

Mothing Sunday Lent 4, 15th March, 2026



St Mary the Virgin | Finedon

A community together in faith.

Sunday Link

Connecting a community

Contacts

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Churchwardens

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Services this week:

Sunday 15th March, 9.30 am Eucharist

Tuesday 17th March, 11am Communion

Welcome: A very warm welcome especially if this is your first time visiting St Mary's, we hope you enjoy your time with us. If you have any questions, please ask any of the welcomers at the door. General information: toilets are situated at the back of the church. Communion, if you usually receive communion in your own church, you are welcome to take communion here, if you don't normally take communion but wish to have a blessing please bring this service sheet to the rail as an indicator to the priest. We do offer gluten free wafers please make yourself known so the priest can be informed. We do not have a collection in the service; a retiring plate is available or the contactless machine on the way out. You are also most welcome to stay after the service for refreshment and a chat.

Procession 362 Tell out my Soul

Gradual 393 Brother Sister

Offertory 238 For Mary Mother

Communion 241 Sing we of the Blessed Mother

Anthem For the Beauty of the earth - Rutter

Recessional 626 Ye Holy Angles Bright

Please prayer for the sick:-

Ron, Marilyn, Claire, Christopher Munns, Dave Cheney, Peter Fisher, Mark, Nina Beetson, Sarina, Gill Foster, Mark Butts, Georgie Grigg, David Wison and Margaret Coombs. Also, for those whose Years Mind occurs at this time: - Muriel Dorothy Carroll and Alice Elizabeth Smith.

Also, please pray for the family of Iris Mason as she is laid to rest this morning. A faithful member of our Church may she rest in peace.

Floodlight Sponsorship

Carol and Paul Mitchell

In memory of her Mum, Alice Elizabeth Smith on 11th anniversary of her death on 16th March.

Jan, Malc and family

To celebrate Jean and John's 50th wedding anniversary.

Sheila Pearson

To celebrate Jean and John Marlow's Golden wedding anniversary on 20th March

Race Night

Thanks, all horses and jockeys are sold. March 27th in the Cricket Club from 7.30pm. Doors open at 7pm. Free admission. See you there folks.

Easter Flowers.

There is a box for donations for easter Flowers and list for dedications at the back of the Church.

Holy Week - Open Church

The Church needs Stewards for Holy Week. If you can help, please contact the Churchwardens. Open Monday 30th March to Saturday 4th April from 12 noon to 6.30pm. People will be able to explore the journey to the Cross through immersive and interactive prayer stations.

Coffee Morning

19th March in the Mission Room

10am to midday.

Auction of Promises

Still needing promises please.

Lenten Study Group

Now at the vicarage. Meetings will start at 7:00 on Tuesdays for approximately one hour.

Clocks Spring forward on 29th March,

Palm Sunday

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Collect:- Merciful Lord, you know our struggle to serve you: when sin spoils our lives and overshadows our hearts, come to our aid and turn us back to you again;

Through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

First Reading from the book of Samuel.

Hannah conceived and bore a son. She named him Samuel, for she said, 'I have asked him of the LORD.' The man Elkanah and all his household went up to offer to the LORD the yearly sacrifice, and to pay his vow. But Hannah did not go up, for she said to her husband, 'As soon as the child is weaned, I will bring him, that he may appear in the presence of the LORD, and remain there for ever; I will offer him as a nazirite for all time.' Her husband Elkanah said to her, 'Do what seems best to you, wait until you have weaned him; only – may the LORD establish his word.' So the woman remained and nursed her son, until she weaned him. When she had weaned him, she took him up with her, along with a three-year-old bull, an ephah of flour, and a skin of wine. She brought him to the house of the LORD at Shiloh; and the child was young. Then they slaughtered the bull, and they brought the child to Eli. And she said, 'Oh, my lord! As you live, my lord, I am the woman who was standing here in your presence, praying to the LORD. For this child I prayed; and the LORD has granted me the petition that I made to him. Therefore I have lent him to the LORD; as long as he lives, he is given to the LORD.' She left him there for the LORD.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Congregational response to Psalm 34:- [Come, children, and listen to me:] I will teach you the fear of the Lord.

Come, children, and listen to me; I will teach you the fear of the Lord. Who among you loves life and desires long life to enjoy prosperity?

R

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

R

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.

R

The righteous cry and the Lord hears them and delivers them from all their troubles. The Lord is near to the brokenhearted and will save those whose spirits are crushed.

R

Many are the troubles of the righteous, but the Lord will deliver him out of them all. He will keep safe all his bones; not one of them shall be broken.

R

Second reading :- 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, as a reading from the letter of Paul to the Colossians. 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.

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John

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.

Post communion prayer. Lord God, whose blessed Son our Saviour gave his back to the smiters and did not hide his face from shame: give us grace to endure the sufferings of this present time with sure confidence in the glory that shall be revealed; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

FAMILY FUNDAY - Celebrating Mothering Sunday

Family Funday falls on Mothering Sunday, today from 2 to 4pm and we have a special treat! We would like to invite families and the wider community to join in an Afternoon Tea, with a craft project especially for the children to make. **IMPORTANT** this will run as a Bring and Share. PLEASE contact Julie (who has a list), if you wish to attend.