

Worshipping, Caring, Pioneering
'Growing God's Kingdom'



Sunday worship and weekly news
14 March 2021

MOTHERING SUNDAY
LENT 4

Welcome everyone
As the Rev Canon Dr Sandra Millar
leads our Video Service



Greetings on the 4th Sunday of lent, traditionally known as Mothering Sunday. A day to count our blessings and honour our own mothers (in our hearts if not in person) but also to reflect on our church roots which for some seem deeper and more precious having experienced these periods of enforced separation from our buildings and physical gatherings. As we worship together, but apart again today, our reading from Colossians reminds us of our new life in Christ and our Psalm presents us with the secret of success. All our efforts are in vain unless the Lord builds and keeps. May the Lord continue to build and keep us and all whom we love.

Lorraine Best

Today's service on You Tube:

The service can be accessed from the church website www.glos-stm-stg.org.uk Click on the blue banner at the bottom of the page. Enjoy, and sing aloud to your hearts content.

When will our churches re-open?

We are pleased to announce our churches will be re-opening. **St Margaret's will re-open for Communion each Thursday from the 18 March; then both churches will re-open for Sunday worship from 28 March onwards.**

Will there be restrictions?

Sadly.... Yes! The same rules that applied pre lockdown will be in place i.e.

- Wear a face mask.
- Sanitise your hands.
- No singing (except from the heart).
- Observe Social Distancing – the 2m rule.
- No mixing or socialising, either before or after the service.

Sorry to say these rules are necessary.

Order of Service

More than Mother's Day

Processional 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 each hour
Of the day and of the night,
Hill and vale, and tree and flower,
Sun and moon and stars of light:
Chorus

For the joy of human love,
Brother, sister, parent, child,
Friends on earth, and friends above,
For all gentle thoughts and mild:
Chorus

For each perfect gift of thine
To our race so freely given,
Graces human and divine,
Flowers of earth and buds of
heaven:
Chorus

THE GREETING

Minister. We meet in the name of the father and of the son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Prayer of preparation for worship

Minister. Let us pray

Almighty God to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hidden: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts, by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy name; through Christ, our Lord. Amen

Prayer of penitence

Our Lord Jesus Christ said:

The first commandment is this: 'Hear, O Israel, the Lord, Our God, is the only Lord. You shall love the Lord, Your God, with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength.'

The second is this: 'Love your neighbour as yourself.'

There is no other commandment greater than these. On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets. **Amen, Lord, have mercy.**



Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit into the wilderness, where for forty days he was tempted by the devil.

Let us confess our sins remembering before God the times when we have fallen short from temptation into sin.

Most merciful God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, we confess that we have sinned in thought, word and deed. We have not loved you with our whole heart. We have not loved our neighbours as ourselves. In your mercy forgive what we have been, help us to amend what we are, and direct what we shall be; that we may do justly, love mercy, and walk humbly with you, our God. Amen

Almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and keep you in life eternal; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen**

Prayer for Today

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.

Colossians 3 The New Life in Christ

Read by Georgina Wood

¹² As God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. ¹³ 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. ¹⁴ Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. ¹⁵ And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful. ¹⁶ 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. ¹⁷ 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.

Prayer: Lord grant us to grow in compassionate love as we allow your Word to live in us and as we proclaim you in all our words and actions. Amen

Psalms 127 Labouring and Prospering with the Lord

Read by Kim & David Westcott

- 1 Unless the Lord builds the house those who build it labour in vain. **Unless the Lord keeps the city, the guard keeps watch in vain.**
- 2 It is in vain that you hasten to rise up early and go so late to rest, eating the bread of toil, **for he gives his beloved sleep.**
- 3 Children are a heritage from the Lord **and the fruit of the womb is his gift.**

4 Like arrows in the hands of a warrior are children born in one's youth.

Prayer: Lord, you are ever watchful and bless us with your gifts; as you provide for all our needs, so help us to build only what pleases you; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Luke 2 Jesus is presented in the Temple

Read by Derek Kingscote

³³ And the child's father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. ³⁴ 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 ³⁵ so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed and a sword will pierce your own soul too.'



Prayer: Lord grant us to grow in compassionate love as we allow your Word to live in us and as we proclaim you in all our words and actions. Amen

Reflection from Canon Andrew Braddock

Imagine a toddler taking their first solo steps. They have held on to the adult's hand, gaining confidence in walking. Now is the moment to let go and step out on their own. There will be bumps, bruises and maybe even tears, but there will also be new freedom.

Those first solo steps are mothering in miniature. The love and security of the held hand are what gives the toddler confidence to let go and walk solo. The loving is in the letting go and in the being there to pick the toddler up when things go wrong.

This year we've been discovering afresh what it means to love, to let go and to be there for others.

Not being able to hug or to hold another's hand in reassurance, have been painful losses. At the same time different forms of social media, phone calls, writing letters and sending gifts, have assumed fresh importance. Separated physically, we've discovered new ways to be together and to encourage each other in difficult days.

On Mothering Sunday, these themes assume fresh importance and stir mixed emotions.

It's a time for reflection as we recall all those who have 'mothered' us over the years. Their love has given us the confidence to step out and become the people God calls us to be.

Such love will hurt. Today's Gospel points towards Mary letting Jesus go as he walks the way of the cross: 'a sword will pierce your own soul too'.

Yet without love, what is life? Paul writes '...clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together...'

Paul is encouraging us to wrap ourselves in God's embrace, for God is love.

As good mothering holds us secure, giving us the confidence to take our own steps in life, so God's love is the anchor point that gives us the freedom to risk loving others and to love ourselves.



We declare together our commitment to faith:

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty maker of heaven and earth, of all that is seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten not made: of one being with the Father; through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven was Incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and was made man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again, in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory, to judge the living and the dead and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord the giver of life who proceeds from the Father and the Son who with the Father and the son is worshipped and glorified who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen

Intercessions from Helen McGeoch
Heavenly Father

We thank you for your goodness and your kindness, your mercy and your grace. We thank you for the love you lavish upon us all.



Today, we thank you especially for the mother heart of every person who cares for another and gives in a self-sacrificial way for the benefit of another. We have all been loved and cared for by someone like this. Thank you.

We thank you for all those in leadership positions around the world, who have the opportunity to make a difference for the people in their charge. Father, we pray that you will give them your wisdom and grace to make those differences good.

We thank you for those reaching out to help others who are sick around the world, for the charity organisations seeking to improve living conditions, for each person who makes a decision to assist in whatever way they can. Father, we pray that you will give them a renewed strength each day to do what it is you have called them to and keep them safe.

We thank you for those who have given much, whether in time, financially, or something they did not need themselves. Father, we pray that you will multiply these gifts in blessing those who have received them and that they will be thankful.

We thank you for your holy presence. Father, we pray that you will be with all those who are sick, dying, alone or afraid. Let them know the comfort of you beside them.

We thank you for our own families and friends. Father, pray that, whilst we can't hold them close, you will and you will protect them from harm.

As we look forward to an ending of this lockdown, help us hold onto the good things we have learned and be ready to embrace the world anew, always having clothed ourselves with love.

We share God's Peace

Since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given us access to his grace.

The peace of the Lord be with you. **And also with you**

Offertory Hymn

For Mary, Mother of our Lord
God's holy name be praised,
Who first the Son of God adored,
As on her child she gazed.

Brave, holy Virgin, she believe,
Though hard the task assigned,
And by the Holy Ghost conceived
The Saviour of mankind.

She gave her body as God's shrine,
Her heart to piercing pain;
She knew the cost of love divine,
When Jesus Christ was slain.

Dear Mary, from your lowliness
And home in Galilee
There comes a joy and holiness
To every family.

Hail, Mary, you are full of grace,
Above all women blest;
And blest your Son, whom your embrace
In birth and death confessed.

John Raphael Peacey (1896-1971) © Revd Mary J Hancock

THE SACRAMENT

The Table is prepared

Minister: God of our journey, as we walk with you on your path of obedience, sustain us on our way and lead us to your glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Yours, Lord, is the greatness, the power, the glory, the splendour, and their majesty; for everything in heaven, and on earth, is yours. All things come from you, and of your own do we give you. **Amen.**

Eucharistic Prayer

Minister: The Lord is here. **His spirit is with us.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give thanks and praise.**

It is indeed right and good to give you thanks and praise, almighty God and everlasting Father, through Jesus Christ your Son.

For in these forty days you lead us into the desert of repentance that through a pilgrimage of prayer and discipline we may grow in grace and learn to be your people once again.

Through fasting, prayer and acts of service you bring us back to your generous heart. Through study of your holy word you open our eyes to your presence in the world and free our hands to welcome others into the radiant splendour of your love.

As we prepare to celebrate the Easter feast with joyful hearts and minds we bless you for your mercy and join with the saints and angels for ever praising you and saying. Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, Heaven on earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

All glory be to you, our heavenly Father, who, in your tender mercy, gave your only Son our Saviour Jesus Christ to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption; who made there by his one oblation of himself once offered a full, perfect and sufficient sacrifice, oblation and satisfaction for the sins of the whole world; he instituted, and in his holy gospel commanded us to continue, a perpetual memory of his precious death until he comes again.

Hear us, merciful Father, we humbly pray, and grant that, by the power of your Holy Spirit, we receiving these gifts of your creation, this bread and this wine, according to your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ's holy institution, in remembrance of his death and passion, may be partakers of his most blessed body and blood; who, in the same night that he was betrayed, took bread and gave you thanks; he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying Take, eat, this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me. In the same way, after supper he took the cup and gave you thanks; he gave it to them, saying; Drink this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

Jesus Christ is Lord: **Lord, by your cross and resurrection you have set us free, You are the saviour of the world.** Therefore, Lord and heavenly Father, in remembrance of the precious death and passion, the mighty resurrection and glorious ascension of your dear Son Jesus Christ, we offer you through him this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving.

Grant that by his merits and death, and through faith in his blood, we and all your Church may receive forgiveness of our sins and all other benefits of his passion. Although we are unworthy, through our manifold sins, to offer you any sacrifice, yet we pray that you will accept this the duty and service that we owe. Do not weigh our merits, but pardon our offences, and fill us all who share in this holy communion with your grace and heavenly blessing; through Jesus Christ our Lord, by whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory be yours, almighty Father for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

Let us pray for the coming of gods kingdom, as our saviour has taught us.

Our father who art in heaven hallowed be thy name thy Kingdom come thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven give us this day Our Daily Bread and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil for thine is the kingdom the power and the glory for ever and ever. Amen.

We break the bread

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.

Though we are many, we are one body, because we all share in one bread.

Lamb of God you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us. (repeat)

Lamb of God you take away the sin of the world, grant us peace.

We share in Communion

Jesus is the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the whole world. Blessed are those who are called to his supper. **Lord, I am not worthy to receive you, but only say the word, and I shall be healed.**

Most merciful Lord, your love compels us to come in. Our hands were unclean, our hearts were unprepared; we were not fit even to eat the crumbs from under your table. But you, Lord, are the God of our salvation, and share your bread with sinners. So cleanse and feed us with the precious body and blood of your Son, that he may live in us and we in him; and that we, with the whole company of Christ, may sit and eat in your kingdom. **Amen**

Prayers

Father of all, we give you thanks and praise, that when we were still far off you met us in your Son and brought us home. Dying and living, he declared your love, gave us grace, and opened the gate of glory.

May we who share Christ's body live his risen life; we who drink his cup bring life to others; we whom the Spirit lights give light to the world. Keep us firm in the hope you have set before us, so we and all your people shall be free, and the whole earth live to praise your name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Rev Canon Dr Sandra Millar
takes communion on our behalf

THE DISMISSAL

God, who from the death of sin raised you to new life in Christ, keep you from falling and set you in the presence of his glory; and the blessing of God almighty, the father, the son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and all whom you hold in your heart this day and always. **Amen**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. **In the name of Christ, Amen**

Final Hymn

Tell out my soul, the greatness of the Lord:
Unnumbered blessings, give my spirit voice;
Tender to me the promise of his word;
In God my Saviour shall my heart rejoice.



Tell out my soul, the greatness of his name:
Make known his might, the deeds his arm has done;
His mercy sure, from age to age the same;
His holy name, the Lord, the mighty one.

Tell out my souls, the greatness of his might:
Pow'rs and dominions lay their glory by
Proud hearts and stubborn wills are put to flight,
The hungry fed, the humble lifted high.

Tell out, my soul, the glories of his word!
Firm is his promise, and his mercy sure.
Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord
To children's children and for evermore!

Timothy Dudley-Smith (born 1926)

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News – 14 – 21 March **DIARY DATES – 14 - 21 March**

Sun 14			No service today
Mon 15 to Fri 19	10.00am until 12.00noon	St G	Food parcels
Mon 15	7.00pm	Z	Lent Group
Wed 17	8.15am	Z	Pioneers
Thu 18	10.30am	St M	Parish Communion
Fri 19	10.30am	Z	Lent Group
	2.30pm	Crem	Funeral for the late Margaret Price RIP
Sun 21			No service today

St G's = St George's St M's = St Margaret's
Z = Zoom Crem = Crematorium

In Memoriam:

Joan King, Margaret Price RIP

We pray for all who are ill or in need at this time mentioning by name:

Margaret, Angela, Susan, Mike and Laura, Lynne, Bill, Sarah, Pat, Christine, June, Daphne, Ginnie, Veronica, Darren and family, Hedley and Rosemary, Carol, Christopher and Christine, David and Angela, Richard, Tony and Jean.

Anniversaries of death:

Dorothy Tudor, Marian Lane, Ken Holder, Richard Dean, Charles Cook, Heather Hutson, Olive Young, Frank Chinn, Wilfred Brunt, Jacqueline James, Trevor Cale, James Daniels, Edith Hardman.

Birthdays and Anniversaries:

Sarah Kingscote 14th.

ELECTORAL ROLL: The 2021 Annual meetings of St George's and St Margaret's will be held at some point in 2021. If your name does not appear on the current Electoral Roll you will not be eligible to vote at the APCMs or be elected onto either PCC.

The Electoral Roll for St George's and St Margaret's would normally be displayed on the notice board from **Sunday 7 March 2021 - 28 March 2021** but neither church may be open during that period.

If you wish your name to be added to the list, forms can be obtained from Margaret Barber, for St George's or Jill Ponter, for St Margaret's (see contact details at the front of Crossroads).

Completed forms should be returned by no later than **Sunday 28 March 2021**.

EASTER AUCTION

Our baking chef Sue has offered to make an Easter Cake to be auctioned by 28 March 2021. If you would like to bid for the cake please contact Glenda on 01452 410507 leaving your details by Sunday, 28 March and arrangements will be made with the winner for collection or delivery.

EASTER EGG HUNT

Following the success of Tuffley Christmas Windows we are decorating windows for Easter. Sign up on our Facebook Page, **Tuffley Easter Egg Hunt**, to appear on the map, or just decorate your window anyway. Window decorations will be up from Friday 2nd April to Friday 16th April. Make sure you include an Easter egg!

FOOD PARCELS

St George's Church, Grange Road, is open for Food Parcel collections every **Monday through to Friday every week from 10.00am – 12.00noon**

Anyone requiring help outside of these times please phone Sylvia on 01452 416184.

All food parcels are FREE OF CHARGE

Please be aware of social distancing guidelines

WHAT TO DO for THIS WEEK:

❖ Keep bringing items for the **Foodbank; new collection point is the Church Centre hallway on a Friday morning from 9.30am – 11.30am.**

Toiletries now accepted at the foodbank, in addition long life milk and tinned carrots needed.

Thank you!

Know someone who:

- ❖ is stuck at home without support?
- ❖ can't make ends meet?
- ❖ Just wants to talk?

Then **Contact Gloucestershire Community Help Hub on 01452 583519**



Keep picking up the phone!

People are finding phone calls with friends invaluable to combat loneliness. Thank you everyone; please keep up the good work!

CONTACTING US:

Vicar: Vacancy (please pray for new appointment)

Reader: Jonathan MacKechnie-Jarvis 01452 502174

Pioneer: Helen McGeoch 07729 615993

Email: tuffleypioneer@gmail.com

Website: www.glos-stg-stm.org.uk

Facebook: St. George's, Tuffley and St Margaret's Whaddon

Administrator: Glenda Stevens 01452 307456

Email: stgeorgeschurch1@gmail.com

The Administration office is open on Friday mornings from 9.30am until 11.30am until further notice. Please contact the Church Administrator by email or leave a message on the office telephone and our Administrator will get back to you.

We are part of the **Church in Tuffley**, working in partnership with English Martyrs (Roman Catholic), Grange (Baptist) and St Barnabas (Anglican).



28 March 2021

PALM SUNDAY

No processions, but Palm Crosses will be available

9.00am Parish Communion at St Margaret's

10.30am Parish Communion at St George's

10.30am Family Praise at St Margaret's

1 April 2021

MAUNDY THURSDAY

10.30am Parish Communion at St Margaret's

12.00noon St George's will be open for individual

Stations of the Cross. Open until 3.00pm

2 April 2021

GOOD FRIDAY

12.00noon St George's will be open for individual

Stations of the Cross. Open until 3.00pm

4 April 2021

EASTER DAY

9.00am Parish Communion at St Margaret's

10.30am Parish Communion at St George's

10.30am Family Praise at St Margaret's

VACANCY STANDING COMMITTEE on ZOOM

4.00pm Tuesday 23 March

4.00pm Tuesday 13 April

BENEFICE STANDING COMMITTEE on ZOOM

4.00pm Tuesday 30 March