



From the Vicar

In times like this it is too easy to think in terms of that old-fashioned biblical concept of 'wrath.' Wrath is all about destabilisation, about an escalating sense of violence and retribution, about a world out of kilter, about an angry God who is active only in wanton punishment and judgement. Images of locked-down countries and cities, of supermarket shelves being stripped bare, and of fearful and defiant people standing against each other would seem to re-enforce this sense of a world given over to wrath. Today is Mothering Sunday and if we were gathering at All Saints like normal we would be breaking bread together, gifting each other flowers, eating simnel cake, rejoicing in a little light relief from the stringent demands of Lent. But Mothering Sunday, along with our readings today, offers us some strikingly different images to wrath when we come to think about God, our Church and our society. In our first reading, the child Moses is born into a world of wrath, a world in which human violence is out of control and where the forces of empire threaten the people and their flourishing. But right in the middle of all of this the women of the narrative work to undermine this violence through love, nurture and pity. A vulnerable child is held in the arms of a loving woman and hope is saved. And in our Gospel passage as Jesus dies painfully upon the cross, he selflessly generates a moment of compassion and intimacy as he gives his mother into his beloved disciple's care and hands over John to his mother. For the Christian tradition this moment is seen as the birth of the church, that nurturing, compassionate and gentle community that is born out of the non-violent suffering of Jesus. In a world such as this, the only truly redemptive words and acts are not those of wrath and violence, but those that nurture, those that risk themselves in compassion, kindness and love. Let us be those people today as we celebrate our maternal and loving God.

Fr Ryan

Giving to All Saints

No cash? Tap to donate!

You can donate by debit or credit card. Choose from the three donation amounts and tap your card on the reader located at the welcome desk.

Gift Aid: Adding value to your donation

If you are a UK taxpayer and do not have a set of planned giving envelopes, please place your donation inside a white envelope (available from the welcomers). Remember to fill in your details completely or we cannot claim Gift Aid (a further 25%) on your donation.

Regular Giving

Should you wish to make regular donations to All Saints, our preferred method of giving is via the Parish Giving Scheme. Further information about the scheme is available online at www.parishgivingscheme.org.uk. Forms are available from the Parish Office.

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Today's Readings

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.'

Exodus 2. 1-10

A reading from the Second Epistle to the Corinthians

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and the God of all consolation, who consoles us in all our affliction, so that we may be able to console those who are in any affliction with the consolation with which we ourselves are consoled by God. For just as the sufferings of Christ are abundant for us, so also our consolation is abundant through Christ. If we are being afflicted, it is for your consolation and salvation; if we are being consoled, it is for your consolation, which you experience when you patiently endure the same sufferings that we are also suffering. Our hope for you is unshaken; for we know that as you share in our sufferings, so also you share in our consolation.

2 Corinthians 1.3-7

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John

Meanwhile, standing near the cross of Jesus were his mother, and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing beside her, he said to his mother, 'Woman, here is your son.' Then he said to the disciple, 'Here is your mother.' And from that hour the disciple took her into his own home.

John 19. 25b-27

This passage is apposite for our times. Against the terrifying backdrop of wanton persecution, we encounter the fragility of human existence, the precarious hope born with each new child and the tremendous capacity of love to overcome adversity and break down social divides. In the image of a mother forced to commit her baby's life to the turbulent waters of a river, our hearts go out to all who make life and death choices. And, in the network of caring relationships and family bonds by which Moses' life is spared and the fortunes of God's people restored, we are reminded of how God's salvation acts decisively via the redemptive power of human nurture and concrete gestures of love and commitment to others, be they family, friend, enemy or stranger.

We are as individuals and communities beckoned to be unshakable ministers of God's consolation. We cannot do this if we cut ourselves off from the suffering of others. We must open our lives, be attentive and make out of suffering a personal and communal response. We do not do this in our own strength alone but through sharing the ever-present gift of communion with Christ's suffering and consoling love. Christian communion, though we be separated, admits of no separation but stretches to all, making the space between us holy ground. Let us tread with care, ready to suffer yet even more ready to console.

Suffering is not the last word. Already from the cross, Jesus transforms affliction and exclusion by making them occasions for God's passionate, costly yet indefatigable love. Jesus invites us into a communion of love deeper than any dereliction. He extends the invitation in a most intimate way: by giving his mother and beloved disciple to each other – an act of generosity that is the basis of the church's universal kinship between all grounded in love. In Jesus, God's communion of restorative love is truly given us to share creatively in relationships of faithful nurture and mutual affection, especially where there is suffering. Beyond our immediate circles, whom might we reach out to as kin in this time of social dissolution?

Today's Mass

Collect

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.

Parish Notices

Who is my neighbour?

The Bishop of St Albans has written four golden rules as we face the threat of the coronavirus together, they are some of the wisest and best words I have heard so far:
Rule I: Think about how you can protect and support your neighbours. Don't go round spreading fear and panic, but instead, taking all the official precautions, offer help and reassurance to others, don't demonise anyone or any group. Rule II: Think about those who are suffering more than you are. Make a list of the vulnerable people you know and give them a regular phone call to cheer them up. Rule III: Don't panic and start hoarding food, instead practice the Christian discipline of sharing. Rule IV: Live today to the full, and allow your fear to be transformed into trust and openness.

A Prayer for others

Dear God, our Shield and our Defender, guide and protect my neighbour in this time of health emergency; deliver them from all harm and may your love and care ever grow in this place. Through Jesus Christ our Lord, amen.

Public Worship Suspended

Following on from advice given from the government and the Archbishops of Canterbury and York, all public services at All Saints have temporarily been suspended. The clergy team will continue to pray for the parish and for all of you, and we are still contactable via email or through the parish office (only phone appointments now available). Please do hold one another in your prayers at this difficult time.

Church Open

Our Church will be open during the week for people to come individually to pray, light a candle and listen to music. Please see the times below.

Hall and Community Users

We have also had to suspend all hire in our hall and community spaces, with concerts to be held in the church during this time cancelled as well. This will put a huge financial strain on the life of the church, so all non-essential works have had to be discontinued at this time. Our Strategy Team and Standing Committee are working hard on plans to ensure we can keep going and we are well-resourced to do so.

Weekday Masses and Daily Office

The Ministry Team will be continuing to pray the daily office privately and private masses will be held in church on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays at 9:00am, and

Friday at 9.30am. If you want to join in the daily office at home, you can download the daily office app from the Church of England

Sundays

The Ministry Team will say Morning Prayer at 9:00am and celebrate a said Mass at 9:15am in which the priest will represent the offering of Jesus and the offering of the whole church. Each of us is included in that offering, even when we cannot be physically present. On the back of PewNews this week is a short order of service for 'Spiritual Communion' which enables any of you who would like, to join us in our worship from home. We can at this time continue to receive Christ into our hearts, even without the reception of the elements of bread and wine.

Parish Office

The Parish Office is temporarily closed next week, but will Jon will be back answering calls and emails the following week. Please email Fr Ryan if you need anything at frryan@allsaintshove.org, or else give a member of the clergy a call on 01273 746849.

Choir Concert & Norwich

Unfortunately our Passiontide Choir Concert of Stainer's Crucifixion has had to be cancelled. We have also had to cancel our choir pilgrimage to Norwich. Please email John King, Fr Ryan or our Director of Music Jon for more information.

For our Prayers

Sick: Irene & Lou; Martyn; June & Sara Cuttress; Kala; Wyatt Baker; Sheila Dishington; Joy; Sheelagh; James Walker; Lorna; Fleur Boxell; Hunter; Betty; Eleanor; David James; Trish Abala; Derek and Mary Birch.
Those whose anniversary of death falls at this time: Myra Anderson and Ernest Herbert

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Available by appointment with the Vicar.

Next Week's Readings: Lent V

Ezekiel 37.1-14
Romans 8.6-11
John 11.1-45

This Week

The Daily Office

Morning prayer Mon-Fri, 8:40am (said privately)
Evening prayer Mon-Thu, 5:00pm (said privately)

Weekly Eucharists

Mon 9:00am	Said Mass (said privately)
Tue 9:00am	Said Mass (said privately)
Wed 9:00am	Said Mass (said privately)
Fri 9:30am	Said Mass (said privately)

Sunday

9:15am	Said Mass (said privately)
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Church Open Times

9:30am -11:00am Monday - Wednesday
10:00am - 11:00am Saturday

Spiritual Communion

When Unable to Attend a Celebration of the Eucharist

*If a household are praying together one person may act as leader and the others as the congregation and they join in the sections in **bold** type.*

If alone read all the words aloud.

You may want to light a candle before you begin, and have a bible, cross or crucifix to look at.

The Lord is here. **His Spirit is with us.**

**Almighty God,
to whom all hearts are open,
all desires known,
and from whom no secrets are hidden:
cleanse the thoughts of our hearts
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,
that we may perfectly love you,
and worthily magnify your holy name;
through Christ our Lord.
Amen.**

*You may want to pray the Collect of the Day here.
You could use one or more of the readings of the day (found on the inside cover of this PewNews)
or the following short readings:*

First Reading - Revelation 3:20

Behold, I stand at the door and knock; if any one hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and eat with him, and he with me.

Psalm - Psalm 62

On God alone my soul in stillness waits;
from him comes my salvation.
He alone is my rock and my salvation,
my stronghold, so that I shall never be shaken.

Gospel - John 15:5

I am the vine, you are the branches. He who abides in me, and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing.

Spend a few moments praying for the people you know and love, the needs of the world and for an end to the current Pandemic.

The Lord's Prayer

**OUR Father, which art in heaven,
Hallowed be thy Name. Thy kingdom
come. Thy will be done, in earth as it is
in heaven. Give us this day our daily
bread. And forgive us our trespasses, As
we forgive them that trespass against
us. And lead us not into temptation;
But deliver us from evil: For thine is the
kingdom, The power, and the glory, For
ever and ever. Amen.**

Act of Contrition

**I love you, Jesus, my love above all
things, and I repent with my whole
heart of having offended you.
Never permit me to separate myself
from you again, grant that I may love
you always, and then do with me what
you will.**

Act of Spiritual Reception

**In union, dear Father, with Christian
people throughout the world and across
the centuries gathered to make
Eucharist, hearing your holy Word and
receiving the Precious Body and Blood,
I offer you praise and thanksgiving.
Even though I am exiled from tasting
the Bread of Heaven and drinking the
Cup of Life I pray that you will unite me
with all the baptised and with your Son
who gave his life for us.
Come Lord Jesus, dwell in me and send
your Holy Spirit that I may be filled
with your presence.**

O LORD and heavenly Father, we your humble servants entirely desire your fatherly goodness mercifully to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving; most humbly beseeching you to grant, that by the merits and death of your Son Jesus Christ, and through faith in his blood, we and all your whole Church may obtain remission of our sins, and all other benefits of his passion.
Amen.

THE peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep our hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his son Jesus Christ our Lord: and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among us and remain with us always. **Amen.**