

# St Mary's and Holy Trinity

A Reflective Service  
for worship at home on Mothering  
Sunday.



We come from scattered lives to meet with God. Let us recognise God's presence with us now.

*Keep a short silence, still your heart.*

As God's people we have gathered; Let us worship God now together, Across the miles yet joined

Let us pray.

Come, Holy Spirit,  
fill the hearts of your faithful people, and kindle in us the fire  
of your love; through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.

## Welcome

On this Mothering Sunday, we have come together today to give thanks to God for all those people who have nurtured us, and to offer ourselves to nurture others, with God's help. We have also come to acknowledge the pain of a hurting world, where we have failed to nurture each other.

We come to receive again from the God of compassion and mercy.

## Prayer of Preparation

Loving, compassionate Father,  
As a mother hen gathers her chicks,  
so you draw the whole human family to yourself.  
Bring us together now, Lord,  
that we may today and forever be united under your wing in  
all our sorrows and joys.

All: **Amen**

## The Comfortable Words

Hear the words of comfort our Saviour Christ says to all who  
truly turn to him:  
Come to me, all who labour and are heavy laden, and I will  
give you rest.

Matthew 11.28

In the light of Jesus, let us examine ourselves and confess our  
sins.

*Keep a short silence, leave your sins at the cross*

*We confess our sins:*

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.

*We receive God's forgiveness :*

May the Father forgive us by the death of the Son, and  
strengthen us to live in the power of The Spirit all our days.  
Amen.

## 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.

All: **Amen**

*Bible reading:*

## New Testament Reading

2 Corinthians 1.3-7

The following introduction to the reading may be said  
Reader: Paul describes the Christian community as one  
where we nurture each other in good times and bad.

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and the God of all consolation, who consoles us in all our affliction, so that we may be able to console those who are in any affliction with the consolation with which we ourselves are consoled by God. For just as the sufferings of Christ are abundant for us, so also our consolation is abundant through Christ. If we are being afflicted, it is for your consolation and salvation; if we are being consoled, it is for your consolation, which you experience when you patiently endure the same sufferings that we are also suffering. Our hope for you is unshaken; for we know that as you share in our sufferings, so also you share in our consolation.

This is the word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

*Short reflection which can be found on line on our websites.*

*We affirm our faith in Jesus Christ the Son of God:*

I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was  
conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried;  
he descended to the dead.

On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,

he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in  
the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting.  
Amen.

*We intercede for others in the quiet of our hearts:*

Lord, meet us in the silence And hear our prayer.

*Silence for prayer is kept:*

*Pray for yourself in your isolation,  
that you would know God's presence with you Pray for others  
in their loneliness*

*Pray for our country*

*Pray for the world*

*Pray for our NHS and caring services*

*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.

*We join with others around the world in the prayer that Jesus 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.

*Silence is kept*

Faithful God, may we who have shared in this time of  
worship Glory in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
Our salvation and hope, who reigns as Lord now and forever.

Fill us, Good Lord with your Spirit of love; And as you have  
fed us with your presence so make us one in heart and mind,  
In Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Let us bless the Lord Thanks be to God.

*If you want to live out your faith during your isolation, why not telephone someone, to let them know that they are not alone?*

“For God has said, ‘I will not leave you or forsake you’ so we can confidently say, ‘The Lord is my helper; I will not fear’.”  
(Hebrews 13:5-6)

“It is the Lord who goes before you. He will be with you; he will not leave you or forsake you. Do not be dismayed.”  
(Deuteronomy 31:8)

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