

**Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> March 2025**

**Fourth Sunday of Lent & Mothering Sunday**

10.00 a.m. All Age Communion  
*(children in the service throughout)*  
4.00 p.m. Tea Time Church

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**Collect 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**

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**Service Readings**

Exodus 2:1-10 (*p.50*), 2 Corinthians 1:3-7 (*p.175*) and Luke 2:33-35 (*p.56*)

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**Please pray for**

... Carole Bookham, Anne Bradbeer, Llew Parry (Alison's Dad), and Roger Young.

... the family and friends of Nita Morgan and Michael McAlister whose anniversary of death is at this time.

... those who live and work in Farm Walk, Farnham Road and Friars Gate.

... the Koens family in Papua New Guinea supporting the work of Bible translation through vehicle maintenance, teaching, missionary care.

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**Post Communion Prayer**

Loving God, as a mother feeds her children at the breast you feed us in this sacrament with the food and drink of eternal life: help us who have tasted your goodness to grow in grace within the household of faith; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

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**Financial Giving**

We take a collection during our services. If you don't give regularly by standing order or the envelope scheme, please put your donation in the bag, tap the card reader on your way out, or use the QR code on the back of this news-sheet. Thank you.

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## Dear Friends

You know that feeling you have when someone tells you that your soul will be pierced with a sword because of your child's future? No? Fair enough, I guess. I mean, that happens...never. What must Mary have felt, I wonder? How did she reconcile that strange speech with the joy and pride of holding her little bundle in her arms?

But you must remember how it felt when you hugged your new-born and tried to work out what waterproof container you could put them in to keep them hidden in the reedbed of a flowing river, in case anyone came to do them harm? No, not that either?

Those three incredible women, compassionate and resourceful, but not even given a name, form the basis of Moses' start in life.

Today we are unpacking the stories of two mothers and the female networks around them, whose love was the springboard for the stories of two of the most central figures in the Bible. And at the same time remembering the same scenes, played out over and over again in every generation, of women's capacity to love; women's resourcefulness, women's compassion and women's courage bringing each new generation into being, in acts of selflessness and love.

Today we celebrate mothers.

**Alison**

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## Mission Focus for March: The Koens Family

Please pray for Clare and Andrew Koens and family, based in Ukarumpa in Papua New Guinea. One of the things they find hard is the frequent movement of people, as families come and go, some going on home leave for a year or so, some returning to their home countries permanently. Therefore, friendships can be transient which is unsettling, especially for the children, and Clare and Andrew have to be flexible in their work roles, in helping out to fill gaps when others leave. Please read more about them in the magazine, and come and support them at the Lent Lunch on March 9th.

## Notices

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**Mothering Sunday:** Today we will be celebrating at both 10am and 4pm and we will be giving posies of flowers to all women in our congregation. Children will be worshipping with us at both services.

**Carolyn & Peter:** A message from Carolyn and Peter: "A big thank you from us for such a lovely service and so many friends coming from across Guildford to send us on our way. Thank you for the very generous donations for Anandaban Leprosy hospital in Nepal, and for the beautiful rose for our new garden."

The collection on the day amounted to a wonderful £393! If you didn't get a chance to donate and would still like to, please phone The Leprosy Mission on 01733 370505, requesting that your donation goes to Anandaban Hospital. Carolyn and Peter have left change of address cards at back of church if you would like one.

**Stewardship Review 2025:** If you've not had a chance to watch Andy's video, then it's here: <https://youtu.be/I1dNhEPvtBI>. Andy, our Treasurer, asks us all to increase our giving by 10% to cover our costs for the coming year. If you've not yet done that, we'd be so grateful if you could do that asap.

**Work Morning:** Next Saturday we have a work morning. If you can spare any time at all, it would be a great help. Jobs include: clearing the heating grills, helping with lighting, weeding, sorting out the shed. Coffee and cake as always!

**Easter Lilies:** If you'd like to remember a loved one this Easter, perhaps you'd like to donate towards the lilies decorating the church. Please put their name and your donation in an envelope in the foyer post-box, or give to Trish.

### Holy Week & Easter:

✠ ***Palm Sunday, 13<sup>th</sup> April***

*10am:* All-Age Communion with procession

*6.30pm:* Choral Meditation on the Passion led by Jeremy and the All Saints' Choir. A special time of words and music.

✠ ***Maundy Thursday, 17<sup>th</sup> April***

*9.30am:* Holy Communion

*8pm:* Holy Communion with foot washing

*9-10pm:* The Vigil – a time of quiet reflection in the Reading Room

✠ ***Good Friday, 18<sup>th</sup> April***

*10.30am:* 'Walking with Jesus to the Cross' on the field followed by hot cross buns. The children will be re-enacting the story of the last days of Jesus' life.

*12-1pm:* 'The Watch' An hour of quiet reflection in church.

✠ ***Easter Day, 20<sup>th</sup> April***

*5.15am:* Sunrise Communion Service. An outdoor service around an open fire at the front of church. Stay for breakfast afterwards at the Vicarage.

*10am:* All-Age Family Communion followed by an Easter egg hunt

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## Diary for the Coming Week

**Morning prayer Mon, Tues and Weds 9.15am in the Reading Room and Zoom. Thurs Holy Communion at 9.30am in the Reading Room.**

Mon 31 <sup>st</sup>	QE Easter Service – years 3 and 5, Church, 10.00am
Tues 1 <sup>st</sup>	QE Easter Service – years 4 and 6, Church, 10.00am Preaching Group, Vicarage, 7.45pm
Weds 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Men's Coffee, Reading Room, 10.30am Lent Course - week 4, Vicarage, 7.30pm
Thurs 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Holy Communion, Reading Room, 9.30am Men's Wellbeing 'Exploring the Way', 7.30pm <i>(contact Martyn on 01483 534317 for details)</i> Choir Rehearsal, Church, 8.00pm
Fri 4 <sup>th</sup>	Baby & Toddler Group, Church, 10.00am
Sat 5 <sup>th</sup>	Church Work Morning, 9.30am-1.00pm
Sun 6 <sup>th</sup>	Holy Communion, Reading Room, 8.00am Café-style Altogether Worship, 10.00am Hedgehog Highway Talk, Church Hall, 3.00pm Tea-time Church, 4.00pm

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## Daily Readings for the coming week

Mon 31 <sup>st</sup>	Ps. 77, Jeremiah 17:5-18, John 9:18-end
Tues 1 <sup>st</sup>	Ps. 79, Jeremiah 18:1-12, John 10:1-10
Weds 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Ps. 90, Jeremiah 18:13-end, John 10:11-21
Thurs 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Ps. 86, Jeremiah 19:10-13, John 10:22-end
Fri 4 <sup>th</sup>	Ps. 102, Jeremiah 19:14-20:6, John 11:1-16
Sat 5 <sup>th</sup>	Ps. 32, Jeremiah 20:7-end, John 11:17-27

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## Service Readings for Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> April: 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent

Isaiah 43:16-21, Philippians 3:4b-14 and John 12:1-8

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## Contacts

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