

St Mary the Virgin, Great Brickhill

WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES FOR SUNDAY, 2nd AUGUST

LECTIONARY READINGS FOR THE 8th SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY:

Isaiah 55: 1-5; Romans 9: 1-5; Matthew 14: 13-21 Psalm 145: 8-9, 15-22

FROM THE RECTOR:

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

There is a recording of the Rector reading this reflection and prayer, plus the story of “Feeding of the Five Thousand” from the Lion Storyteller Bible read by Andrew Smith, both filmed at the Cricket Club / Parish Hall in Great Brickhill. These can be found on the following links:

- **Reflection & Prayer:-** <https://youtu.be/79e1FvNR1MM>
- **“Feeding of the Five Thousand”:-** <https://youtu.be/rweGCsEVM8Q>

SUNDAY SERVICE - Revd Val Plumb, Rural Dean for Mursley Deanery

The Rural Dean will be recording a 15/20-minute service for the Eighth Sunday after Trinity:- “Was Jesus a magician? Feeding of the 5,000”.

Follow the link:- <https://youtu.be/A16KmrlsLQ>

RADIO 4:

Sunday Worship at 8.10am “Encountering God in Abandonment”

The Rev Dr Isabelle Hamley, Chaplain to the Archbishop of Canterbury charts her walk with God and with Covid-19. In a recent Thought for the Day on Radio 4 Dr Hamley spelt out the devastating effects Covid-19 has had on her personally, an early sufferer from the disease, referring to the biblical book of Job. "Job goes from being incredibly fortunate to losing everything, his wealth his loved ones, his health." Job's friends were "explaining away what happened, finding meaning in Job's continued plague, even blaming him." But the bible is deeply realistic. His friends are fighting their own battle with fear. Job is fighting with meaninglessness and trauma. "Job never finds out why he suffered. Instead he meets God face to face and finds solace in his presence." In this programme the Archbishop's chaplain will bring other portions of scripture to bear as they relate to wider suffering across the world. What can people of faith and none draw from ancient spiritual wisdom as the world faces a pandemic unprecedented in recent human memory?

BBC TELEVISION:

Sunday Morning Live BBC 1 at 9.30am Episode 7 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 Faith and Sport

Aled Jones visits the London Stadium to explore the links between Christianity and sport and looks back at the unforgettable moments of the 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games that took place in the stadium.

Paralympian Stef Reid takes Aled to the spot where she won silver in the 2012 Games and gold in the 2017 World Championships. She tells Aled about the moment her life was changed forever after a boating accident aged just 15, and how her desperate cries to God in those times led to a deep Christian faith.

Aled also meets Graham Daniels, a former professional footballer who is now the director of Christians in Sport. In the stadium, Graham reflects with Aled on the great memories of London 2012 and – in this summer when so many iconic competitions have had to be postponed – he explores why we love sport so much. Graham reveals how he works in the background at many major sporting events – supporting elite athletes as they strive to live out their Christian faith and their vocation as a sports person.

JB Gill joins a training session at Watford Football Club to meet goalkeeper Heurelho Gomes. He tells JB about growing up in poverty in Brazil and how his strong Christian faith is now leading him to swap the pitch for the pulpit as he trains to become a pastor. And we hear how smaller football clubs are being effected by the current pandemic – we visit Cambridge United to hear about its Christian roots and how the club's unique role in the local community is helping it through this challenging times.

With hymns old and new from across the UK, including some that have become favourites at great sporting occasions.

OXFORD DIOCESE LIVE STREAMING:

Church at Home during August

The team are taking a break for August but churches across the Diocese will be welcoming the regular Church at Home congregation for worship during this time - a range of family, all-age, modern and traditional services is available on the following link:- <https://www.oxford.anglican.org/coronavirus-covid-19-2/livestream/>

For those unable to access a church service online, dial 0800 804 8044 for daily hymns, reflections and prayers.

The Diocesan service returns to its regular 10am slot online from Sunday 6 September.

CHURCH OF ENGLAND ONLINE:

Worship at Home, an Online Service at 9am Feeding a Hungry World

This week's service comes from the Anglican Shrine of Our Lady of Walsingham. Fr Kevin Smith presides at the Mass, with Bishop Philip North preaching on how Jesus feeds us so that we can go and feed a hungry world. The music is provided by CJM and the prayers are led by the Holborn Group. Click on the following link:-

<https://www.churchofengland.org/more/media-centre/join-us-church-online/weekly-online-services/feeding-hungry-world>

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

<https://www.churchofengland.org/sites/default/files/2020-07/Walsingham%20Service%20OOS%20VF%20AFN.docx.pdf>

PLUS, REFLECTIONS FOR A CHURCH IN LOCKDOWN:

For his weekly “Reflections for a Church in Lockdown” the Bishop of Oxford, the Rt Revd Dr Steven Croft, is recording a series of reflections on Philipians. In this, the final episode of series 4, Bishop Steven explores how to live out this extraordinary command to rejoice.

No 4. Rejoice in the Lord always. Again I will say, Rejoice.

Finally my brothers and sisters, rejoice in the Lord. To write the same things to you is not troublesome to me and for you it is a safeguard.

For questions for discussion from Philipians 4 and to listen to the podcast, go to:-

<https://blogs.oxford.anglican.org/series/my-extraordinary-family/>