

NORTH WESTMORLAND WEEKLY

Sunday 23rd March 2025 – Mothering Sunday (Fourth Sunday of Lent)

Year C: Lent

Sunday's readings

I Samuel 1:20-end
Psalm 127:1-4
Colossians 3:12-17
John 19:25b-27



Collect

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 for ever.

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.

Electoral roll application



Welcome to Chris Smith

This coming Saturday, 5th April, we welcome our new curate, Chris Smith, to the Benefice. The service of Evening Prayer will be at Crosby Ravensworth at 7pm. Please do join us if you possibly can, in order to meet Chris, and please bring something savoury to share by way of finger food for afterwards.

Chris began his curacy in Hawkshead part-time, and is coming to us as he transfers to full-time, incumbent-status training. It is very important that we enable him to experience the full range of parish duties and responsibilities.

I am sure that Chris will be supported by friends from his previous parishes, so please make them welcome also.

Upcoming events for Lent

It's time also to start thinking about other events for Holy Week and Easter. We will be offering 'Stations of the Cross' in art and worship, based in Crosby Ravensworth. We will also have a series of short talks, followed by compline, at the start of Holy Week. See the Lent, Holy Week and Easter flyer on noticeboards and on our website.

We will be offering a traditional 'dawn' service on Easter Sunday this year, with all the trimmings: starting with the traditional bonfire, carrying the light into church, and following up with bacon sandwiches after Holy Communion. St Peter's, Askham, has generously agreed to host this year. Please do come if you can: 7am start.

Electoral roll renewal

All parishes must renew their electoral rolls from scratch this year, before their APCM. If you want to remain on the roll, you must re-apply. Your electoral roll officer will be in touch if you are currently on the roll and will be able to provide paper forms. Alternatively, you can use our online version via the website. QR code overleaf, or this link:

<https://northwestmorland.church/>



1 Samuel 1:20-end

²⁰ In due time Hannah conceived and bore a son. She named him Samuel, for she said, 'I have asked him of the Lord.'

²¹ The man Elkanah and all his household went up to offer to the Lord the yearly sacrifice, and to pay his vow. ²² 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.' ²³ 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. ²⁴ 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. ²⁵ Then they slaughtered the bull, and they brought the child to Eli. ²⁶ 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. ²⁷ For this child I prayed; and the Lord has granted me the petition that I made to him. ²⁸ 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.

Colossians 3:12-17

¹² As God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. ¹³ Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. ¹⁴ Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. ¹⁵ And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful. ¹⁶ 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. ¹⁷ 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.

John 19:25b-27

Meanwhile, standing near the cross of Jesus were his mother, and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. ²⁶ When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing beside her, he said to his mother, 'Woman, here is your son.' ²⁷ Then he said to the disciple, 'Here is your mother.' And from that hour the disciple took her into his own home.