



## Sunday 22nd March 2020 Mothering Sunday

If you can, please pray at about 11am so that we can feel connected and in spirit are together as a church community, even though we pray each from our own homes.

*Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good; His love endures forever. As a mother comforts a child so I will comfort you, says the Lord. (Isaiah 66: 13)*

The lectionary gospel reading for this Sunday is: John 9: 1-41.

*"I was blind and now I see." The blind man has experienced the saving grace of Jesus. Jesus is the only one the man can trust as the community, the religious leaders and his family fail him. Jesus stands with the man when he is alone, isolated, abandoned. And Jesus stands with us too in these difficult times.*

*And as the hymn Amazing Grace comes to my mind I particularly like the verse "The Lord has promised good to me, his word my hope secures; he will my shield and portion be as long as life endures"*

**The prayers below are suggested by Bournville URC.**

Today we pray for all mothers especially mothers with school aged children who face a daunting task in ensuring their children continue their education.

We pray for teachers that they can support every pupil and encourage them to continue learning during this national crisis.

We pray for children whose lives have changed overnight.

We pray for all families who face financial uncertainty.

We pray for vulnerable people that they will be kept safe.

We pray that people will think of others especially when buying food.

We pray for our government their advisers and scientists working hard to keep our society safe.

We pray for all people working in the food supply industry.

We pray for people to stay calm and have peace of mind and have faith that we will all cope during this period.

### **And a prayer from Kathleen Wood:**

Lord, you care for us all, especially those ill in any way  
You ask us to show that same care for one another  
Thank you for those who give time and energy looking after others  
Lord bless them when they feel tired and not well but keep going for the sake of others. Amen.

*We lift these prayers up to God on this day that we celebrate the gift of life and those who have given it to us – our mothers and our Creator. And as Jesus taught us so we pray OUR FATHER....*

**WE ARE NOT ALONE. GOD IS WITH US. THANKS BE TO GOD. May God bless you and keep you!**

*Leonora*

