

Bolingbroke Deanery Team Parishes

Faithful, Confident, Joyful

22nd March 2020

**Fourth Sunday of Lent
MOTHERING SUNDAY**

(Purple)



**BLESSINGS AND
PEACE THIS
MOTHERING
SUNDAY**

As you will all know all **Public Worship has been suspended** as part of our attempts to slow the progress of the Coronavirus (Corvid 19). There will be no services in our or in our sister Churches (with the exception of Funerals, Weddings and Baptisms but these will only have very small numbers attending them) for the present.

However, I am sure that worship and prayer to our loving God is at the heart of what we need to do at all time and especially now. That is why we are asking you to be part of the Churches offering of Worship this Sunday and every day too. Although we can't be together to worship physically we can in spirit. We are offering in this booklet a service we can pray at Some point on Sunday and through the week. We can join together on BBC Radio with worship led by Archbishop Justin 8am Sunday Morning and we can light a candle and place in our window 7pm Sunday evening.

This Sunday your Ministers will celebrate the Holy Communion/Eucharist in Church without congregations. Please join in at home. As you eat and drink spiritually know that you are receiving our Lord. Each day we will be saying the daily prayers. Join in where you are <https://www.churchofengland.org/prayer-and-worship/join-us-service-daily-prayer>

When possible **OUR CHURCHES WILL BE OPEN – St James Spilsby, everyday as is St Luke Stickney, St Mary Hundleby, SOG Churches + .**

#LIVE LENT - Week 4 STARS & SEASONS

Today = Summer and Winter, and Springtime and Harvest: Great is thy Faithfulness.

Sign up to our email reflections

<https://www.churchofengland.org/our-faith/living-out-our-faith/lent-holy-week-and-easter/livelent-care-gods-creation>

We are asked to **light a candle and place it in a window at 7 p.m. on Sunday** “as a visible symbol of the light of life, Jesus Christ”. Please get involved, spread the word, and pray!

The full text of the Statement is copied from the Church Times below:

Light a candle of hope: A national call to prayer in the midst of the coronavirus pandemic

This Mothering Sunday, 22 March, we are calling all churches to a National Day of Prayer and Action. At such a time as this, when so many are fearful and there is great uncertainty, we are reminded of our dependence on our loving Heavenly Father and the future that he holds.

At 7 p.m. this Sunday, light a candle in the windows of your homes as a visible symbol of the light of life, Jesus Christ, our source and hope in prayer.

Although we are not able to worship as congregations we have the great privilege and freedom to be able to call upon God, wherever we are, individually and corporately, for healing in our nation. We would pray for all in leadership at this time, making decisions about the containment of the Covid-19 virus, for those working in health and social care, and especially for the most vulnerable, whether elderly or those with underlying health conditions.

There are already stories being told of wonderful acts of kindness across neighbourhoods. Alongside your prayers, take the opportunity to telephone or email someone who is isolated, buy some additional food for your local foodbank, or offer to deliver shopping for an elderly neighbour. We may not be able to touch physically, but we can make connections in so many other ways.

In the meantime, do please attend to all the government health advice that will be issued, and look out for resources from your specific church governing bodies. At least for those of us in the global North, we do seem to be in unusual times, and wisdom and flexibility about worship gatherings are a key part of our Christian discipleship during this period.

We note that this call to prayer and action comes on Mothering Sunday: a time of thankfulness, remembering especially mothers who have served us, often in very costly ways. It is also a very mixed day for many. For some the remembrance is painful, and for others Mothering Sunday is a reminder of disappointment or loss.

In many ways, this period under the shadow of the coronavirus will be prompting similarly diverse reactions and so it seems especially appropriate that the call to prayer is made this Sunday. At this time of uncertainty join in with the National Day of Prayer and Action, lighting a candle of hope.

“Cast all your anxiety on him, because he cares for you.” 1 Peter 5.7

The sick at home or in hospital,

Leo Seebacher-Hobson, Nigel Worth, Kathleen, Ann, Molly, Veronica, Dorothy, Maggie J. Betty Brawn, Tristan, Joan Abbey, Michael P, Joan T. Mark, Jossie Lee, June, Hilary, Michael, Harriet, Rose L., Kate B. Abby, Sheila Janes, Fleur, Beryl B. Mary, Jeff Mason, Rosie, Jean C. Wendy, Bob, (Baby) Chloe Lear, Lawrence, Kathryn B.

The Departed: Bertha 'Vicky' Vickers, Fiona, Rachel, Isobel Eaton.

Anniversary:

Mary Mead, Eileen Parker, Joan Law, Don Thom, Milly Allen, John Coe, George Griffin, Cliff Rowlett, Bill Donner, David Cooke, Alan Cornall, Lue Mullinger, Jean Curtis, Harry Orchard (p), Rupert Fletcher, Sheila Shaw, Jack Smith, Peter Dooling (p), Judith Balderston, Frances Blackburn, Charles Mottley, Hilda Yates, Joyce Carse, Jean Thompson, Pearl Blanchard, Trevor Williamson, Ernest Bendall, Don Marshall, Edwin Bogg, John Potterton, Ronald, Joan Barrett, Betty Leighton, Maureen Clarke, Clifford Willetts, May Dickinson, Betty Leighton, Peter Allewell, John Lear, Trevor

**Bolingbroke Deanery Team Ministry
Morning Worship for Mothering Sunday**

Preparation

God of our days and years,
we set this time apart for you.
Form us in the likeness of Christ
so that our lives may glorify you. Amen.

Hymn

For the beauty of the earth, for the beauty of the skies
For the love which from our birth over and around us lies
Lord of all to thee we raise, this our sacrifice of praise

For the beauty of the hour of the day and of the night
Hill and vale and tree and flower, sun and moon and stars of light
Lord of all to thee we raise this our sacrifice of praise

For the joy of human love, brother, sister, parent, child
Friends on earth and friends above, pleasures pure and undefiled:
Lord of all to thee we raise this our sacrifice of praise

For each perfect gift of thine to our race so freely given
Graces human and divine, flowers of earth and buds of heaven

Lord of all to thee we raise this our sacrifice of praise

Folliott Sandford Pierpoint

The Benedicite – a Song of Creation (shorter version)

- 1 Bless the Lord all you works of the Lord: ◆ sing his praise and exalt him for ever.
- 2 Bless the Lord you heavens: ◆ sing his praise and exalt him for ever.
- 3 Bless the Lord you angels of the Lord: ◆ sing his praise and exalt him for ever.
- 4 Bless the Lord all people on earth: ◆ sing his praise and exalt him for ever.
- 5 O people of God bless the Lord: ◆ sing his praise and exalt him for ever.
- 6 Bless the Lord you priests of the Lord: ◆ sing his praise and exalt him for ever.
- 7 Bless the Lord you servants of the Lord: ◆ sing his praise and exalt him for ever.
- 8 Bless the Lord all you of upright spirit: ◆ bless the Lord you that are holy and humble in heart.

Bless the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit: ◆ sing his praise and exalt him for ever.

The night has passed, and the day lies open before us;
let us pray with one heart and mind.

Silence is kept.

As we rejoice in the gift of this new day,
so may the light of your presence, O God,
set our hearts on fire with love for you;
now and for ever. Amen.

The Word of God

Ps 34:11-20;

- 11 Come, O children, listen to me; I will teach you the fear of the Lord.
- 12 Which of you desires life, and covets many days to enjoy good?
- 13 Keep your tongue from evil, and your lips from speaking deceit.
- 14 Depart from evil, and do good; seek peace, and pursue it.
- 15 The eyes of the Lord are on the righteous, and his ears are open to their cry.
- 16 The face of the Lord is against evildoers, to cut off the remembrance of them from the earth.
- 17 When the righteous cry for help, the Lord hears, and rescues them from all their troubles.
- 18 The Lord is near to the broken-hearted, and saves the crushed in spirit.
- 19 Many are the afflictions of the righteous, but the Lord rescues them from them all.
- 20 He keeps all their bones; not one of them will be broken.

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning is now and shall be for ever. Amen.

Old Testament Reading

1 Sam 1:20-28;

In due time Hannah conceived and bore a son. She named him Samuel, for she said, 'I have asked him of the Lord.' The man Elkanah and all his household went up to offer to the Lord the yearly sacrifice, and to pay his vow. 22 But Hannah did not go up, for she said to her husband, 'As soon as the child is weaned, I will bring him, that he may appear in the presence of the Lord, and remain there for ever; I will offer him as a nazirite for all time.' 23 Her husband Elkanah said to her, 'Do what seems best to you, wait until you have weaned him; only—may the Lord establish his word.' So the woman remained and nursed her son, until she weaned him. 24 When she had weaned him, she took him up with her, along with a three-year-old bull, an ephah of flour, and a skin of wine. She brought him to the house of the Lord at Shiloh; and the child was young. 25 Then they slaughtered the bull, and they brought the child to Eli. 26 And she said, 'Oh, my lord! As you live, my lord, I am the woman who was standing here in your presence, praying to the Lord. 27 For this child I prayed; and the Lord has granted me the petition that I made to him. 28 Therefore I have lent him to the Lord; as long as he lives, he is given to the Lord.'

She left him there for the Lord.

Canticle

A Song of St Anselm

- 1 Jesus, like a mother you gather your people to you; ◆ you are gentle with us as a mother with her children.
- 2 Often you weep over our sins and our pride, ◆ tenderly you draw us from hatred and judgement.
- 3 You comfort us in sorrow and bind up our wounds, ◆ in sickness you nurse us and with pure milk you feed us.
- 4 Jesus, by your dying, we are born to new life; ◆ by your anguish and labour we come forth in joy.
- 5 Despair turns to hope through your sweet goodness; ◆ through your gentleness we find comfort in fear.
- 6 Your warmth gives life to the dead, ◆ your touch makes sinners righteous.
- 7 Lord Jesus, in your mercy heal us; ◆ in your love and tenderness remake us.
- 8 In your compassion bring grace and forgiveness, ◆ for the beauty of heaven may your love prepare us.

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning is now and shall be for ever. Amen.

New Testament Reading

John 19:25-27

25 Standing near the cross of Jesus were his mother, and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. 26 When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing beside her, he said to his mother, 'Woman, here is your son.' 27 Then he said to the disciple, 'Here is your mother.' And from that hour the disciple took her into his own home.

Gospel Canticle

The Benedictus

- 1 Blessed be the Lord the God of Israel, ◆ who has come to his people and set them free.
- 2 He has raised up for us a mighty Saviour, ◆ born of the house of his servant David.
- 3 Through his holy prophets God promised of old ◆ to save us from our enemies, from the hands of all that hate us,
- 4 To show mercy to our ancestors, ◆ and to remember his holy covenant.
- 5 This was the oath God swore to our father Abraham: ◆ to set us free from the hands of our enemies,
- 6 Free to worship him without fear, ◆ holy and righteous in his sight all the days of our life.
- 7 And you, child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High, ◆ for you will go before the Lord to prepare his way,
- 8 To give his people knowledge of salvation ◆ by the forgiveness of all their sins.
- 9 In the tender compassion of our God ◆ the dawn from on high shall break upon us,
- 10 To shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death, ◆ and to guide our feet into the way of peace.

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning is now and shall be for ever. Amen.

Homily from the Diocesan Website

You don't need to be a mother to be motherly.

Our Gospel today is perhaps not what you would expect on a flowery day such as Mother's Day, for it is not the mother who is mothering. Here is Jesus, very close to his last minute alive on earth, actually on the cross, thinking of his mother and making

arrangements for her to be cared for when he is gone, by asking his best friend John to look after her. So here is Jesus, being motherly.

The Old Testament reading from Samuel is perhaps more usual for us. It shows Samuel's mother wanting him so much that she promises to give him to God in return. When Samuel was old enough, she took him to God's temple as she promised and Samuel grew up there to become a holy man who chose Israel's famous king David.

What do these two have in common? The answer is in the New Testament reading where Paul says 'Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony.'

Love is the key because God in his tenderness is our example for all our lives.

The readings indeed show the depth of love that is possible between a mother and her child. Those of us who were, and are, lucky enough to experience this with our own mothers are fortunate people indeed, for the warmth and acceptance that can flow between a mother and her child is a golden light to our lives. God rejoices in these relationships, shown in its essence in the love of Jesus for his mother in our Gospel today.

Some of us though are not so initially fortunate. There are many who have not had this wonderful relationship from the beginning, and perhaps some also who have grown apart from their family and feel that they are not understood. For these people, God rejoices in them also and shows us in Jesus that a mother's love, in essence, does not have to come from a biological mother but flows out of the love of God through many other people in our world.

We can all have this loving, warm relationship with God, and Jesus shows us this clearly. We are loved no matter what, through thick and thin, in joy and in sorrow. Everyone has a mother in God. Some of us have this in a literal sense, for our mothers have died and gone to heaven. That can be a real comfort to us, even though we miss them for now. But for all of us, the love we seek is here on earth too, in friends, family and often in people who need our help. Even little children can care for others in this warm, accepting way, and we can tenderly care for the earth and its creatures also. Thanks be to God.

Questions for Reflection

1. Who do you care for in a way that is 'motherly'?
2. Who cares for you in this tender, warm way?
3. Is there anything else from the passage not already discussed that speaks to you? What is it?

4. What will you do this week in your Monday-to-Saturday ministry in response to what you have heard today? #everydayfaith

Prayers of Intercession

Loving God of the ages, like a mother you brought the world to birth, and we rejoice that we are part of that creation.

Help us to care for your earth in all its complex beauty, and to nurture our children's generation in that sacred duty.

You offer us life in abundance.

Help us to live as your children.

In the squabbles and struggles between your peoples, some are neglected, some suffer, some die.

Grant us the will to overcome hatred, to reach out to the poor and the victim.

You offer us life in abundance.

Help us to live as your children.

We remember the mothers around us, and the blessings they give to their families, and we pray for those who find it hard to cope.

We think of women who seek their fulfilment in acts of generosity and service, and of all who bring hope to birth in others.

You offer us life in abundance.

Help us to live as your children.

We pray for all parents who, like Mary, have lost their children before their time.

Grant your blessing of peace in times of grief, your comfort in places of sorrow.

You offer us life in abundance.

Help us to live as your children.

God who is mother and father to us, receive the prayers we offer in the name of Jesus, son of Mary, who gave up his life for the sake of your love and is alive with you and the Holy Spirit, now and for ever. Amen.

A prayer for all those affected by Coronavirus

Keep us, good Lord, under the shadow of your mercy.

Sustain and support the anxious, be with those who care for the sick,



and lift up all who are brought low;
that we may find comfort
knowing that nothing can separate us from your love in Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen

The Collect of the day

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.



The Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours
now and for ever. Amen.

Hymn

Chorus

*Bind us together, Lord, bind us together
with cords that cannot be broken.
Bind us together Lord, bind us together Lord,
bind us together in love*

There is only one God, there is only one King.
There is only one body, that is why we sing!
Chorus

Fit for the family of God, purchased by his precious blood.
Born with the right to be free: Jesus the victory has won.
Chorus

We are the family of God, we are his promise divine,
we are his chosen desire, we are the glorious new wine.
Chorus

Words & Music: B. Gillman

The Conclusion

May God, who gave birth to all creation, bless us:
may God, who became incarnate by an earthly mother, bless us:
may God, who broods as a mother over her children, bless us.

May almighty God bless us, Father, Son and Holy Spirit,
now and for ever. Amen.

This week: Weekday Prayer: Daily at St James Spilsby

ALL MEETINGS CANCELLED

Monday

Pray for Toynton All Saints & St Peter

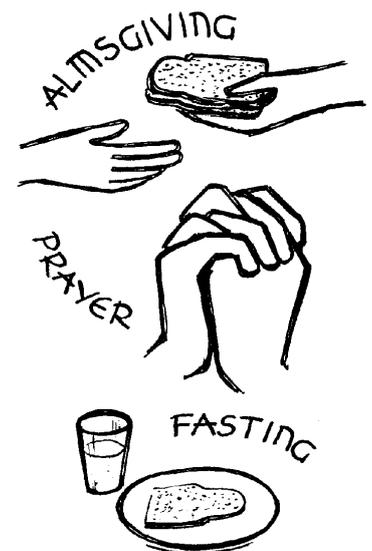
Tuesday Paul Couturier

Pray for our Ecumenical Partners

Wednesday The ANNUNCIATION of OUR LORD to MARY

Pray for our response to God

We beseech you, O Lord,
pour your grace into our hearts,
that as we have known the incarnation of your Son Jesus Christ
by the message of an angel,
so by his cross and passion
we may be brought to the glory of his resurrection;
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.



Thursday Henry Monsell

Pray for Families & Schools

Friday

Pray for our Health Service

Saturday

Pray for Scremby

Next Sunday – Fifth Sunday of Lent Passion Sunday

5th Sunday in the month

Pray for all the People of our Deanery

Daily at Noon

God of love, turn our hearts to Your ways and give us peace. Amen

From our Bishops In the past few days we have been encouraged to see ways in which congregations are already putting into action new ways to stay in touch with communities. We now have a new Facebook page as a way to stay in touch, which is Lincoln – Bishops' Office (*please click on*

<https://www.facebook.com/lincolnbishopsoffice/>? to access the page). Today there is the first of what we plan to be regular video messages.

A reminder that the Archbishop of Canterbury will lead a national service this Sunday morning at 8am on local BBC radio stations (an online link to BBC Radio Lincolnshire is [here](#), and an online link to BBC Radio Humberside is [here](#)). This Sunday is also Mothering Sunday and if your practice has been to distribute flowers to parishioners as they leave church, why not think about leaving a flower on their doorstep.

With our blessings,
Bishop David and Bishop Nicholas

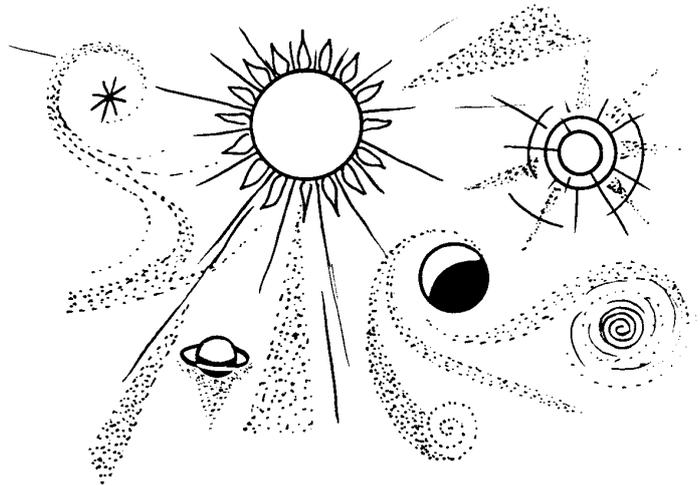
Clergy Team

The Rev'd. Canon Peter Coates
The Vicarage, Church Street, Spilsby, PE23 5EF
email: peter.coates50@yahoo.com
Tel: 01790 752526

The Rev'd. Ms. Fran Jeffries
The Rectory, Horbling Lane,
Stickney PE22 8DQ
email: revfjeffries@outlook.com

The Rev'd. Mrs Joan Thornett
email: fctjw@btinternet.com
Tel: 01790 754151

The Rev'd Mrs Jean Coates
Contact via Spilsby Vicarage – As above
email: coatesjean@yahoo.co.uk



Rev'd. Mrs Teresa McLaughlin &
Mr Paul McLaughlin – Community Chaplain
The Rectory, Scremby Road Partney PE23 4PG
tmclaughlin@tiscali.co.uk
01790 752344

[Please take this sheet home with you for reference]