

The Rectorial Benefice of Cowbridge.

**READINGS FOR
SUNDAY 22ND MARCH 2020**

MOTHERING SUNDAY

THE COLLECT

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 our
Lord, who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God,
now and for ever. Amen.

THE FIRST READING

Exodus 2. 1-10

A reading from the Book of Exodus

Now a man from the house of Levi went
and married a Levite woman. The
woman conceived and bore a son; and
when she saw that he was a fine baby,
she hid him for three months. When she
could hide him no longer she got a
papyrus basket for him, and plastered it
with bitumen and pitch; she put the
child in it and placed it among the reeds
on the bank of the river. His sister stood
at a distance, to see what would happen
to him. The daughter of Pharaoh came
down to bathe at the river, while her
attendants walked beside the river. She
saw the basket among the reeds and
sent her maid to bring it. When she
opened it, she saw the child. He was
crying, and she took pity on him. 'This
must be one of the Hebrews' children,'
she said.

Then his sister said to Pharaoh's daughter, 'Shall I go and get you a nurse from the Hebrew women to nurse the child for you?' Pharaoh's daughter said to her, 'Yes.' So the girl went and called the child's mother. Pharaoh's daughter said to her, 'Take this child and nurse it for me, and I will give you your wages.' So the woman took the child and nursed it. When the child grew up, she brought him to Pharaoh's daughter, and she took him as her son. She named him Moses, 'because', she said, 'I drew him out of the water.'

THE PSALM

Psalm 34. 11-20

Come, my children, and listen to me I will teach you the fear of the Lord. Who is there who delights in life : and longs for days to enjoy good things?

Keep your tongue from evil: and your lips from lying words. Turn from evil and do good: seek peace and pursue it.

The eyes of the Lord are upon the righteous: and his ears are open to their cry. The face of the Lord is against those who do evil: to root out the remembrance of them from the earth.

The righteous cry and the Lord hears them: and delivers them out of all their troubles. The Lord is near to the broken hearted: and will save those who are crushed in spirit.

Many are the troubles of the righteous: from them all will the Lord deliver them. He keeps all their bones: so that not one of them is broken.

THE SECOND READING

Colossians 3. 12-17

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Colossians

As God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God. And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

THE GOSPEL

Luke 2. 33-35

A reading from the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St. John

And the child's father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, 'This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed - and a sword will pierce your own soul too.'

PRAYER:

Loving God, as a mother feeds her children at the breast you feed us in the 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.

BLESSING:

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. Amen.

NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER AND ACTION

Join in the National Day of Prayer
and Action this Sunday (March 22).

The event is being organised by Cytûn,
Churches Together in Wales

Light a candle in your window at 7pm
as a visible symbol of the light of life
Jesus Christ, our source and hope in
prayer.

People are being asked to pray for those
suffering from the virus, those who are
anxious and fearful, leaders tasked with
making decisions and those working in
health and social care.

You can find prayers to help you on the
leaflet in church.

For Prayer

In the Anglican Communion: we pray
for the Hong Kong Kung Hui and the
Most R'evd Paul Kwong

In the diocese we pray for the Parish of
Gabalfa and Marcus Nelson the Vicar

**We pray for all those who are sick and
housebound** in our Parish and for all
those who receive Holy Communion at
home.

We pray for all who are sick,
particularly Muriel Maslin, Dawn
Conrad, Maureen Dixon, Charlotte
Carpenter, Christine Williams,
Christopher Browner, Phillip Rosser,
Helen Saunders, William Watkins, Sam
Baxter, Tony Arnold, Doreen Stafford,
Dave German, Ellie Harris, Grayson
Finn, Peter Sey, Bill Clay and Margaret
Lauder.

**We pray for those who have recently
departed this life, among them:** Lynn
Merrick, Jean Callen, Elizabeth
Matthews, Christopher Thomas, Jeffrey
Stone, Christopher Street, William
Lougher, Rafe Larby, Bill Strong,
Hannah Loyns and Hilda Long.

**We pray for those whose anniversaries
fall at this time:** Olwen Fehrs, Anne
Patchett, Jim Overton, Ann Lewis and
Michael Williams

May they rest in peace and rise in glory.