

Churches Open.

It will be important that we, and members of the community, have access to the churches during these times for quietness and prayer. Tibberton and Taynton churches will be open as usual every day. Rudford – please ask Ian Hodges (790387) if you would like to visit the church. Highnam Church will be open each Sunday from 2 – 4pm. If you in a ‘low risk’ group and could offer to steward please contact Susanna (308401)

*Next Sunday 29th March
5th Sunday of Lent*

*As well as the pewsheet with reading and prayers, we will be sending a link to a ‘video service’ for our Benefice, as Geoff and Helen lead us in worshipping together from our homes.
Something new!!*

Church Diary

....with all our services and meetings suspended, there is nothing really to put in a church diary, but that gives us lots of extra space!

So we would be delighted to receive any thoughts, reflections, poems, readings, words of encouragement etc that you would like to share, to include in future pewsheets.

Please email short articles to Lynda by Wednesday morning each week.



Contacts

Benefice Administrator: Lynda Haines (Mon, Wed, Fri mornings)
highnam.church@aol.co.uk. 01452 525567 (answerphone)

Vicar: Revd Helen Sammon vicar@highnamchurch.org 01452 306433
- in parishes Mon, Wed, Thurs, (Sat) Sun.

For all other contact details please refer to the front page of the monthly Link; our website: www.highnamchurch.org or Find us on Facebook search for Highnam Church Life or Tibberton Church.



The United Benefice of
Highnam, Tibberton with
Rudford and Taynton

**Sunday
22nd
March**



Sadly we can't be together today as we would have liked, but please enjoy the pewsheet, and use the readings and prayers for your own 'service' at home.

Sunday 22nd March - Mothering Sunday

This Sunday is Mothering Sunday as there will be no church service, let us unite in our prayers together at home and enjoy quality time safely with our loved ones. We send you love and prayers at on this special day.



Readings

Psalm 127.1-4
Exodus 2.1-10
Luke 2.33-35



Collect

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.



*We are invited to join the
Archbishop's National Day of Prayer this Sunday,
as they suggest :*

- Light a candle at **7pm** and put it in your window as a sign of hope to the community.
- Ring someone who may be isolated and vulnerable.
- Buy an extra item and place it in your local food bank.

Bible readings

Psalm 127

God's Blessings in the Home

¹ Unless the LORD builds the house,
those who build it labor in vain.

Unless the LORD guards the city,
the guard keeps watch in vain.

² It is in vain that you rise up early
and go late to rest,

eating the bread of anxious toil;
for he gives sleep to his beloved.^[a]

³ Sons are indeed a heritage from the LORD,
the fruit of the womb a reward.

⁴ Like arrows in the hand of a warrior
are the sons of one's youth.



Exodus 2:1-10.

The lovely story of Moses's mother, and the trust she put in God.

² Now a man from the house of Levi went and married a Levite woman. ² The woman conceived and bore a son; and when she saw that he was a fine baby, she hid him three months. ³ When she could hide him no longer she got a papyrus basket for him, and plastered it with bitumen and pitch; she put the child in it and placed it among the reeds on the bank of the river. ⁴ His sister stood at a distance, to see what would happen to him.

⁵ The daughter of Pharaoh came down to bathe at the river, while her attendants walked beside the river. She saw the basket among the reeds and sent her maid to bring it. ⁶ When she opened it, she saw the child. He was crying, and she took pity on him. "This must be one of the Hebrews' children," she said. ⁷ Then his sister said to Pharaoh's daughter, "Shall I go and get you a nurse from the Hebrew women to nurse the child for you?" ⁸ Pharaoh's daughter said to her, "Yes." So the girl went and called the child's mother.

⁹ Pharaoh's daughter said to her, "Take this child and nurse it for me, and I will give you your wages." So the woman took the child and nursed it. ¹⁰ When the child grew up, she brought him to Pharaoh's daughter, and she took him as her son. She named him Moses,^[a] "because," she said, "I drew him out^[b] of the water."

Luke 2:33-35 .

Words spoken to Mary, when she took Jesus to the temple.

³³ And the child's father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. ³⁴ Then Simeon^[a] blessed them and said to his mother Mary, "This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed³⁵ so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed—and a sword will pierce your own soul too."

Ideas and prayers for Mothering Sunday 'Apart yet Together'.



Give thanks for your mother.

Find a favourite photo of your mother, and place it on a table during the day. Perhaps put some flowers beside it, or a lighted candle.

If you are a mother:

Spend a little time holding each of your children (and grandchildren) in your heart, one by one; give thanks for them and all that is special about each one. If you have tea-lights, light one for each of them.

Remember the love of God for each one of us, with these words:

Jesus, like a mother you gather your people to you;
you are gentle with us as a mother with her children.
Often you weep over our sins and our pride,
You comfort us in sorrow and bind up our wounds,
in sickness you nurse us, and with pure milk you feed us.
Lord Jesus, in your mercy heal us;
in your love and tenderness remake us.
In your compassion bring grace and forgiveness,
for the beauty of heaven may your love prepare us.

From the song of St Anselm

Prayers for Mothering Sunday

Loving God, thank you for mothers and children
and for all the joy of family life,
Be near to those who are sad because they are
far apart from those they love,

Be close to those who are struggling because they have no children,

We pray for those who do not know the love of a mother or father, and
those who have experienced a difficult relationship in their families,

We pray for those Mothers and families living in fear, poverty and
sickness here in this country and around the world

We pray for those suffering from the coronavirus disease
- Lord - be their refuge and tower

We thank you today for all who care or have cared for us and we
remember those who cared for us in the past and who now rest with you,

Loving God - Help us find our rest and quietness in your loving arms.
through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen

(Prayers prepared by Elaine Sherrat of Taynton)