

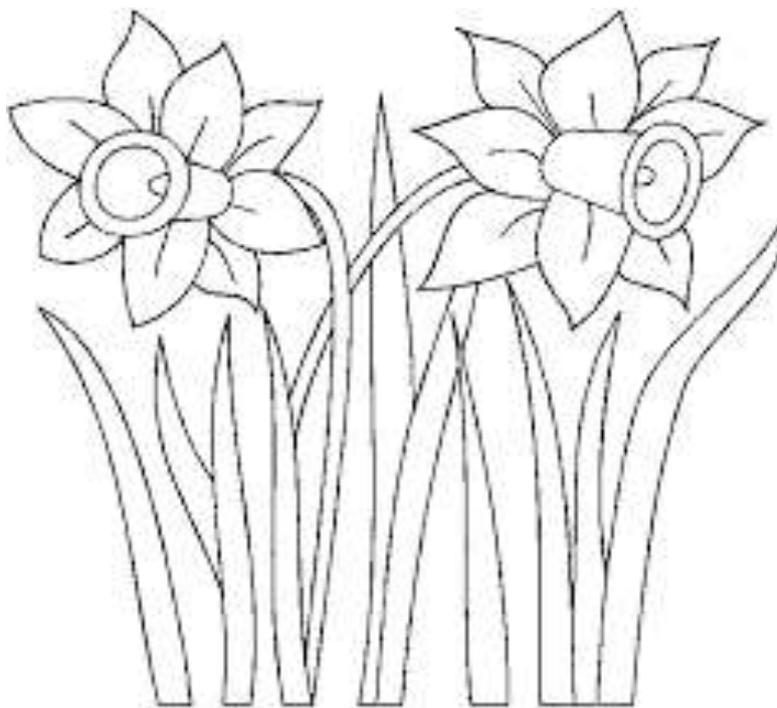
**THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND IN MELBOURNE, SMISBY,
STANTON-BY-BRIDGE AND TICKNALL**

THE BULLETIN

A weekly publication for the Benefice

Sunday 14th March 2021

Mothering Sunday



**Join us for livestreamed worship on our
Facebook page (Melbourne Parish Church)
at 10.30am**

Bible Readings for Today

Collect

God of love,
passionate and strong,
tender and careful:
watch over us and hold us
all the days of our life;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Old Testament Reading: Exodus 2.1-10

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.'

Gospel Reading: Luke 2.33-35

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.'

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.

A pattern for daily prayer, so that at home or at church we can pray together:

Monday: Those in great poverty or need.

Tuesday: Those who have asked for our prayers: Anne Brazier, Roo Hubbard, Bob Smith, Joan Tatam, Hanna King, Campbell Laird, Betty Baker, Christopher Browne and Christine Young. Those in Derby's hospitals and hospices. All at Pool Cottage. All who are suffering from Covid-19.

Wednesday: Our benefice and our diocese. For our bishop, Bishop Libby and our cathedral dean, Peter.

Thursday: Our schools as they continue their new academic year. The church worldwide. All Christian people. The local church. The Anglican Communion.

Friday: All in need, especially the hungry, poor and homeless.

The Departed

In our prayers this week, we remember those who have died recently, especially Gloria Proctor, and also those whose anniversaries occur near this time, among them Bill Shone, Harold Worthington, Hedley Needham, Charles Edward Osbond and Michael Blood.

If there is anyone you know who would like to go on our prayer list or who would appreciate a phone call, do please contact Steve, one of the wardens or the parish office. Thank you.

From the Rector

As a Rector's son in rural Northamptonshire, my family lived quite close to Althorp House, the ancestral seat of the Spencer family. This meant that, as far as we in Northants were concerned, Lady (and then Princess) Diana was one of our own. We know that, certainly at times, she had a difficult and challenging life and it hardly seems possible that her tragic death was now almost 25 years ago.

Moving forward to today, I confess to not having seen the full Oprah interview with the Duke and Duchess of Sussex, but I was saddened to see how much Meghan had suffered mentally. In the bible, we have spiritual resources at our disposal that enable us to look back in order to gain strength for moving forward. One of the psalms often used in Lent is Psalm 51 which includes: 'The sacrifice acceptable to God is a broken spirit;
a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.'

Again, in the Old Testament, Isaiah 43 speaks of God's promise that 'when you pass through the waters, I will be with you.' In a New Testament story we will soon be confronted with once again in Holy Week, the night before Jesus was crucified, He prayed in the Garden of Gethsemane. Luke, a physician, records that Jesus' sweat was like drops of blood: "And being in agony, He prayed more earnestly. Then His sweat became like great drops of blood falling down to the ground".

It is good that in more recent times, mental health is a topic much more openly talked about. In my twenties, I went through just under two years of clinical depression and am forever grateful for the support of my then GP, college chaplains, friends and family. It is an illness I would not wish to see anyone suffer with but, of course sadly, so many do.

The past year has led to what many experts believe to be both a present and an impending crisis where mental health is concerned. Of this, we all need to be mindful - to be patient, to listen and also to know when we are out of our depth and need to seek professional help for others or for ourselves.

Christian Spirituality has long been aware of 'the dark night of the soul.' As we slowly emerge from lockdown, may we be-by the grace of God- bathed in new life and light but also watchful for those for whom these times will still be dark and difficult. Be kind.

Lent Reading

There is something very powerful about knowing others are reading the same book as you. Accordingly, I would like to recommend two books for Lent 2021.

Firstly, 'Thy Kingdom Come' by Stephen Cherry who is the Dean of King's College, Cambridge. The book takes the Lord's Prayer as a basis for Lenten reflections and is divided into six sections – Heaven, Earth, Bread, Forgiveness, Temptation and Glory. It is currently priced on Amazon at £7.38.

The second book is a more traditional approach to a Lent book having a prayer and reflection for each day – 'The Little Book of Lent: Daily Reflections from the World's Greatest Spiritual Writers' is compiled by Canon Arthur Howells and is currently priced £3.74 on Amazon.

If you are able, please do use Amazon (or another supplier such as 'St Andrew's Bookshop') to order your copy. If you would like a copy ordered for you please get in touch on 01332 864741 as soon as possible and I will order a copy and ensure it is delivered.

Easter Hope

As we reach the halfway point of our Lenten journey and as the lockdown restrictions slowly ease, it is my hope and prayer that we will be able to resume public worship in our benefice churches on Easter Day.

Of course, Easter Day is a very good day on which to reopen for many reasons, but it also allows us the time to monitor the government and scientific analysis of coronavirus levels now that schools have reopened. So, there is a slight note of caution, but I

am very optimistic given the huge progress in the vaccination roll-out as well as virus levels (in most regions) continuing to fall.

The restrictions in worship that we have grown used to over the last year will have to remain in place over Easter but, unlike last year, at least we should be able to celebrate Jesus' resurrection in our benefice churches!

Please watch this space for further details and information.

Every blessing,
Steve



Keeping in touch with each other.

As part of our outreach, at the last PCC meeting it was agreed to set up a small team of church members who would be tasked with keeping in touch with other members of our church family either by phone, email or other methods of contacting each other !! on a regular basis i.e. once a month or every six weeks or so. If you would like to be a part of this team please let me know as soon as possible, if enough volunteers come forward it is hoped you would have just a handful of contacts to look after. For more information about what is involved or to join up please contact me on 07796560814 or email winfieldalan28@yahoo.co.uk.
Alan Winfield, Curate

Join our Coffee over Zoom - TODAY

Last Sunday we met over Zoom for Coffee and it was lovely to be able to see about 25 of the Church family from across the Benefice. It was felt that we would like to continue to meet on a weekly basis, at least whilst Church was closed. So, please join us today for Benefice Coffee from 11.30a.m. until 12 noon and do spread the word so that more might join in this opportunity to catch up. **After the service, just "make your drink and click on the link"!** There should be no need to use the Meeting ID and Passcode if you use the link.

Topic: Melbourne Benefice Coffee

Time: Mar 14, 2021 11:30 AM London

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us05web.zoom.us/j/87006609814?pwd=RndPSVBSU2w2R3RvWm94YVcwNHVDZz09>

Meeting ID: 870 0660 9814

Passcode: 1zw9GT

If you haven't used Zoom before, it's very easy to use. When the link is clicked you may be asked to 'Join with Video' and 'Join with Audio'. Just agree to both of those and we can then see you and hear you. If you want to check your device is ready in advance, there is a very useful test facility where you can check that both your camera and microphone are working correctly: <https://zoom.us/test>

If you have difficulty on the day just call me on 07808 474236 and I will try to help.

See you there!

Simon Collins

Daily Hope from the Church of England

It is very important to remember those who do not have access to the internet especially when it comes to sharing in public worship. Please do recommend Daily Hope to anyone you think would benefit from it.

0800 804 8044

A free phoneline of hymns, reflections and prayers



Stewardship Giving

In the absence of in-person public worship, if you have any giving envelopes or donations you would like processing, please do post them through the rectory letterbox. Any money given is then passed on to one of our finance team for counting and banking. Thank you.

Mailshot

Every week since the first lockdown, copies of the bulletin and relevant order of service have been delivered in hard copy and also emailed out electronically. If you know someone who would like to be included on the mailshot and/or email distribution please email the parish office on: melbournparishchurch@gmail.com

or phone on: 01332 862153 (where a voice message can also be left).

Likewise, if you know of any children who would like a copy of the 'Young Church Mag' then please let me know and I will get those out to them.

Many thanks, Rachel Short

Cobwebs!

In the week I met Simon emerging from St Michael's House festooned with cobwebs and feet sticking to the floor! Clearly the time has come to relaunch the cleaning rota for Church House and St Michael's House. Some choir members have taken this on in the last year, but we are now looking for a team of volunteers to do this, in pairs or individually, on a rota basis.

We were cleaning weekly, usually at the beginning of the week but this can be flexible.

As we have lost some of our previously loyal helpers, new volunteers are encouraged to come forward to spread the load. The more the merrier!

After several years I wish to stand down from organising the rota so really would welcome an offer to take this over.

Many thanks,
Linda
07838 685243
01332 862307

Seville Orange Marmalade

New season Seville Orange Marmalade is now ready for sale along with Raspberry, Blackcurrant, Blackberry and Apple, Damson and Gooseberry Jam.

If you would like to make a purchase please get in touch with me and I will make arrangements for collection or delivery strictly following all safety guidelines. All profits as always go to church funds.

Best Wishes

Maureen Anderson

email maureen.anderson1953@yahoo.co.uk

Tel 863901

Music suggestions

I hope that this finds you all well and that this week's selection of music for Mothering Sunday will help lift your spirits with something for everyone's tastes. Exactly a year ago today was the Third Sunday of Lent in 2020 and was the last time that any Congregational Singing was allowed in our Church Services. This is quite a shocking fact and I do hope that it's not too long now before all of us can join together with some robust and lusty hymn singing – we have a lot to catch up on! Perhaps we might have a Benefice Festival of Hymns to mark the occasion. Please do keep in touch: 07808 474236 or simon.e.collins@btinternet.com

Hymns

Our Father God in heaven <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tcHhrlY7tgk>
When Morning gilds the skies <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2Pw0vhCjCAw>
Sing we of the blessed Mother <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=O5W9aKOOhOE>
Love one another (Iona) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=x5bwfnY6hQo>
For Mary, Mother of our Lord <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IWS-Jtaly7w>
Now thank we all our God <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ltfKjxkXhMk>

Choral Music

John Tavener: A Hymn to the Mother of God <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yd8J80KeOrE>
William Mathias: As truly as God is our Father <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=77A7CYdk8K4>
Philip Stopford: Ave Maria <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=poAehRMwdMA>
Alec Roth: The Flower <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qkSPhoBQ9OA>
John Rutter: For the beauty of the earth <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=K-fcOgBTs4M>
Herbert Howells: Collegium Regale Magnificat <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fpB9mQHORlg>

Organ Music

Max Reger: Nun danket alle got <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NGFM5TR72dl>
J.S.Bach: Meine Seele erhebt den Herren (BWV648)
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VxuVZELx2cY>
Flor Peeters: Now thank we all our God <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-DNSecVEx7U>
Pachelbel: Magnificat Fugue 1 <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RwRdmKcK6Po>
Guilmant: Offertoire sur 'Ave Maria' <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zQHOG1xWwNg>
Karg-Elert: Nun danket alle gott <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7diuV7X8QT4>

Until next week, my very best wishes,
Simon Collins
Director of Music

Happy Mothering Sunday



