

Tea/coffee in Church after Mass. Please stay.

19th March 2023

PARISH CHURCH OF ST. MARY THE VIRGIN, MENDLESHAM

LENT IV Mothering Sunday Year A

This week – Divine Office – Psalter week 4

Mon: ST. JOSEPH (Solemnity) (transferred)

9:30am Mass. Int: All Fathers and Grandfathers.
(II Sam.7 v4-5, 12–14,16: Romans 4 v13, 16-18,22: Matt 1 v.18-21,24)

Tues: 9:00am Mass. Int: All preparing for Baptism.

(Ezek. 47 v.1-9, 12; John 5 v.1-3, 5-16.)
10.30-12.30 Tea, coffee, soup, Cakes etc. In church

Wed: 9.30am Mass. Int: Walsingham.

(Is 49 v8-15; John 5 v. 17-30.)

Thurs: 9:30am Mass. Int: King Charles and his government

(Ex. 32 v. 7-14; John 5 v. 31-47.)

Fri: 10.00am School Service for Easter.

11.00am Mass of Annunciation of our Lord (Anticipated).
(Is 7 v.10-14, 8 v.10.Hebrews 1 v.4-10 Luke 1 v.26-38)

Sat: ANNUNCIATION OF OUR LORD (solemnity)

10:00am. 1st Mass of Sunday. Int: All Pilgrims
Readings as on Sunday.
12.00-2.00 Spud bash in U.R.C. Chapel in aid of the Friends of St. Mary's
CLOCKS CHANGE TONIGHT

Next Sunday: LENT V - Passiontide

9.30am Parish Mass & Address,
(Ezekiel 37 v. 12-14; Romans 8 v. 8-11; John 11 v. 1-45.)

NOTICES:

1. Please remember to change your clocks next Saturday night to Summertime-one hour less in bed.
2. Please support the Spud Bash next Saturday in aid of church restoration.
3. Please sign the list for watch in the Garden of Gethsemane
4. The Appeal for Syria and Turkey raised £247.92 +Gift Aid. Thank you to all who gave. Christian Aid week collectors are urgently needed. Please see Val Arnold if you can help.
5. P.C.C. Accounts to be presented after Mass on Sunday 16th April.
6. Let us pray for Frederick Anthony Cole Cowderoy & Matilda Brookfield Cowderoy named and blessed today and for their parents Chris and Louise.
7. Today is the last day for ordering Easter candles for the departed. £15 per light (covers 3 to last throughout Eastertide). List on bier.

THEME: In today's liturgy we are reminded that no matter how dark the world seems to be, Jesus leads us out of that darkness by the power of His own light

Entrance Hymn: 365 v. 1 & 2. Blessing of candles as a prayer for our mothers, whether living or departed, and procession to the Lady Chapel – **365 v. 3** to end.

PENITENTIAL RITE

Celebrant: Forgive us, Lord, for quarrels in our families we do not attempt to mend. Lord have mercy. **People:(sing) Kyrie Eleison**

Celebrant: Forgive us, Lord, when we feel neglected and the darkness in our lives seems predominant. Christ have mercy.

People: Christe Eleison

Celebrant: Forgive us, Lord, when we resist the call for a change of heart. Lord have mercy. **People: Kyrie Eleison**

Celebrant proclaims God's forgiveness

OPENING PRAYER: *Let us pray for a greater faith and love.* Father of Peace, we are joyful in your word, your Son Jesus Christ, who reconciles us to you. Let us hasten toward Easter with eagerness of faith and love.

LITURGY OF THE WORD OF GOD

First Reading – 1 Samuel 16 v. 6-7; 10-13: God does not judge by human appearances. He chooses those whom others reject.

The Lord said to Samuel, 'Fill your horn with oil and go. I am sending you to Jesse of Bethlehem, for I have chosen myself a king among his sons.' When Samuel arrived, he caught sight of Eliab and thought, 'Surely the Lord's anointed stands there before him,' but the Lord said to Samuel, 'Take no notice of his appearance or his height, for I have rejected him: God does not see as man sees: man looks at appearances but the Lord looks at the heart.' Jesse presented his seven sons to Samuel, but Samuel said to Jesse, 'The Lord has not chosen these.' He then asked Jesse, 'Are these all the sons you have?' He answered, 'There is still one left, the youngest; he is out looking after the sheep.' Then Samuel said to Jesse, 'Send for him; we will not sit down to eat until he comes.' Jesse had him sent for, a boy of fresh complexion, with fine eyes and pleasant bearing. The Lord said, 'Come, anoint him, for this is the one.' At this, Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him where he stood with his brothers; and the spirit of the Lord seized on David and stayed with him from that day on.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps22

® **The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.**

The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

Fresh and green are the pastures where he gives me repose.

Near restful waters he leads me, to revive my drooping spirit. ®

He guides me along the right path; He is true to His name.

If I should walk in the valley of darkness no evil would I fear.

You are there with your crook and your staff, with these you give me comfort ®

You have prepared a banquet for me in the sight of my foes.
My head you have anointed with oil; my cup is overflowing.®

® **The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.**

Surely goodness and kindness shall follow me all the days of my life.
In the Lord's house shall I dwell for ever and ever. ®

Second reading – Ephesians 5 v. 8-14: St. Paul writes to the Christian converts at Ephesus, encouraging them to remain in the light of Christ. By contrast their past lives were in darkness; now they are children of light.

You were darkness once, but now you are light in the Lord; be like children of light, for the effects of the light are seen in complete goodness and right living and truth. Try to discover what the Lord wants of you, having nothing to do with the futile works of darkness but exposing them by contrast. The things which are done in secret are things that people are ashamed even to speak of; but anything exposed by the light will be illuminated and anything illuminated turns into light. That is why it is said: Wake up from your sleep, rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.

Gospel Hymn: 609.

Gospel Acclamation: Glory to you O Christ! I am the light of the world, says the Lord; anyone who follows me will have the light of life. Glory to you O Christ!

Gospel - John 9 v. 1-41: John tells the story of how Jesus, the light of the world leads a blind man out of darkness into the light of knowing who Jesus really is.

As Jesus went along, he saw a man who had been blind from birth. He spat on the ground, made a paste with the spittle, put this over the eyes of the blind man, and said to him, 'Go and wash in the Pool of Siloam' (a name that means 'sent'). So the blind man went off and washed himself, and came away with his sight restored. His neighbours and people who earlier had seen him begging said, 'Isn't this the man who used to sit and beg?' Some said, 'Yes, it is the same one.' Others said, 'No, he only looks like him.' The man himself said, 'I am the man.'

They brought the man who had been blind to the Pharisees. It had been a sabbath day when Jesus made the paste and opened the man's eyes, so when the Pharisees asked him how he had come to see, he said, 'He put a paste on my eyes, and I washed, and I can see.' Then some of the Pharisees said, 'This man cannot be from God: he does not keep the sabbath.' Others said, 'How could a sinner produce signs like this?' And there was disagreement among them. So they spoke to the blind man again, 'What have you to say about him yourself, now that he has opened your eyes?' 'He is a prophet' replied the man. 'Are you trying to teach us,' they replied 'and you a sinner through and through, since you were born!' And they drove him away.

Jesus heard they had driven him away, and when he found him he said to him, 'Do you believe in the Son of Man?' 'Sir,' the man replied 'tell me who he is so that I may believe in him.' Jesus said, 'You are looking at him; he is speaking to you.' The man said, 'Lord, I believe', and worshipped him.

NAMING & BLESSING:

Frederick Anthony Cole Cowderoy & Matilda Brookfield Cowderoy

ADDRESS CREED- Apostles – p8 of hymn book

PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL:

Celebrant: Lord of light and truth, look upon us who stumble in darkness. Listen to the cry we lift up to you from this valley of shadows.

Reader: Let us pray for those who are blind or partially sighted. May they experience the light of life through the care and affection of others.

We pray for Frederick and Matilda Cowderoy named and blessed today and their parents Chris and Louise.

Let us pray for all Christians; that the light of faith may become brighter and stronger in our lives so Christ's light may shine through us to others.

Let us pray for all who suffer from spiritual blindness and for all who find life meaningless and empty, that they may discover Christ's way, truth and life.

On this Mothering Sunday let us pray for all families; for those who are living in disharmony because of misunderstanding or quarrels; for all broken families; Let us pray for abused children and families damaged by gossip and slander; for all bereaved or without a family and for all who are trying to forgive and to forget.

Let us pray that through anointing the Lord's love may strengthen those who are sick, especially Jose Pereira, Lucy Muskett, Jan Ross, Julie Gray, Jan Robinson Marjorie Rousseau and all prayed for at last Tuesday's Healing service.

Let us pray for the dead; that they may find fullness of light and life in heaven. We pray for Marjorie Goodman, recently departed – (*pause while a candle is lit*); & for Fr Ralph Wallace, Harry Hunt, Olive Bunn, Jim Perry, Cecil Pritchard; Shirley Keeble; Allan Kitchen; Teddy King; Fr John Head; Joan Seaman; Minnie Old and Freda Hayward whose anniversaries fall at this time.

We ask Mary to pray for us that we may learn to love Jesus more. **Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee. Blessed art thou among women and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus. Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners now and at the hour of our death. Amen.**

S I L E N C E

All: Jesus, you heal our spiritual blindness. May we always walk in the light of our baptism, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Offertory Hymn: 331 v. 1-3.

Offertory Prayers: **331 v. 4-end.**

Mass continues on p 9 of hymn book.

SANCTUS: John Allen's Lent setting. Mystery of Faith No 4 JA's Lent setting Blessed and praised be Jesus Christ in the most Holy Sacrament. Hosanna! Hosanna! Hosanna in excelsis.

Mass continues on page 11 of hymn book.

AGNUS DEI: John Allen Lent setting.

Communicants of all denominations are welcome to receive the Sacrament. If you would like a blessing, please come to the altar carrying a hymn book

Hymns at Holy Communion. Please join in: **401 and 227.**

Hymn at Ablutions: 312.

Post Communion Prayer

Angelus

Notices

Blessing

Recessional Hymn : 300.