

Colossians 3:12-17

¹² Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience.

¹³ Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. ¹⁴ And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity.

¹⁵ Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful. ¹⁶ Let the message of Christ dwell among you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom through psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit, singing to God with gratitude in your hearts. ¹⁷ And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

John 19:25-27

²⁵ Near the cross of Jesus stood his mother, his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. ²⁶ When Jesus saw his mother there, and the disciple whom he loved standing nearby, he said to her, "Woman, here is your son," ²⁷ and to the disciple, "Here is your mother." From that time on, this disciple took her into his home. (NIV)

God's Masterpiece is Mother

God took pieces of everything wonderful to make mums.



God took the fragrance of a flower...

The majesty of a tree...

The gentleness of morning dew...

The calm of a quiet sea...

The beauty of the twilight hour...

The soul of a starry night...

The laughter of a rippling brook...

The grace of a bird in flight...

Then God fashioned from these things

A creation like no other,

And when his masterpiece was through

He called it simply – Mother.

Herbert Farnham



Ruby Country Benefice

*The Parishes of Ashwater, Beaworthy, Black Torrington,
Clawton, Halwill, Highampton and Tetcott*

Sunday 19th March 2023

Mothering Sunday

Welcome to Worship

9.30 am Mothering Sunday Morning Service, Ashwater

11.00 am Mothering Sunday Holy Communion, Black Torrington



Readings

I Samuel 1: 20-end

Psalm 127

Colossians 3: 12-17

John 19: 25-27

Collect

God our Father,

your Son Jesus Christ grew

in the nurturing love of Mary, his mother, and Joseph,
before he began his ministry in the world.

May we be diligent in following their example,
being loving and compassionate in our parenting,
that our children, too, may grow in truth and wisdom,
strong in spirit, and ready to follow
in the steps of Christ. Amen.

Interim Vicar (part time)

Revd Stephen Skinner

sjmskinners@btinternet.com 07554 142264

Benefice Administrator

Val Letheren val.letheren@btinternet.com 07484 880770

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

The Mission Community: for all who live and work in our Mission Community.

Rest in peace all who have recently died including Christine Butler and Peter Hanington

All who are mourning the death of a loved one including the family and friends of Christine Butler and Peter Hanington.

Those who are ill or in any kind of need and those who are vulnerable due to underlying health conditions, including Jenny Hyslop, Stephen Bowness, Doug Genini and his wife Sue, Phil Beare, Mike Edwards

For our Benefice Schools, all staff, pupils and parents

For all Mothers on Mothering Sunday

Dates for your diary

Monday 20th March	11.00 am	PCC Meeting, Beaworthy
	2.00 pm	PCC Meeting, Halwill
Tuesday 21st March	10.30 am	Lent Course, Black Torrington at the home of Maureen Ellis
	4.00 pm	Handbell Ringing at the home of Sue Plummer Black Torrington
	7.30 pm	Holsworthy Christians Together Annual General Meeting, Bodmin Street Methodist Church
Wednesday 22nd March	10.00 am	Morning Prayer Black Torrington Church
	12.00 Noon	Funeral, Christine Butler Ashwater Church
Thursday 23rd March	8.00 pm	ZOOM Compline
Friday 24th March	2.30 pm	Funeral, Peter Hanington Beaworthy Church
Saturday 25th March	2.00 pm	Jumble Sale, Village Hall Black Torrington, Church are having a cake stall, donations of cakes welcome
Sunday 26th March	11.00 am	Holy Communion Beaworthy Church
	11.00 am	Methodist Communion Clawton Church
	3.00 pm	Evening Service Highampton Church



ZOOM MEETING
Meeting ID:317 183 8102
Passcode: 848984



Thought for Sunday 12th March 2023

MOTHERING SUNDAY

Here are some of the traditions that have shaped Mothering Sunday into the celebration recognised today:

The Journey to the Mother Church

In the 16th century, Mothering Sunday was less about mothers and more about church. Back then, people would make a journey to their 'mother' church once a year. This might have been their home church, their nearest cathedral or a major parish church in a bigger town. The service which took place at the 'mother' church symbolised the coming together of families. This would have represented a significant journey for many.

A day off to visit Mother

Another tradition was to allow those working in the fields on wealthy farms and estates in England to have the day off on the fourth Sunday of Lent to visit their mothers and possibly go to church too. This was a variation on the theme of visiting the 'mother' church and was a move towards a more family focused occasion. Before the days of cars and roads, family get-togethers were far more rare, (and facetime was still a long way off). In some ways this tradition is still alive today as grown up children often visit their parents on mothering Sunday.

Simnel Cake

Simnel cake has a strong affiliation to Mothering Sunday as it is usually associated with spring and Easter. It resembles a Christmas fruit cake but should be slightly lighter in texture. The other difference is the two layers of marzipan. Yum. Simnel cake should have a layer of marzipan running through the middle like a victoria sponge and then another layer of marzipan on the top. Traditionally, you should also roll some marzipan into eleven eggs and place these on the top. The eggs are supposed to symbolise the disciples who followed Jesus – note that Judas is excluded.

The question is, do you boil or bake your simnel cake? Some say it's necessary to do both because of an argument from folktale where two people could not agree on the correct way to cook the cake.

Traditions today

This Sunday, churches around the country will be sharing their own traditions, celebrating and giving thanks to the huge impact mothers have on each of our lives. The main service on Mothering Sunday in churches across the country is central to the life of the church.

The church recognises that the day may be difficult for some people and so it is common place for services to include prayers for those who don't find the day particularly easy.

Families across the country will be preparing little presents and cards and in some churches flowers are blessed and handed out during the main service.

Families come together to have lunch, or children make breakfast in bed for their mothers, leaving all the mess to be cleared up later! It's all about showing appreciation and many make a huge effort to make their mother feel special.

www.churchofengland.org/news-and-media/stories-and-features/mothering-Sunday-what-are-its-origins-church