

EGLWYS SANT ASA
LLANELWY
SAINT ASAPH
PARISH CHURCH



ALL-AGE EUCHARIST FOR MOTHERING SUNDAY



THE 4TH SUNDAY OF LENT
SUNDAY 19TH MARCH 2023

The Fourth Sunday of Lent indicates for many a relaxation of the rigours of Lent, as we draw closer to the Paschal Mysteries of Christ's suffering, death and resurrection. It has long been known as Laetare Sunday, which refers to the traditional opening Antiphon which was sung at the Eucharist 'Laetare Jerusalem' ('O be joyful, Jerusalem') (Isaiah 66:10)

This day is also known as Mothering Sunday when, from the sixteenth century, people returned to their 'mother church' which was the cathedral or main church of the area. In later times 'Mothering Sunday' became a day when domestic servants including children and young people 'in service' were given a day off to visit their mother church, usually with their own mothers and other family members.

The secular Mother's Day can be exclusive, even painful for those who are childless or motherless in our community. But Mothering Sunday celebrates the beauty, gift and bond of relationships that the Church represents. For us as Christians, Mothering Sunday is for everyone as we all have a part to play in nurturing and loving one another.



HYMN

The trumpets sound, the angels sing,
the feast is ready to begin;
the gates of heaven are open wide,
and Jesus welcomes you inside.

The trumpets sound, the angels sing,
the feast is ready to begin;
the gates of heaven are open wide,
and Jesus welcomes you inside.

*Sing with thankfulness songs of pure delight,
come and revel in heaven's love and light;
take your place at the table of the King,
the feast is ready to begin, the feast is ready to begin.*

Tables are laden with good things,
O taste the peace and joy he brings;
He'll fill you up with love divine,
He'll turn your water into wine.

*Sing with thankfulness songs of pure delight,
come and revel in heaven's love and light;
take your place at the table of the King,
the feast is ready to begin, the feast is ready to begin.*

The hungry heart he satisfies,
offers the poor his paradise;
now hear all heaven and earth applaud
the amazing goodness of the Lord.

*Sing with thankfulness songs of pure delight,
come and revel in heaven's love and light;
take your place at the table of the King,
the feast is ready to begin, the feast is ready to begin.*

Words & Music: Graham Kendrick

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Grace and peace be with you
and keep you in the love of Christ.

The Priest offers words of welcome, introduces the Eucharist

We remember all the things we have done wrong – things that upset others, things which disappoint God. But we do it knowing that we are completely and utterly loved by the Lord and that we receive his forgiveness when we say ‘sorry’.

A short silence is kept

God our father, you know all about us.
You watched us being formed inside our mothers.
Forgive us for the times when we have
envied others and wanted to be different
from how you have made us.
Nothing is hidden from you.
Father God, forgive us.

God our father, you notice everything we do.
As parents we have sometimes tried to
force our children to be what we want them
to be, and not allowed them to develop in
the unique way you have planned.
Nothing is hidden from you.
Father God, forgive us.

God our Father, we praise you for the
wonderful way you created us.
Help us to celebrate the fact that you
know and love each one of us, as we are.
We know that nothing is hidden from you.
Father God, forgive us.

Almighty God have mercy on you,
forgive you and set you free from sin,
and keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Let us pray:

God of compassion,
whose Son Jesus Christ, the child of Mary,
shared the life of a home in Nazareth,
and on the cross drew the whole human family to himself:
strengthen us in our daily living
that in joy and in sorrow
we may know the power of your presence
to bind together and to heal;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Please Sit

COLOSSIANS 3. 12-17

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Colossians.

You are the people of God; he loved you and chose you for his own. So then, you must clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience. Be tolerant with one another and forgive one another whenever any of you has a complaint against someone else. You must forgive one another just as the Lord has forgiven you. And to all these qualities add love, which binds all things together in perfect unity. The peace that Christ gives is to guide you in the decisions you make; for it is to this peace that God has called you together in the one body. And be thankful. Christ's message in all its richness must live in your hearts. Teach and instruct one another with all wisdom. Sing psalms, hymns, and sacred songs; sing to God with thanksgiving in your hearts. Everything you do or say, then, should be done in the name of the Lord Jesus, as you give thanks through him to God the Father.

For the word of the Lord
thanks be to God.

THE GOSPEL

Fathers and mothers,
sisters and brothers,
all those who love us,
for whom we care:
help and befriend them,
keep and defend them,
Jesus our Saviour,
this is our prayer.

And for those others,
fathers and mothers,
children who hunger,
they must be fed:
we would be caring,
readily sharing,
one with another
our daily bread.

Sisters and brothers,
fathers and mothers,
we who together
offer our praise:
hear our thanksgiving,
God ever living,
may we walk with you
all of our days.

Timothy Dudley-Smith b.1926

Tune: Bunessan

Listen to the Gospel of Christ according to Saint Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Every year the parents of Jesus went to Jerusalem for the Passover Festival. When Jesus was twelve years old, they went to the festival as usual. When the festival was over, they started back home, but the boy Jesus stayed in Jerusalem. His parents did not know this; they thought that he was with the group, so they travelled a whole day and then started looking for him among their relatives and friends. They did not

find him, so they went back to Jerusalem looking for him. On the third day they found him in the Temple, sitting with the Jewish teachers, listening to them and asking questions. All who heard him were amazed at his intelligent answers. His parents were astonished when they saw him, and his mother said to him, “Son, why have you done this to us? Your father and I have been terribly worried trying to find you.”

He answered them, “Why did you have to look for me? Didn't you know that I had to be in my Father's house?” But they did not understand his answer.

So Jesus went back with them to Nazareth, where he was obedient to them. His mother treasured all these things in her heart. Jesus grew both in body and in wisdom, gaining favour with God and people.

This is the Gospel of the Lord:

Praise to you, O Christ.

THE TALK

Please SIT

WE AFFIRM OUR FAITH

Please STAND

**We believe in God the Father,
from whom every family,
in heaven and on earth is named.**

**We believe in God the Son,
who lives in our hearts through faith,
and fills us with his love.**

**We believe in God the Holy Spirit,
who strengthens us
with power from on high.**

**We believe in one God,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.**

THE PRAYERS

Please SIT

Lord, in your mercy:
Hear our prayer.

At the end

Merciful Father,
**accept these prayers
for the sake of your Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.**

THE PEACE

Please STAND

Blessed are those who make peace; they shall be called God's children.

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

Let us offer one another a sign of the Lord's peace.

HYMN

I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my people cry.
All who dwell in dark and sin my hand will save.
I who made the stars of night, I will make their darkness bright.
Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?

*Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord?
I have heard you calling in the night.
I will go, Lord, if you lead me.
I will hold your people in my heart.*

I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my people's pain.
I have wept for love of them. They turn away.
I will break their hearts of stone, give them hearts for love alone.
I will speak my word to them. Whom shall I send?

I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame.
I will set a feast for them. My hand will save.
Finest bread I will provide till their hearts be satisfied.
I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send?

*Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord?
I have heard you calling in the night.
I will go, Lord, if you lead me.
I will hold your people in my heart.*

Daniel L. Schutte b.1947

WE GIVE THANKS OVER BREAD AND WINE AND SHARE COMMUNION

With this bread that we bring
we shall remember Jesus.

With this wine that we bring
we shall remember Jesus.

Bread for his body,
wine for his blood,
gifts from God to his table we bring.
We shall remember Jesus.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

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 him thanks and praise.

Lord of all life,
you created the universe,
where all living things reflect your glory.
You give us this great and beautiful earth,
to discover and to cherish.

When Jesus was a child
you trusted him to the care of a human family.
In Mary and Joseph you gave us
an example of love and devotion to him,
and also a pattern of family life.

So here on earth, with the angels and archangels
and with everyone in heaven
we praise your name and sing:

**Holy, holy, holy, holy,
Holy, holy, Lord God Almighty.
And we lift our hearts before you
as a token of our love.
Holy, holy, holy, holy.**

**Gracious Father, gracious Father,
Blessed is the one who comes to us
in your name.
And we lift our hearts before you
as we give you thanks and praise.
Hosanna in the highest.**

We thank you, loving Father,
because, when we turned away,
you sent Jesus, your Son.
He gave his life for us on the cross
and shows us the way to live.

Send your Holy Spirit that these gifts of bread and wine
may be for us Christ's body and his blood.

On the night before he died, when darkness had fallen,
Jesus took bread. He gave thanks, broke it,
and shared it with his disciples, saying:

'This is my body, given for you.
Do this to remember me.'

After they had eaten, he took the cup of wine,
gave thanks, and shared it with his disciples, saying:

‘This is my blood, poured out for you and for many,
for the forgiveness of sins.’

So Father, with this bread and this cup
we celebrate his love, his death, his risen life.
As you feed us with these gifts, send your Holy Spirit,
and change us more and more to be like Jesus our Saviour.

Help us, Father, to love one another,
as we look forward to that day
when suffering is ended,
and all creation is gathered in your loving arms.

And now with all your saints we give you glory,
through Jesus Christ, in the strength of the Spirit,
today and for ever. **Amen.**

Silence is kept

THE LORD’S PRAYER

Jesus taught us to call God our Father,
so in faith and trust we pray:

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power
and the glory are yours,
now and for ever. Amen.**

The priest breaks the bread

Every time we eat this bread and drink of this cup
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

**Jesus, Lamb of God: have mercy on us.
Jesus, bearer of our sins: have mercy on us.
Jesus, redeemer of the world: give us your peace.**

THE INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION

Jesus is the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.
Happy 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.**

You are welcome to come to the Lord's Table.

*Those who are baptised (Christened) are welcome to receive holy communion here today.
(Children at the discretion of parents). If you wish just to receive a blessing, please take this
leaflet with you when you go up to the altar.*

The sacrament is administered with these words

The body of Christ. **Amen.**

At the end of communion we sing

My Jesus, my Saviour, Lord, there is none like you;
all of my days I want to praise the wonders of your mighty love.
My comfort, my shelter, tower of refuge and strength,
let every breath, all that I am, never cease to worship you.

Shout to the Lord all the earth let us sing
power and majesty, praise to the King:
mountains bow down and the seas will roar
at the sound of your name.

I sing for joy at the work of your hands,
for ever I'll love you, for ever I'll stand;
nothing compares to the promise I have in you.

Words and Music: Darlene Zschech

*A short Silence is kept as thank thank the Lord for
meeting with him in Holy Communion*

THE POST COMMUNION

Please STAND

Give thanks to the Lord for he is gracious:
his love is everlasting.

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.**

THE DISTRIBUTION OF MOTHERING SUNDAY GIFTS

WE GO OUT INTO GOD'S WORLD

The Lord bless you and keep watch over you; the Lord's face shine on you and be
gracious to you; the Lord look lovingly on you and give you peace. And the blessing
of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and
remain with you always. **Amen.**

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

FINAL HYMN

Let all the world in every corner sing,
my God and King.
the heavens are not too high,
his praise may thither fly:
the earth is not too low,
his praises there may grow.
Let all the world in every corner sing,
my God and King.

Let all the world in every corner sing,
my God and King.
The Church with psalms must shout,
no door can keep them out;
but above all the heart
must bear the longest part.
Let all the world in every corner sing,
my God and King.

George Herbert 1593-1633
Tune: Luckington



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NOTICES

Refreshments. Please do join us for refreshments after the service if you can.

Foodbank. The Foodbank box is now back in the Parish Church. Donations gratefully received.

Praying for Growth. Please pray for the growth and renewal of the Church here in this place. Here is the Leading Your Church into Growth Prayer (*card copies are available at the back of the Church*):

God of Mission,

Who alone brings growth to your Church,

Send your Holy Spirit to give

Vision to our planning,

Wisdom to our actions,

Joy to our worship,

And power to our witness.

Help our church to grow in numbers,

In spiritual commitment to you,

And in service to our local community,

Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Community Fridge takes place every Sunday from 5-7pm at the Parish Church

Easter Flowers. Donations for Easter Flowers are now being invited in memory of departed loved ones. Please use the envelopes which can be found on the table at the back of the Church. Thank you.

Diocesan Offering this year is going to the Trussell Trust who run many foodbanks in the Diocese. There is a plate in Church today to receive donations. This will be available each month and one

of our future fundraising events will contribute towards this as well.

Chalice. We have taken a very cautious approach to the return to normality after the Pandemic and so far the chalice hasn't been available. The chalice will be re-instated as from Easter Sunday 9th April. Please be aware that you do not have to receive the chalice, but it will be there for those that do. Intinction (dipping the host in the chalice) is NOT allowed. If you have any questions please speak to Fr Rex. Thank you!

25th March is the Feast of the Annunciation. There will be a celebration of the Eucharist that day at 12noon in the Parish Church. The Walsingham Pilgrims will be gathering that day but anyone is welcome and to join us for a light lunch after the service.

Healing Service. This is to take place at the Parish Church on Sunday 26th March at 7pm (Please note the time change!) This is a lovely reflective service to prepare us to commemorate Holy Week. All welcome!

Clocks! A reminder that the clocks go forward one hour next Saturday night 25th March as British Summertime begins!

THE WEEK AHEAD

20th Monday – Joseph of Nazareth
9am Morning Prayer
9.30am Holy Eucharist *at the Cathedral*
5pm Evening Prayer

**21st Tuesday – Thomas Cranmer,
Hugh Latimer, Nicholas Ridley &
Robert Ferrar**

9am Morning Prayer

6pm Evening Prayer

7pm Holy Eucharist *at the Cathedral*

22nd Wednesday – Feria

9am Morning Prayer

10.30am Holy Eucharist

5pm Evening Prayer

23rd Thursday – Feria

9am Morning Prayer

10am Holy Eucharist *at the Parish Church*

11am Prayer Group *at the Parish Church*

5pm Evening Prayer

7pm Faith, Hope, Love Lent Study *at the
Parish Church*

**24th Friday – Oscar Romero, Bishop
& Martyr**

9am Morning Prayer

9.30am Offeren (*Welsh Eucharist*)

6pm Choral Evensong

**25th Saturday – The Annunciation of
Our Lord**

9am Morning Prayer

12noon Holy Eucharist *at the Parish Church*

5pm Evening Prayer

**26th Sunday – Lent 5 (Passiontide
begins)**

9.30am The Parish Eucharist

11am The Cathedral Eucharist

3.30pm Choral Evensong

7pm Healing Service *at the Parish Church*

Contact:

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Parish Church Website:

www.stasaphparishchurch.org.uk