



MOTHER'S DAY OR MOTHERING SUNDAY ? Which is it ??

Mother's Day brings delightful memories of bunches of flowers, early morning tea, in bed, either with or without tea-bag and with cold or hot water – and also (for me) that bag of potatoes I was so lovingly presented with !

Mothering Sunday goes back a lot further – right back to medieval times when worshippers were expected to return to the church where they were baptized. Later youngsters, who worked away from home, perhaps as an apprentice or 'in service' in a big house – were given the day off to visit their mothers and homes.

To-day Mothering Sunday seems to be about 3 things.

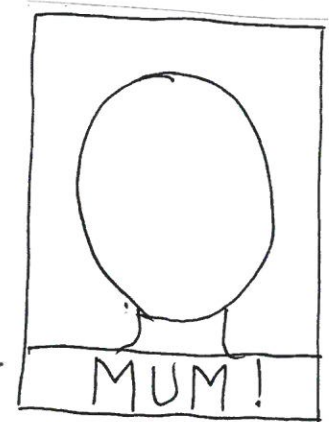
The first - 'OUR MOTHERS'.

We all have or had a mother. A mother who hopefully was able to care for us, to nurture us. "Like a hen gathers her brood under her wing". (Matt.23v.37) We have a lot to thank them for. If she's around give her a hug !

Do you remember your mother ?

What colour eyes did she have ? What colour hair did she have ? What was her favourite colour ?

Can you draw her or fill in the details -----



2. To-day we remember MARY the mother of Jesus.

That young girl, obedient to God, who took on such a challenge. Her's was a very special baby who she followed faithfully from birth to crucifixion. We know she 'pondered' all these things in her heart (Luke 2.v.19)

We know she was at the foot of the Cross.

How did she feel to hold her dead son on her knees ?

What joy three days later.



3. And finally the third message of Mothering Sunday.-

We are invited to visit our CHURCHES.

Each of our villages has it's own church, we are lucky It is not far to go. We are also invited to visit our CATHEDRAL CHURCH in Exeter. The 'mother' of all our parish churches in the diocese.

Our Cathedral with its two Norman towers, and its rather strange west front. Step inside to see its vaulting, windows and minstrel gallery.

Its worth a visit. Time to sit, think, relax. Beautiful.!

