

Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> March 2025

# Mothering Sunday

# Holy Trinity Cuckfield

You are very welcome to our worship!



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## Reflections

Historically, Mothering Sunday is the day when Christians visited the church where they were born into the family of faith through baptism. Quite rightly, it has become a day for honouring the mothers who gave us birth into the human family, and others who have showed us a mother's love - with an especial focus on Mary, the mother whose compassionate solidarity for all other mothers is heartfelt. It is a day to celebrate beginnings, to recall joy and laughter, to acknowledge painful journeys and to remember those who are no longer with us. Nowadays, we hear the language of motherhood applied also to the Earth, to Mother Nature. Perhaps her children take her for granted: she seems bountiful and vigorous, but now we also begin to see that she is not indestructible or inexhaustible.

## Worship this Sunday...

### Collect

God of compassion, whose Son Jesus Christ, the child of Mary, shared the life of a home in Nazareth, and on the cross drew the whole human family to himself: strengthen us in our daily living that in joy and in sorrow we may know the power of your presence to bind together and to heal; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

**Amen.**

### Post Communion Prayer

Loving God, as a mother feeds her children at the breast you feed us in this sacrament with the food and drink of eternal life: help us who have tasted your goodness to grow in grace within the household of faith; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> March - Mothering Sunday

**8.00 am Holy Communion (CW)**

Reader

Exodus 2.1-10  
Colossians 3.12-17  
Luke 2.33-35  
Graham Johnson

**9.45 am Mothering Sunday Communion\***

Readers

Young People

Pr Hymn 739 Now thank we all our God (NUN DANKET)

Setting Thorne - Mass of St. Thomas

Gr Hymn 537 For the beauty of the earth (DIX)

Of Hymn 138 Our Father God in heaven (ELLACOMBE)

Anthem "Agnus Dei" from "The Shadow of the Cross" Joseph Martin

Cm Hymn 747 O God, You Search Me and You Know Me

137 God of Eve and God of Mary (LOVE DIVINE)

Fn Hymn 394 Tell out, my soul (WOODLANDS)

Intercessors

Jane Coan

\* Also live streamed on zoom - click the blue button on the church homepage

## First Reading

*Moses born, rescued from the reeds by Pharaoh's daughter and brought up as her son*

Exodus 2.1-10

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Now a man from the house of Levi went and married a Levite woman. The woman conceived and bore a son; and when she saw that he was a fine baby, she hid him for three months. When she could hide him no longer she got a papyrus basket for him, and plastered it with bitumen and pitch; she put the child in it and placed it among the reeds on the bank of the river. His sister stood at a distance, to see what would happen to him. The daughter of Pharaoh came down to bathe at the river, while her attendants walked beside the river. She saw the basket among the reeds and sent her maid to bring it. When she opened it, she saw the child. He was crying, and she took pity on him. 'This must be one of the Hebrews' children,' she said. Then his sister said to Pharaoh's daughter, 'Shall I go and get you a nurse from the Hebrew women to nurse the child for you?' Pharaoh's daughter said to her, 'Yes.' So the girl went and called the child's mother. Pharaoh's daughter said to her, 'Take this child and nurse it for me, and I will give you your wages.' So the woman took the child and nursed it. When the child grew up, she brought him to Pharaoh's daughter, and she took him as her son. She named him Moses, 'because', she said, 'I drew him out of the water.'

## Second Reading

Colossians 3.12-17

*Clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness and patience*

As God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God. And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

## Gospel

Luke 2.33-35

*Simeon predicts that a sword will pierce Mary's heart*

And the child's father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, 'This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed—and a sword will pierce your own soul too.'

## This Week...

31/03 Mon	7.00 pm	Diocesan Course "I believe" - Online Lent Course	Zoom
01/04 Tues	9.30 am	Holy Trinity Primary Easter Service	Church
02/04 Wed	10.30 am	Holy Communion*	Isaiah 49.8-15
		followed by coffee and cake	John 5.17-30
03/04 Thurs	9.00 am	Iona /Celtic Communion	Exodus 32.7-14
			John 5.31-end
	1.30 pm	Arts & Craft Meet Up	Church
	7.00 pm	Lent Course 'Christ and the Chocolaterie'	Zoom
	7.30 pm	Lent Course 'Christ and the Chocolaterie'	Victorian Hall, Old School
04/04 Fri	11.00 am	BCP Communion	Jeremiah 26.8-11
			John 7.1-2,10, 25-30
	1.10pm	Lunchtime Concert	Church
	6.00 pm	Treble Choir	Old School
	7.00 pm	Choir Practice	Church
05/04 Sat	5.30 pm	Cuckfield Music Festival Spring Launch	Church

\* Also live streamed on zoom - click the blue button on the church home page.

## Next Sunday...

**Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> April - 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent**

			Isaiah 43.16-21
			Philippians 3.4b-14
			John 12.1-8
<b>8.00 am</b>	<b>Holy Communion (CW)</b>	Reader	Anthony van der Willigen
<b>9.45 am</b>	<b>Parish Communion and Healing*</b>	Reader 1	Christine Best
Pr Hymn	147 My Song is love unknown (LOVE UNKNOWN)	Reader 2	Ron Tillyer
Setting	Thorne - Mass of St Thomas		
Gr Hymn	142 Glory be to Jesus (CASWALL)		
Of Hymn	144 How Deep the Father's Love for Us (TOWNEND)		
Anthem	"And it was night" from "The Shadow Of The Cross" by Joseph Martin.		
Cm Hymn	181 O Sacred head surrounded (PASSION CHORALE)		
	421 All for Jesus! All for Jesus! (ALL FOR JESUS)		
Fn Hymn	588 And can it be (SAGINA)		

**11:15 am Family Praise**

**6:00 pm Evensong**

Hymn 153 There is a Green Hill Far Away (HORSLEY) Readers  
Responses Ferial  
Psalm 112  
Setting Chant  
Anthem "Locus iste" Anton Bruckner  
Hymn 352 Nearer, My God, to Thee (BETHANY)  
Hymn 18 Now the evening shadows fall (BLACKHEATH)

Isaiah 35  
Romans 7:21-8.4  
David Spear  
Carolyn Ponder

\* Also live streamed on zoom - click the blue button on the church home page.

### Notices and Parish News...

Today as a part of our **Fifth Sunday Giving** to local charities we will be collecting for our **Local Stroke Association**. Thank you for your support for their amazing work in our community. Money can be given via the giving plate or through the tapping machine by the door.

We are seeking a part-time **Operations Manager** to oversee the Church Building and The Old School, ensuring they serve the parish and remain a leading community venue. Interested? Contact Clive Simmonds at [reader@holytrinitycuckfield.org](mailto:reader@holytrinitycuckfield.org).

**Friday Lunchtime Concert** - Michael Maine returns to HTC for our second to last lunchtime concert this season. Friday April 4<sup>th</sup> April 2025 at the usual time of 1.10pm. The church will echo with music by Bach, Böellmann, and more in this wonderful recital. Michael has been thrilling local audiences for many years, and we are delighted he will be returning. Get the date in your diaries now: April 4<sup>th</sup> @1.10pm.

Every six years the **Church Electoral Roll** is completely renewed, with everyone needing to reapply to be on the Roll. 2025 is one such year. The operative date for the renewal of the Roll is before midnight on 29<sup>th</sup> April, when enrolments will close and not re-open until after the APCM on Sunday May 18<sup>th</sup>. To attend, vote or stand at the APCM you must be on the new church electoral roll by **29<sup>th</sup> April 2025**. If you are currently on the roll and you have given us a valid email address, you will receive an email on Tuesday with a link to the form to fill in and using this will automatically add you to and update the new electoral roll. Otherwise, if you prefer, or are new to the parish and joining the roll, there is a letter by the north door giving a QR code, scanning which will take to the online form from Tuesday. Additionally, the form will be available from the home page of the website from Tuesday, or finally traditional forms will also be available on the way out and filled in and left with the Church Office to be update manually. One or two of you have already put forms in: rest assured these have been held for you and you will be updated on the new Roll when it opens on Tuesday. Any questions to David Thunder Electoral Roll Officer [ero@holytrinitycuckfield.org](mailto:ero@holytrinitycuckfield.org).

**Lunch "n" Linger** will take place again at the Old School on **Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> April 2025**. We gather from 12.30, **lunch is served at 1.00 pm**. The menu this month: Bacon & Tomato quiche or Vegetable & BBQ bean pasta, mixed salad, homemade coleslaw, new potatoes, salad dressings, Apple crumble and custard or Fruit salad. The cost is £6.50 per head (payable on the day). There are only 40 places, and these will be allocated on a first-come-first-served basis. If you would like to attend please let Jane know or email [office@holytrinitycuckfield.org](mailto:office@holytrinitycuckfield.org) confirming your menu choices. We need to confirm final numbers by the Monday before the lunch (21<sup>st</sup> April). The food is freshly prepared by the kitchens at Warden Park Academy, pupils from the school will assist with serving and clearing. If you can assist with setting up and or with clearing/washing up, please let Jane know as well.

On Maundy Thursday, Jesus faced His struggles in the Garden of Gethsemane. He went to a quiet place on the Mount of Olives to prepare for the events leading to His sacrifice on the cross. We are creating a miniature replica of the Garden of Gethsemane in the Lady Chapel to honour this significant moment. We invite you to contribute by donating portable potted plants for the Garden. We plan to set up the Garden on **Wednesday, April 16<sup>th</sup>, after the 10:30am** Eucharist and any help would be warmly welcomed. You can take your lovely potted plants home after Easter Sunday. If you can help with this project, please get in touch with Rev'd Stephen Caple or Eileen

There are three Lent groups running: On **Thursday evenings 'Christ and the Chocolaterie'** - a course based on the film *Chocolat*: In the Victorian Hall, 7.30-9.00pm (facilitated by [Caroline Curren](mailto:Caroline Curren)). On Zoom, 7.00pm-8.00pm (facilitated by [Peter and Tina Hutchinson](mailto:Peter and Tina Hutchinson)).

**Diocesan Lent Course** - Following the Diocesan Course **'I Believe'** (facilitated by Clive Simmonds). We are invited this year to consider the Nicene Creed. This Creed unfolds for us the transforming Mysteries of Christ, because Christianity is not just about ideas but about lives transformed by God's revelation, each evening we consider the Creed's doctrines through the image of a particular person who lived that faith intensely. Use the **Church Zoom Blue button** for more information please contact Clive at [clivesimmonds@btinternet.com](mailto:clivesimmonds@btinternet.com)

**Confirmation** - The Deanery Confirmation with Bishop Will will take place on the evening of Thu 5<sup>th</sup> June at St Wilfrid's, Haywards Heath. If you have a child of secondary school age, or you an adult and you have not been confirmed please send an email to Gina [office@holytrinitycuckfield.org](mailto:office@holytrinitycuckfield.org), and Fr Daniel will be in touch about confirmation preparation, there will be separate preparation for adults and young people.

**Admission to communion** - If you have a child in year 6, please let Toby know so that we can plan for them to be admitted to communion. There will be a fun course for preparation and a special service in the summer with the opportunity for a party. Please let Toby know so that this can be arranged for your child. [Toby@holytrinitycuckfield.org](mailto:Toby@holytrinitycuckfield.org).

**Cuckfield Local Market** - Holy Trinity Cuckfield monthly makers and food market returns on **Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> April 2025 from 9.30-12.30** providing locally sourced, sustainable goods. Dates for 2025 are, May 10<sup>th</sup>, June 14<sup>th</sup>, July 12<sup>th</sup>, August 9<sup>th</sup>, September 13<sup>th</sup>, October 11<sup>th</sup>, November 8<sup>th</sup> and December 13<sup>th</sup> Support local artisans and embrace environmental stewardship with us. The church will be serving tea, coffee and soft drinks, please let Jane know if you can assist.

### Prayers...

#### ***Those in immediate need:***

Becky Parker, Mark Herring, Ralph Colbran, Evelyn Stenning, Tina Heath, Sam Lawrence, Alison Openshaw, Tatyana

#### ***Those in long term need:***

Georgia, Ann Went, Julie Sadler, Wendy Hibling, Eileen Knight, Jim Knight, Liz Graydon, Peter Graydon, Eileen MacDougall, George Snashall, Karen Leese, and Yvonne Godsmark

#### ***Those in care homes:***

Mary Watts, Rosemary Pardey, Janet Card, Keith Card,

#### ***The recently departed and those who mourn:***

Diana Walker, Vanessa Crocker, Carol Blackburn, Michael Brett

***Those whose year's mind falls at this time.*** 31<sup>st</sup> Iris Buttery, Jack Coomber 1997, Joshua George Morgan 2003, Peter Burgess 2013 1<sup>st</sup> April Kit Beattie, Veronica Mayo 1994, Carol Brown 1996, Molly Lawrence 1999, 2<sup>nd</sup> William John Moore 2003, 3<sup>rd</sup> Robert Graham Bryson 2006, Bruce Spencer 2009, Bernard (Bunny) Watts 2016, Arthur Greville Goad 2018, Patricia Buckeridge 2022 4<sup>th</sup> Mark Danton 1998, Shirley Patricia Milham 2019, Patricia Ena Theresa Knight 2023, 5<sup>th</sup> Doris Cox 2010, Marjorie Florence Sinclair 2012, 6<sup>th</sup> Alan Scholes 1998, Audrey Maureen Selby 2020.

### Praying through the week...

**Mon Mar 31<sup>st</sup>** - We give thanks for our parks and gardens, our green spaces, waterways and woodlands. We give thanks and pray for all those who help to protect and sustain these places and all their inhabitants. We pray locally, for the people of Cuckfield Baptist Church, that they may have a sense of God's love and creation around them.

**Tue Apr 1<sup>st</sup>** - On April Fools' Day, we give thanks for the gifts of fun, humour and laughter: for jokes, funny stories, harmless pranks, cartoons, the ability to laugh at ourselves. We pray that we may always be able to discern when our words or behaviour have stepped beyond the 'joke' into mockery, ridicule and hurt; we pray that we may always be sensitive to the feelings of others. Locally we pray for those who reside in Cuckfield Cottage Homes and for the Trustees.

**d Apr 2<sup>nd</sup>** - On World Autism Awareness Day we pray for all living with autism in a society that finds neuro-divergence challenging. We pray for greater awareness, understanding and celebration in our community of all manner of 'difference'. Locally we pray Cuckfield Dramatic Society, that they may sense God's presence with them, whatever they are facing.

**Thu Apr 3<sup>rd</sup>** - We give thanks for the creatures of our world. We give thanks especially for our pets. We pray for faithful, responsible care towards pets, for owners, for vets, for organisations promoting responsible ownership and good welfare of animals, and those supporting pet owners. We give thanks for the ways in which pets enrich our lives and pray for those who miss well-loved pets who have died. Locally we pray particularly Cuckfield Playgroup, all parents and baby groups, that they may feel the joy and pride of belonging to a community and being valued.

**Fri Apr 4<sup>th</sup>** - On International Mine Awareness day we recognise that mines and other explosive remnants of war continue to cause death and injury, in situations of armed conflict and for a long time afterwards. On average, one person is killed or injured by such explosive device every hour. We pray for the many children among the victims, for the citizens terrorised, and humanitarian aid and UN mission workers threatened by their continued use. We pray for all involved in Conflict prevention and peacebuilding. We pray locally for the people of Cuckfield Road, that they may have a sense of the wonder and diversity of God's creation.

**Sat Apr 5<sup>th</sup>** - We pray for refugees and asylum seekers around the world; for those forcibly displaced, often to areas unable to offer safety and security. We pray for those hoping to find welcome and hospitality in the UK; we pray for all working to maintain good positive relations between host and refugee communities; we pray for all reaching out in love and compassion and we pray for all who, often through difficulties of their own, are unable to see the call to 'love your neighbour as yourself.' Locally we pray for the people of Deak's Lane, for a neighbourhood of understanding, hospitality and care.

#### **Vicar**

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