## ST MARY A ST MICHAEL

#### SUNDAY 30 March – Lent 4 MOTHERING SUNDAY

8.30amBCP Holy Communion10amHoly Communion

#### 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.** 

READINGS (in pew bibles) Genesis 16: 1-13, p. 13

John 19: 25-27, p. 122

#### PRAYER FOR THIS WEEK 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. **Amen.** 

#### NEXT WEEK

8.30am BCP Holy Communion 10am All Age Communion

If you want to put a note in the pewsheet, please contact Emma in the office, no later than 9am Wednesday if the note is intended for the forthcoming Sunday. Thank you.

#### CONTACTS

#### CHURCH WEBSITE www.trumpington.church

Vicar – Revd Mandy Maxwell 01223 845047 stmarystmichael55@gmail.com

Churchwardens Edmund Brookes 01223 840374 <u>churchwarden@trumpington.church</u> Sheila Betts 07889 706625 <u>warden@trumpington.church</u>

Organist – Geoff Symon <u>organist@trumpington.church</u> Choir Leader – Alan Howard <u>choir@trumpington.church</u> Parish Safeguarding Officer – Sheila Betts 07889 706625 <u>safeguarding@trumpington.church</u>

CHURCH OFFICE – OPENING TIMES 9am-1pm Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday Emma's email address is: <u>admin@trumpington.church</u>

#### **CHURCH NOTICES**

#### GIVING

If you would like to make a donation in support of the life and ministry of our church, you can:

- Leave a cash donation in the plate provided
- Make a contactless donation using the GoodBox
- Use a yellow envelope. If you pay tax we can claim the Gift Aid, but only if you fill out your details.
- Please speak to Edmund about making a regular electronic gift and the best way to do this.
  Everything helps – thank you!

#### EASTER LILIES

If you would like to donate a Lily in memory of a loved one, please pass a contribution of £5 to Edmund, together with the name of the person you wish to remember. The names will be read in the 10am service on Easter Sunday.



#### APCM

Please note the APCM is being held on the 27 April after the 10am service.

#### NOMINATION FORMS

Nomination forms for roles of Churchwarden and PCC member are available in church

#### **BIBLE STUDY**

Please contact Mandy if you would like to join a group on either Tuesday evening online or Wednesday evening in person.

#### CHURCH ELECTORAL ROLL

This year we have to draw up a completely new church electoral roll. Even if your name is already on the roll, you need to fill in a new form to be included on the new one. Anyone whose name has been on the electoral roll for a minimum of 6 months can stand for election to the Parochial Church Council (PCC), which, together with the Vicar and Churchwardens, makes decisions about how the church is run. If you are interested in joining the PCC, but have not been on the electoral roll for long enough, it may be possible to become a co-opted member. Please speak to the Vicar or Churchwardens if you are interested in joining the PCC.

#### **ROCKVOX® CHOIR**

Gigabull Ltd are giving away free probationary membership to their new Choir. They are looking for new singers. It would be great if we could have members of our congregation involved and singing at the next performance. The choir meets at the bakehouse on Wednesday nights from 7 to 9pm. To reserve your free probationary membership please visit

https://www.gigabull.co.uk/rockvox-choir

#### **BOOK GROUP**

2025 is the 250th anniversary of Jane Austen's birth. The Book Group is reading her final completed novel, *Persuasion,* to discuss when we meet again on **Thursday 3 April**. All welcome – no invitation needed! For more information please email: bookgroup@trumpington.church



30 March 2025

# Motherly love

#### Heather Smith reflects on Exodus 2:1-10

he distress that must have been felt by the Hebrew mothers whose children were killed on Pharaoh's orders is unimaginable. Unfortunately, countless mothers down the centuries have felt the pain of the loss of their children because of war, famine and senseless violence. Moses' mother, whose name we are not told, hatched a plan to save her son. Presumably she intended simply to hide him until the slaughter ended, but events took a surprising turn when Pharaoh's daughter discovered him, decided to save him, and the baby's quick-thinking sister came up with a suggestion that returned the child to his mother.

Mothers are often very determined when it comes to doing the best for their children and that deep, fierce love is something to celebrate today. It is God-given and like all love ultimately reflects the divine. We are used to describing God as father, implying the male, but of course God is not to be placed in any human category. Today, we might consider divine love as expressed in motherhood. It could give us a tiny glimpse of the love that God feels for each of us. Looked at through the eyes of a mother our world presents the distressing prospect of a family at war, where equally loved children fight among themselves and destroy each other. No wonder God's love, like that of Moses' mother, resulted in a plan for salvation. 🐸



Loving God, teach us how to love one another as a mother loves her children, seeking the best for each other and working for the harmony and peace you desire across the whole of your creation. Amen.

## The ordination of women Part 4 – "pearls"

#### by Georgina Byrne

Last year, the Church of England celebrated the first women who took their priestly vows in 1994. It allowed me the opportunity to reflect on their ministry, recognising that what they did enabled me to take the same vows three years later in 1997. In marriages, thirtieth anniversaries are marked with pearls, and those women were certainly "pearls of great price" for me.

Many of those first female priests were ordained in older age, faithful servants - who had been

deaconesses and then deacons for whom presiding at the Eucharist brought into sacramental focus the extraordinary pastoral ministry they had already exercised. But there were younger, fresher faces among them: women who, since 1994, have gone on to offer a lifetime of ministry. Some of them have been my friends, wise counsellors, role models.

They are pearls indeed. And the Church of England is made rich by the ministry that they continue to offer.

Georgina is the Anglican Tutor at the Queen's Foundation and a Chaplain to The King. 逆

## Walking with Rosie

#### by Gillian Cooper

This morning on our walk I am looking out for Clair. Not only because her elderly Jack Russell is Rosie's friend, but because I want to ask her who cuts her hair - it always looks nice, and mine is in dire need of a spring cut. We walk together, chatting about dogs and hairdressers and the weather, and I feel a sense of belonging. After eighteen months in this community, Rosie and I know people, and dogs. I know their names and they know mine. I know who to ask about things, and they share the local gossip. This village has become home.

I have another home too. I am a citizen of the kingdom of God. There is someone else who knows my name, someone who listens to my questions and understands my needs. Someone I will meet face to face when my earthly walk is over. 👻

### God could not be everywhere, and therefore he made mothers."

Rudyard Kipling (1865-1936), novelist