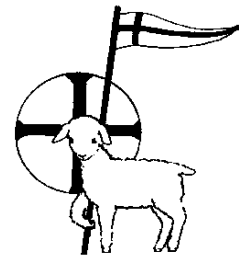


# Church of St John the Baptist, Tisbury

*reflecting Jesus Christ*



**Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2020**

**Mothering Sunday (The Fourth Sunday of Lent)**



Today, the day on which traditionally people went to worship in their mother church, we give thanks for our mothers and for all they mean or meant to us. We give thanks, too, for all who have looked after us or 'mothered' us in any way. We pray for those who have never known a mother's love, and for those who mourn the passing of a parent. We pray too for those who have never known the joy of being a mother. You may like to pray the collect and to meditate on the readings set for today, along with Christians all over the world.

## The 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.**

## The 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 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."

## The Gospel: John 19.25b-27

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

## Worship and Ministry during the Coronavirus (Covid-19) Outbreak

As of 17<sup>th</sup> March, advice from the Archbishops of Canterbury and York has resulted in the suspension of all public acts of worship in the Church of England (both mid-week and on Sundays) until further notice. This news is very painful for us all.

In the meantime, the Church's ministry will continue, but in a different style:

- clergy will continue to say Morning and Evening Prayer, being before God with the people on our hearts
- clergy will celebrate Holy Communion, where possible
- a bell will be rung to mark these times of prayer, so that, if you wish, you may pray at home at the same time
- clergy will be available to contact in the usual way and will respond in whatever way current circumstances will allow, always with due attention to the minimising of risk to the vulnerable

The church is open daily for private prayer. You are very welcome to make use of the church, but please keep 2m (6ft) distance from anyone else. Prayer cards are available – feel free to take one with you for personal use.

Do keep an eye on the website (address below) for updates.

Last but not least, within our community we all have a part to play in providing practical care and support for the most vulnerable during this crisis.

You are all very much in our prayers.

*Juliette*

### A Prayer for use during the Coronavirus Outbreak

Keep us, good Lord,  
under the shadow of your mercy  
in this time of uncertainty and distress.  
Sustain and support the anxious and fearful,  
and lift up all who are brought low;  
that we may rejoice in your comfort  
knowing that nothing can separate us from your love  
in Christ Jesus our Lord.  
Amen.

## General Notices

### Lent Lunches

Sadly it has been necessary to cancel the Lent Lunches. Thank you to all who supported the first two lunches, and especially to those who made soup and/or helped on the day.

### Annual Meeting of Parishioners and Annual Parochial Church Meeting

The Annual Meetings are postponed - we shall be following Church of England directives as to the way forward.

### Children's Holiday Workshop

Children and families - Church isn't stopping - it is changing! In light of the restrictions, our usual fab Easter Workshop will not physically take place this Easter Week - but we will be producing a Virtual "Workshop at Home" set of resources so that all of us can explore the Easter Story together. We'll have ideas for makes and bakes, for music and hopefully some film links and some challenges for you to film and photograph to share. If you've got good ideas please email either Rev Jo on [revdjoannanaish@gmail.com](mailto:revdjoannanaish@gmail.com) or Rev Elaine on [elainebri57@gmail.com](mailto:elainebri57@gmail.com) Details can also be found on Facebook on the 'What's going on in Tisbury' page.

### Parish Office

It is hoped that we shall be able to open the parish office from 9.30-11.00am Monday to Thursday (but not Friday), although changes may need to be made in accordance with any changes in government advice. Voicemail and email will be checked regularly.

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The Revd Juliette Hulme, Team Vicar  
The Parish Office, Hinton Hall, Church St, Tisbury SP3 6NH  
Monday-Thursday 9.30-11.00am

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