



Sunday 19th March 2023 – Revision A

Mothering Sunday

Points of Prayer: As we celebrate Mothering Sunday, we remember those who have and those who continue to love, nurture and care for us. We pray for those who find this day difficult because of past or present hurts. As we read and see the brokenness of the world, we pray for families who are living under any kind of stress whether because of serious illness, financial difficulties or because they find themselves in situations beyond their control. Give them comfort, strength and hope for the future.

The fourth Lent Group based on ‘The Book of Forgiving’ by Desmond and Mpho Tutu is this Tuesday 21st March at 6.30pm at St Andrew’s Church, Ipplepen. We will be discussing chapters 8 and 9. Things to reflect on while reading these chapters are: Think about a time when your actions or words have hurt someone else. How have you sought for forgiveness from that person and from yourself? All are welcome. The reading for last session for the Lent group is Chapter 10. As it is the last session we will be also reviewing the book as a whole. Things to think about for our discussion are: What have you learnt from reading this book? How will your actions be different?

Wednesday 22nd March – ‘Stations of the Cross’ at 6.30pm at St Mary the Virgin, Denbury. Come and join us as we walk with Jesus the way of the Cross. Refreshments to follow in Church Cottage.

Lent Lunch Saturday 25th March, 12 to 2pm in the Church Cottage, Denbury. Donations to the DAC Turkey/Syria Earthquake appeal. No tickets are required, just turn up on the day.

Cream Teas Bank Holiday Monday 10th April 3pm to 5pm in ‘Church Cottage’, Denbury.

Dr Paul Russell, Churchwarden from Broadhempston, is running the London Marathon for Compassion UK, a Christian charity, supporting children in extreme poverty. Please read his article in The February and March 2023 edition of The Beacon Magazine.

<https://challenges.compassionuk.org/profile/4850/paul-russell>

Save the Date: Sunday 14th May, 2.30pm. Denbury Folk and St Mary’s Church present rising stars in the folk world, Filkin’s Drift (duo). Chris and Seth are coming to St Mary’s, Denbury. More details and tickets from Rachel (rachelbelringer@gmail.com 07751 804 007)

Readings This week Next week

Readings for this Sunday:	1st Reading	Exodus 2:1-10	Ezekiel 37:1-14
	Psalm	34:11-20	130
	2nd Reading	2 Corinthians 1:3-7	Romans 8:6-11
	Gospel	Luke 2:33-35	John 11:1-45

Readings for the week ahead:

Mon	20 th	Matt 1:18-End	Thurs	23 rd	John 5:31-End
Tue	21 st	John 5:1-3, 5-16	Fri	24 th	John 7:1-2, 10, 25-30
Wed	22 nd	John 5:17-30	Sat	25 th	Luke 1:26-38

Readings can be viewed/downloaded from <https://bible.oremus.org/>

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Today - Sunday 19th March

9.30 am	Holy Communion	- St John the Baptist, Woodland
11.00 am	Holy Communion and Baptism of Samuel Perrett	- St Andrew’s, Ipplepen
2.00 pm	Interment of Ashes of Geoffrey Bamford	- St Andrew’s Churchyard, Ipplepen
4.30 pm	Come Holy Spirit: An Informal Service of Reflection	- St Andrew’s Church Hall, Ipplepen

Morning Prayer

This week morning prayer will be said at the following times:

Tuesday	9.15 am	- St Andrew’s Ipplepen
Wednesday	9.15 am	- Online Via Zoom (for the zoom password email rev.andrewdown@gmail.com)
Thursday	9.15 am	- St Mary the Virgin, Denbury
Friday	9.15 am	- Ss Peter and Paul, Broadhempston (A time of silent prayer and meditation)

Reflection

All our churches are open for private prayer and reflection throughout the week from approximately 9am to 5pm each day.

Mid-Week

Rev Andrew Down - Day off on Mondays.

Monday	3pm-5pm	‘T-Pot’	- Church Cottage, Denbury
	7.30 pm	Bellringing Practice	- Ss Peter and Paul, Broadhempston
Tuesday	10.15 am	Holy Communion	- St Andrew’s, Ipplepen
	6.30 pm	Lent Group: “The Book of Forgiving”	- St Andrew’s, Ipplepen
Wednesday	6.30 pm	‘Stations of the Cross’	- St Mary the Virgin, Denbury
	7.00 pm	Bellringing Practice	- St Mary the Virgin, Denbury
	7.30 pm	Bellringing Practice	- St Andrew’s, Ipplepen
Thursday	10.15 am	Holy Communion	- Church Cottage, Denbury
	4.30-5.30pm	Sta*x Youth Choir Practice	- Ipplepen
Saturday	12noon-2pm	‘Lent Lunch’	- Church Cottage, Denbury

Next Sunday 26th March – Fifth Sunday of Lent

9.30 am	Holy Communion	- St Mary the Virgin, Denbury
11.00 am	Holy Communion	- Ss Peter and Paul, Broadhempston
11.00 am	Churches Together – Family Service	- Ipplepen Methodist Church
2.00 pm	Baptism of Isla Rose Hopkins	- St Andrew’s, Ipplepen

In Memory: John Harris, Margaret Maddicott, Ron Paston, Ann Hockin Higby, Vernon Kerlake, Teresa Irish, Sarah Long, Mabel Gallon, Fran Howells and Geoffrey Bamford.



Reflection by Hillarie Griggs

Mothering Sunday
19th March 2023

Happy Mothering Sunday.

Today, as well as celebrating our mothers and those who have mothered us throughout our lives, we think about those places and people that have nurtured us in our faith. This is why there was a tradition of people returning to the church where they were baptised and to the people who had helped them grow in faith. If I look back, I can see that there have been many people who have taught and encouraged me as I grew in faith. Each of them special in their own way, but it was my grandmothers who were the first to tell me the stories of Jesus and to take me to church. From them the first seeds of faith were sown.

Saint Paul recognised how important it was for faith to be passed on from one generation to another. In one verse in Paul's second letter to his prodigy Timothy, we read about how powerful an influence a grandmother and mother can be on the faith of a child.

"I am reminded of your sincere faith, a faith that lived first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice and now, I am sure, lives in you."
(2 Timothy 1.5)

Unlike many women in the bible, they are named. By naming them Paul recognised the significant contribution these two women made, not only to Timothy himself, but to the growth of Christianity. Timothy's faith and his grandmother's and mother's teaching equipped him to accompany Paul on his journeys and gave Paul the confidence to send him to minister to some of the communities formed during this time.

What makes Lois and Eunice such a fantastic example of passing their faith onto the next generation? They were probably ordinary women in ordinary circumstances who were faithful in an ordinary way. I think it is in the words Paul uses to describe their faith and how that is then apparent in Timothy, sincere and living.

The word sincere means something genuine and without hypocrisy. When people have genuine faith, and model it in the way they live, other people take notice. When faith is real it can inspire others to want to know more. This does not mean that they will necessarily choose to follow immediately but the first seeds will have been sown.

Paul also describes their faith as living. A living faith is one that is active and growing, where the person seeks to know God, love him, and follow the Holy Spirit, even in the ordinariness of their everyday life.

Some things to reflect on this Mothering Sunday:

- Who first sowed the seeds of faith in you?
- Who encouraged and nurtured you in this growing faith?
- How as individuals and as communities do we want to pass on our faith to future generations?
- How do we show that our faith is both sincere and living?

