

ST THOMAS BECKET ANGLICAN CHURCH

“A welcoming, active and inclusive church, growing in our relationship with God and the wider community.”

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10 MARCH 2013, MOTHERING SUNDAY

Holy Communion at 10:30am

Welcome, especially if you are visiting. Junior Church meets in the school room, please contact the sidesmen for further information. We have refreshments afterwards, do stay! Please make sure you switch your mobile phone off or to silent mode. Thank you.

Introit Hymn 238

Order One

Preparation and Penitence

For Mary, Mother of Our Lord

Common Worship, page 167

pages 168-169

Collect for Mothering Sunday

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

First Reading

1 Samuel 1:20-end

A reading from the first book of Samuel.

In due time 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.

Psalm 127:1-4

Response: Children are a heritage from the Lord.

- 1 Unless the Lord builds the house, those who build it labour in vain.
- 2 Unless the Lord keeps the city, the guard keeps watch in vain. **R**
- 3 It is in vain that you hasten to rise up early and go so late to rest, eating the bread of toil, for he gives his beloved sleep. **R**
- 4 Children are a heritage from the Lord and the fruit of the womb is his gift.

Second Reading

2 Corinthians 1:3-7

A reading from the second letter of Paul 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.

Gradual Hymn 510

Lord of the Home, Your Only Son (Duke Street)

Reader: *Hear the Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.*

Response: Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel Reading

St 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.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Response: Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon	Fr Matthew Jones
Creed	page 173
Prayers of Intercession	<i>Cicely Hollingsworth</i>
The Greeting of Peace	page 175

Offertory Hymn **Immaculate Mary (sheet)**

Offertory Prayers	page 291
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Eucharistic Prayer G	page 201
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The Our Father	page 178
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Agnus Dei	page 179
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Communion Hymn 253 **For the Beauty of the Earth**

Post-Communion Prayer

Loving God, as a mother feeds her children at the breast, you feed us in this 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	page 183
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Notices, Birthdays

Recessional Hymn 241 **Sing We of the Blessèd Mother (Blaenwern)**

Dismissal: *Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.*

Response: In the Name of Christ, Amen.



Pompeo Batoni's *Madonna and Child*

IMMACULATE MARY

Immaculate Mary, we praise God in you:
His power and His mercy, His grace given to you.
Ave, ave, ave Maria! Ave, ave, ave Maria!

Predestined for Christ by eternal decree,
God willed you both virgin and mother to be.

To you, by an angel, the Father made known:
The grace of His Spirit, the gift of His Son.

Most blest of all women, you heard and believed,
Most blest in the fruit of your womb then conceived.

The angels rejoiced when you brought forth God's Son;
Your joy is the joy of all ages to come.

Your child is the Saviour, all hope lies in Him:
He gives us new life and redeems us from sin.

With sorrow you watched while your Son died for men;
With joy at His rising, you saw Him again.

In glory for ever now close to your Son,
All ages will praise you for all God has done.

Through you to your Son lead us, Mary, we pray;
Through Christ to the Father is our only way.

SHARED PRAYERS

By Cicely Hollingsworth

Sunday, 10th March, Mothering Sunday (4th Sunday of Lent)

Today we thank God for the gift of mothers and mothering across the world. Isaiah wrote that God is a mother to us, comforting and carrying us in her arms, “As one whom a mother comforts, so will I comfort you” (Isaiah 66:13) Lord, thank you for your tender care. *Mothers’ Union prayers.*

Monday, 11th March

Lord, we pray for the families in our congregation, especially for those with children. May they benefit from the Spring school holiday, finding refreshment in a change of routine.

Tuesday, 12th March

This week “Us” (formerly USPG) focuses on Ghana. “Lord, we ask that the churches in Ghana and throughout the world might establish deeper links with their communities.” *Pray with Us.*

Wednesday, 13th March

Lord, we pray for all victims of trafficking; for women and girls trapped into prostitution; for domestics treated as virtual slaves; for children forced to work in mines and quarries. We pray for the ILO and other organisations working to prevent such exploitation.

Thursday, 14th March

Lord, we pray for all engaged in medical research and give thanks for the progress made in the treatment of many diseases once regarded as untreatable.

Friday, 15th March

Loving Father, we pray for all refugees, all who have been driven out of their homes by violence or disaster or have been forced to leave their homes as a result of political persecution. We pray especially those separated from their loved ones.

Saturday, 16th March

“As we rejoice in the power of his Spirit, may God grant us today the faith of the apostles, the boldness of the prophets and the strength of the martyrs.” *SSF Celebrating Common Prayer.*

NOTICES

The Deadline for Becket News is 23 March. Please send all items for inclusion to becketnews@aol.com

The Lenten Appeal this year is for Partners for Change (formerly St Matthew's Children's Fund). Please support this charity to the best of your ability.

The Bible study group is be meeting again for a Lenten study at Fr Matthew's flat on Wednesday evenings.

The Electoral Roll has to be completely overhauled, as is the requirement after every six years. **Everybody** who wants to be on the Roll, must **re-apply**, no matter how long one has been a member of the parish! Please do so by 30 March.

The AGM is on 14 April after the service. Could all reports please be in to the office by 15 March.

The Lenten Chapel is a quiet and peaceful place for reflection and prayer. Lenten reflection cards with Bible readings are available and kneelers provide opportunity for prayer.

Olive tree: Is anyone interested in buying the large Olive tree from the chapel after Easter? If so, please speak to Fr Matthew.

Christian Education Seminar for CAECG: Please see the notice board for details.

The Sacrament of Confession

Lent is a special time for us to really think about our relationship with God. If anyone would like to receive the Sacrament of Confession, please ask Fr Matthew for an appointment. Confession is very cleansing for the soul and anything discussed is bound by sacramental confidentiality. Even if you have never made a formal confession before, please think about this and perhaps have a chat Fr Matthew to find out more.

Fundraising committee: The Church Council would like to form a fundraising committee, comprising people with an interest in putting together fundraising events. If you might be interested please have a talk to Fr Matthew or Wendy Sprock.