



Sunday 15th March 2026

Today's service

10:45 Holy Communion
for **Mothering Sunday**
with Rev Mike Firbank



Today's Reading



1 Corinthians 13

A Thought from Mike

On this day, Mothering Sunday, some will feel joy, some will not. It can be a wonderful day; it can be a challenging one.

The reading today from 1 Corinthians 13 will hopefully carry us all through an exploration of God, our ultimate parent, who loves us and cherishes us completely.

Prayer for the week

God of love,
passionate and strong,
tender and careful:
watch over us and hold us
all the days of our life;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Simnel Cake, Mothering Sunday and Lent

Simnel cake varieties are often enjoyed on Easter Sunday now, but in earlier times, most people in England savoured this delicious treat on the 4th Sunday of Lent, called Mothering Sunday.



Mothering Sunday marked the midpoint of Lent and offered a break from fasting. In medieval England, people were not permitted to eat dairy products during the rest of Lent, which meant many baked goods were off-limits except on this day.

For this reason, Mothering Sunday became a festive occasion, allowing people to temporarily *break the fast* and indulge in simnel cake made with butter and eggs. This differs from Pancake Tuesday, when eggs and milk are traditionally used up before Lent begins.

Another contribution by Bill Morris

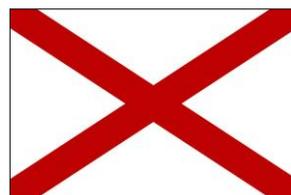
Saint Patrick

Did you notice the flag in the churchyard as you came into church today?

Saint Patrick, the patron saint of Ireland, is credited with bringing Christianity to the Emerald Isle in the 5th century.

Born in Roman Britain (not Ireland!) around the late 4th century, Patrick was kidnapped as a teenager and enslaved in Ireland for several years. After escaping, he trained as a priest and returned to Ireland as a missionary, where he spent decades converting people to Christianity through preaching and simple teachings.

He died on March 17 (traditionally dated around 461 AD).



Sunday
12th
April
12:00

We'll be having our Annual Parochial Church Meeting on 12th April, straight after the service in the church hall, at 12 noon.

Come along to catch up on what's been happening in our church over the past year. If you're on the church electoral roll, you can vote for important roles like churchwardens and for people to represent us at Deanery Synod.

Fancy being a Churchwarden or Deanery Synod Rep?

If you'd like to be a churchwarden or represent us at Deanery Synod meetings, you'll need to fill in a nomination form. If you want to know more, just have a word with Christine Gardener, the PCC secretary.

CHURCH CALENDAR



Tuesday 17th March
2-3.30pm Lent Course at Gresley
7.30-9pm “ “ “ “

Wednesday 18th March
7pm PCC Meeting
 at Emmanuel Church Hall

Sunday 22nd March
10:45 Morning Worship
 with Nigel Worth

Sunday 29th March
10:00 Palm Sunday
 Joint Minster Service at St John's

Sunday 5th April
10:45 Easter All-age Worship
 with the Assembly Team

ALL SERVICES WILL BE HELD IN THE CHURCH HALL AFTER THIS DATE

Sunday 12th April
10:45 Morning Worship
 with Sean and Sandra O'Toole

Sunday 19th April
10:45 Holy Communion
 with Rev Patrick Douglas

Sunday 26th April
10:45 Morning Worship
SDYFC Service
 with Helen Davis

Cleaning Rota

Mar 22 nd	Brian Redfern	Main body, kitchen & N. Aisle
Mar 29 th	Friday HG	Whole church, including brasses
Apr 5 th	Christine G	Main body, vestry & bell tower, sweeping porch
Apr 12 th	CHURCH BUILDING WORKS TAKING PLACE	
Apr 19 th	CHURCH BUILDING WORKS TAKING PLACE	

Reading, Intercessions and Refreshments Rota

	Reading	Intercessions	Tea/coffee
Mar 15 th	Jeff	Christine	Carol
Mar 22 nd	John	Friday HG	Deb W
Mar 29 th	SERVICE AT ST JOHN'S		
Apr 5 th	Christine	Nigel	Gwen
Apr 12 th	Nigel	James	Christine
Apr 19 th	Sean	Brian	Carol

Meet & greet/Tidying Church after the service Rota

	Meet and greet	Tidying after service
Mar 15 th	Carol J – Jeff	Jean
Mar 22 nd	Christine G - Sean	Emily
Mar 29 th	SERVICE AT ST JOHN'S	
Apr 5 th	Christine T	Nathan
Apr 12 th	Carol J – Jeff	Jean
Apr 19 th	Christine G - Sean	Emily



Gwen is raising money for Alzheimer's Society and is asking for more items to make up the next 10kg sack. If you have any bits and pieces listed here that you no longer need, please pass them on to Gwen.



Yes Please

- ✓ Gold or Silver Jewellery
- ✓ Watches
- ✓ Stamps
- ✓ Costume Jewellery
- ✓ Banknotes & coins
- ✓ First Day Covers

The ONLY electrical devices we accept are:

- ✓ Mobile Phones
- ✓ Cameras
- ✓ Video Cameras
- ✓ Sat Navs
- ✓ Electronic gaming devices
- ✓ Ipods/MP3 players
- ✓ Tablet Computers

No Thank you

- X Laptops
- X Home phones
- X Fax machines
- X DVD players
- X Printers
- X Modems or routers
- X Kitchen appliances
- X Porcelain or glass items
- X Personal Grooming items (straighteners, razors, hair dryers)