of the new school year. The Dean of Birmingham, Matt Thompson, preaches and Sarah Smith, Director of Education for the Church of England in Birmingham, shares a reflection.

Click on the following link:-

<https://www.churchofengland.org/more/media-centre/join-us-church-online/weekly-online-services/recognising-teachers-and-school>

To download the Order of Service, follow the link below:-

<https://www.churchofengland.org/sites/default/files/2020-09/Trinity%2013%20OOS%20VFF%20AFN.pdf>