

**Collect for Mothering Sunday:** 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.

**First Reading:** Exodus 2: 1-10. 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.'

**Second Reading: Colossians 3: 12-17** 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.

**Gospel Reading: Luke 2: 33-35** 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.'

**The Prayer for Today is produced by the Church of England in response to the Corona virus**

Keep us, good Lord,  
under the shadow of your mercy in this time of uncertainty and distress.  
Sustain and support the anxious and fearful,  
and lift up all who are brought low;  
that we may rejoice in your comfort knowing that nothing can separate us  
from your love in Christ Jesus our Lord.

During this period when public worship is suspended, the CofE are planning to broadcast a regular Sunday 'service' on the Diocese of Exeter Youtube, Facebook, Instagram and Twitter channels, starting this week with Mothering Sunday, which the Archbishops have designated a Day of Prayer and Intercession for all affected by the Coronavirus, including our Health Service. Bishop Jackie will lead

the reflection. We will publish advice about how to watch these services and reflections on our resources page: <https://exeter.anglican.org/resources/coronavirus-guidance/coronavirus-resources/>  
**Lilies in Remembrance at St Peter's.** If you would like to donate one or more lilies in memory of someone dear to you to decorate St Peter's at a date to be set in due course you can place your donation into one of the special envelopes on the table at the back of the church. Add your name and the names of the people being remembered on the front and then post the envelope in any of the slots in the Wall Box inside the main door of the church. The price per lily is, happily, the same as the last two years, £5 per lily. The last day for doing this is Sunday 5th April.

## St Peter's Budleigh Salterton

All services suspended until further notice. The church remains open for quiet reflection & prayer.



## All Saints, East Budleigh

All services suspended until further notice. The church remains open for quiet reflection & prayer.

Thursday 26 <sup>th</sup> March	Silent Meditation @ All Saints Church	6.15
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## St Michaels, Otterton

All services suspended until further notice. The church remains open for quiet reflection & prayer.



Sadly we do not need daffodils for Mothering Sunday posies. If you would like a bunch we will have our 40 bunches in a bucket in the church porch at St Peter's & St Michael's Otterton on Sat. and Sun mornings. Please come and take some.

**2020 Diary Dates:** Postponed events: To keep folk safe and to try and stop the spread of Corona Virus many events have been postponed. Please see list below, I will keep you up to date with new dates as & when.

Wednesday	6Zone/Youth Group in the Peter Hall	Cancelled UFN
Thursday am	Village café in the East Budleigh Church Hall	Closed until September
Friday's am	Rendezvous in the Peter Hall	Cancelled UFN
28 <sup>th</sup> March	EB's Got Talent	Postponed
29 <sup>th</sup> March	Solos Lunch	Cancelled
15 <sup>nd</sup> April	St Peter's Prayer Vigil	Sign up sheet at the back of St Peter's Church.
17 <sup>th</sup> April	Wine Tasting & Dinner East Budleigh Church Hall	Cancelled
16 <sup>th</sup> April	Ladies tea @ The Hub	Cancelled
18 <sup>th</sup> April	Men's breakfast @ The Hub	Cancelled

**Funeral of Eivor Gardner:** Charles Gardner has let us know that Eivor's funeral, will be held on 26th March in Wells for family only. There will be a Memorial Service later in the Summer. He would like to thank everyone for their prayers during her illness and for the expressions of sympathy with which he has been absolutely overwhelmed. He is deeply grateful to all who have been in contact, they have helped him cope with his sadness. He hopes that people will remain in contact with him. Please remember both Eivor & Charles in your prayers.

**Free Will Offering envelopes for St.Peter's:** The new numbered boxes are now available for collection at the back of the Church and if anyone would like to use this convenient method of donating to St.Peter's Church, please let me know. I can also supply a standing order form for those wishing to save themselves the trouble

of hunting around for cash every week! Important reminder to everyone – please advise me if you have signed a Gift Aid form in the past and no longer pay any tax. Judith Stewart-Young

### **THE RALEIGH MISSION COMMUNITY**

**OUR VISION: "To know and worship God, to show his love by reaching out into the community and welcoming all into his church."**



[www.raleighmissioncommunity.org.uk](http://www.raleighmissioncommunity.org.uk) The Lawn, Budleigh Salterton, EX9 6LT

Vicar - Rev'd Martin Jacques: 01395 443473 and mobile: 07795 025016

[revmartinjacques@gmail.com](mailto:revmartinjacques@gmail.com) Associate Priest – The Reverend Karen Young: 01395 488121

[thereverendkarenyoung@gmail.com](mailto:thereverendkarenyoung@gmail.com)

**RMC Office:** Fran Mills (Mon 13.00-15.00, Tue, Wed & Thursday 10.00 – 12.00 midday,

Fri 10.00–2.00) 01395 443397 [raleighmc@gmail.com](mailto:raleighmc@gmail.com)

[Website@rmcommunity.co.uk](http://Website@rmcommunity.co.uk) Please send details of all events to Penny for inclusion on website.

### **Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> March – Lent 4, Mothering Sunday**

The services are now cancelled but I will continue to provide a commentary on the readings of the day. I will consult with wardens, Fran our administrator, and work to provide spiritual resources while this crisis continues.

**Exodus 2: 1-10.** In this tale, Pharaoh's daughter directly disobeys her father's decree to kill all Hebrew boys and becomes a story of bold female cooperation and sympathy. The miraculous deliverance of a future ruler are not uncommon in world cultures but the fact that the future saviour of the Hebrew people has an Egyptian name lends some credence to the fact that Moses is not an invented figure. God works through women, as well as men, to achieve his aims.

**Colossians 3: 12-17.** An uncontroversial list of virtues which invites reflection rather than head scratching. "Sing psalms, hymns and spiritual songs" says Paul. What hymns the early church would have sung is anyone's guess of course. As far as I am aware, western hymnody started with Gregorian chant and I'm not sure how far back Orthodox chant goes but music has obviously had a close connection with Christian worship from the very beginning

**Luke 2: 33-35.** Marian devotion, more catholic than protestant has its roots in Luke's gospel and in this small extract we have the origins of Mary as the suffering mother forever by his side and one of the inspirations behind Michelangelo's awe inspiring "Pieta", a non-Biblical yet stunning and moving high point of Christian art. In a spiritual sense one intuitively feels the pain that all mothers (and Fathers) may have to bear. The pain one feels when your child is derided, misunderstood, hurt or in extreme cases tortured or killed.

The greatest unifying aspect of faith is communal and private prayer. In the absence of a weekly habit of worship we need to be more creative. I will continue to write sermons and post them on-line and write this weekly Blog. But this is an ideal opportunity to pray daily for our friends, neighbours and anything else you feel moved to pray for.

We will continue to provide a weekly pewsheet with prayers and readings, which can be found in St Peter's Church, All Saints & St Michael's and a monthly newsletter with prayer resources which can be found in St Peter's.

This Sunday at 7.00pm put a lighted candle in your window to show that God's light is still with us.

**We pray for all who are ill:** Bernard & Audrey Jacques, baby Vinnie, Harri & Laura, Rosie Smith, David Beagley, John Heavens, Charles Gardner, Christine & Geoffrey



**Recently deceased:** Eivor Gardner, Paul Rothwell

**Annual Remembrance:** Edith Harris, Charles Pratt, Henry Slade, Bernard Prendergast, Percy Gooding, Phyllis Green, Henry Shattock, Michael William Shaw, Frederic Mills, Sybil Gooding, Len Pomroy, Anthony Harmsworth.

### **Co-ordinated Community Support during this crisis**

Community groups in Budleigh Salterton and district including the churches, the medical centre, the Lions, the schools, Relief charities have all combined to pool our resources and work together to beat this pandemic. We have a website already and all information is on there. Please use the site if you live in Budleigh Salterton, East Budleigh, Otterton, Colaton Raleigh or Newton Poppleford. If you need help with your shopping, or have financial difficulties, or want to volunteer to help yourself, just click here; <http://www.budleighsupport.co.uk/>

James Findlay has offered free delivery of any wine and spirits as well as groceries/prescriptions. Please phone him if you are in need of help with your shopping 01395 444445

Thank you to Kate Ponting for sending in this poem:

#### **Lockdown**

Yes there is fear. Yes there is isolation. Yes there is panic buying. Yes there is sickness. Yes there is even death.

But,

They say that in Wuhan after so many years of noise, you can hear the birds again.

They say that after just a few weeks of quiet the sky is no longer thick with fumes but blue and grey and clear.

They say that in the streets of Assisi people are singing to each other across the empty squares, keeping their windows open so that those who are alone may hear the sounds of family around them.

They say that a hotel in the West of Ireland is offering free meals and delivery to the housebound.

Today a young woman I know is busy spreading fliers with her number through the neighbourhood

So that the elders may have someone to call on. Today Churches, Synagogues, Mosques and Temples are preparing to welcome and shelter the homeless, the sick, the weary.

All over the world people are slowing down and reflecting, all over the world people are looking at their neighbours in a new way, all over the world people are waking up to a new reality, to how big we really are.

to how little control we really have. To what really matters. To Love. So we pray and we remember that

Yes there is fear, But there does not have to be hate. Yes there is isolation, but there does not have to be loneliness. Yes there is panic buying, but there does not have to be meanness. Yes there is sickness.

but there does not have to be disease of the soul

Yes there is even death, but there can always be a rebirth of love. Wake to the choices you make as to how to live now.

Today, breathe, listen, behind the factory noises of your panic, the birds are singing again, the sky is clearing, Spring is coming, and we are always encompassed by Love. Open the windows of your soul and though you may not be able to touch across the empty square, sing.

Fr. Richard Hendrick, OFM

Thank you so much to everyone who has offered and support to friends, family, neighbours and others they feel in need. To achieve a coordinated and efficient approach to this much needed and appreciated support please do contact **Co-ordinated Community Support** ; <http://www.budleighsupport.co.uk/>

There will be even more pressure on the Community Larder with this present crisis. Lots more people will be applying for help and we will not be able to donate as usual due to advised government restrictions. However we can help by writing a cheque to - The Salvation Army- writing on the reverse - Community Larder- and send to: Exmouth Community Larder, c/o Salvation Army Hall, Sheppards Row, Exmouth EX8 1PW.”  
Best wishes, Sue Low

