



THE WEEKLY CATCH



Sunday 22nd January 2020

Mothering Sunday

**REGULAR SUNDAY SERVICES HAVE BEEN
SUSPENDED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE.**

**WE WILL REMAIN OPEN EACH MORNING
AS A PLACE FOR PERSONAL PRAYER AND
WORSHIP.**

We will be running a reduced Catch for the foreseeable future. A lot more information will be shared through Facebook and by email.

Collect for the today:

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 heal;
through Jesus Christ our
Lord.

Amen

A prayer:

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.

Amen

If you are required to self-isolate or follow social distancing measures, please let us know so that we can pray for you and with you.

REFLECTION

Mothering Sunday is a day for celebration when we thank God for our mothers, their care and concern for us, and for the love that they have given us. Even if our mothers are no longer with us, we can today remember that care and love.

We remember too that many people foster children who have nowhere left to turn, some of the most vulnerable children in our communities. We celebrate all those who care for this country's children and young people today.

Today can also be a consideration too for those whom this Mother's Day may be a painful time. People who grieve a child, those whose children may have left home and those for whom motherhood has been impossible.

Today I am particularly thinking about Hannah (1 Samuel: 1). Hannah represents childless women everywhere; she represents all women who have been ridiculed or are being ridiculed because they are childless. But Hannah is one of the most inspiring women in the Bible. Despite years of patience and prayer she remained childless until the day that in her deep anguish she earnestly prayed to the Lord. God answered her prayer and she had a son and named him Samuel, saying, "Because I asked the Lord for him".

Hannah's character truly shone when, in gratitude to God, she dedicated her new-born son to His service. Her son would one day become one of Israel's greatest prophets

Hannah's faith was the type that could move mountains and the kind of faith that can move impossibilities in our lives showing us that the Lord is able to permeate through our lives and set us free from whatever is holding us back. Whatever may happen in our lives we must hold on to our faith.

Every Blessing to you all today,

Linda Nicholas

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