

Ringstone in Aveland News Sheet

22 March 2020
Mothering Sunday
Fourth Sunday of Lent



Coronavirus (Covid-19)

In light of the Government guidance around non-essential contact, the Archbishops of Canterbury and York have issued advice that public worship is suspended until further notice. Churches should be open where possible but with no public worship services taking place.

In the Ringstone in Aveland group we are taking the following steps:

Morton church will be open every day for private prayer. Please observe social isolation rules and stay at least 6 feet away from other worshippers.

All groups, meetings and social events have been cancelled. APCMs are likely to be cancelled but confirmation for this will come closer to the dates of the meetings.

Revd Neil will say morning prayer each morning at the usual time and invites you to join him in spirit and say morning prayer in your own homes

Revd Neil will say a Eucharist service each Sunday in one of the churches. While you will not be able to attend the service, this will be recorded and streamed on [facebook](#) and on the [group website](#) from about 11am.

In addition, service books have been uploaded to the group website so you can follow the Eucharist services in Lent and Holy Week.

There will be some members of the church community who are unable to access the online resources. If you are able to, perhaps you could print out a copy of the news sheet and/or service books for them.

Full details from the Church of England can be found [here](#)

Collect for Mothering Sunday

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.. **Amen**



Readings for Mothering Sunday

Exodus 2.1-10

Colossians 3.12-17

John 19.25-27

Post Communion Prayer for Mothering Sunday

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. **Amen**



Week Four: Stars and Seasons

As well as providing light (the theme in week one), the sun, moon and stars divide time into day and night, seasons and years. This week we explore how attending to these rhythms can help us live in greater harmony with God and nature.

Prayer for the week:

Summer and winter, and springtime and harvest,
Sun, moon and stars in their courses above,
Join with all nature in manifold witness
To thy great faithfulness, mercy and love.
Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see;
All I have needed thy hand hath provided –
Great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!

From 'Great is thy faithfulness' by Thomas Chisholm (1866 - 1960)

From our prayer list. Please pray for...

Eben Atkinson, Sheila Bates, Edith Bond, Margaret Brumby, Stephen Buckman, Annie Ewer, Sue Grainge, Paul Hardingham, Annie Hersey, Arthur Jeffries, Elva Lamb, Imogen Matthews, John Rowntree, Shelagh Sands, Jose Stokes, Christine Ward, Tim Watson, and for any others whom we name in the silence of our hearts.

We give thanks for those on the road to recovery.

We also remember the souls of Barbara Smith and of all the faithful departed may they rest in peace and rise in glory; and we also pray for those who mourn their loss.

Sharing in Prayer – the Diocesan Prayer Diary. Please pray for

Today we give thanks for family life, and pray for all those for whom this is a difficult and poignant day.

Our clergy and for their families.

UN International Day of Remembrance of the Victims of Slavery and the Transatlantic Slave Trade (Wednesday)

The meeting of Bishop's Council of Diocesan Trustees.

All who have the responsibility of communicating news and information to others. Please pray for our diocesan Communications Team, the Revd Adrian Smith and Louise Brown.

The intentions of the following parishes, groups and Deaneries: The Graffoe Group; Waddington; Hykeham.

The intentions of all those from outside our diocese but listed in the prayer diary, including the churches in Matabeleland (Central Africa); Virginia, Washington (USA); Huron (Canada); Matana (Burundi); Wad Medani (Sudan); Hyderabad (Pakistan); Matlosane (formerly Klerksdorp) (Southern Africa); Waiapu, Waikato & Taranaki (Aotearoa NZ & Polynesia); Mauritius (Indian Ocean); Wangaratta (Australia); Mbaise, Warri, Ibadan, Ibadan North, Ibadan South (Nigeria); Mbale (Uganda).

A reflection on today's gospel reading

When Jesus heard that they had thrown him out, he found him and said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?" He answered and said, "Who is he, sir, that I may believe in him?" Jesus said to him, "You have seen him, the one speaking with you is he."

Reflection:

We cannot predict or define God's saving presence in the world. The Pharisees couldn't imagine that God was present in Jesus, or that the blind man could discern the presence and actions of God better than they could. God is bigger and greater than any of us could imagine. The more profound darkness is to claim to have all the answers. Adapted for our purposes, this Lent we might pose the blind man's question this way, "Who are you Lord, that we might believe?" For we always are in need of more sight – more light on the "subject!"

So, we ask ourselves:

- ❖ Do I see Christ's presence in people and places that surprise me?
- ❖ What person(s) has helped me "see" and grow in faith?

Bourne Food Bank

At this time of crisis, please remember to support the Food Bank.

The collection box for the whole group is in Morton church.

The church is remaining open for private prayer and so the food bank box will be accessible.



Readings for Morning Prayer for this week

Monday: Psalm 77; Exodus 2.11-22; Hebrews 9.1-14

Tuesday: Psalm 79; Exodus 2.23-3.20; Hebrews 9.15-end

Wednesday: Psalm 111; 1 Samuel 2.1-10; Romans 5.12-end

Thursday: Psalm 86; Exodus 4.27-6.1; Hebrews 10.19-25

Friday, Rippingale: Psalm 102; Exodus 6.2-13; Hebrews 10.26-end

Saturday, Dunsby: Psalm 23; Exodus 7.8-end; Hebrews 11.1-16

Vital work has now been in two of our churches

Dunsby roof repairs have now been completed.

The boiler at Morton church has now been replaced, and there is a warm, but empty church.

Both these repairs require considerable financial outlay. Please consider whether you would like to make a donation of any size towards the cost of these repairs. If you can help please speak to Revd Neil.

APCMs

These are the dates for the Annual Parish Church Meetings for each of the five churches. However, in the current situation they are likely to be postponed or cancelled. Should they go ahead, with the exception of Morton, they will be held in the church:

Dunsby	to be confirmed
Haconby	Thursday 28 May at 7pm
Kirkby Underwood	Thursday, 19 March at 7pm - cancelled
Morton	Wednesday, 1 April at 7pm (in church hall)
Rippingale	Thursday 30 April at 7pm

Notices and application forms for revisions of the churches' electoral rolls will be posted in each church approximately one month before the APCM. If you are not on your church's electoral roll and would like to be included, please look out for this notice

Mothering Sunday 22nd March 2020

Small Gifts available for collection in the Church

Although we are unable to hold our Mothering Sunday Service in Church this Sunday, gifts will be available from 11.00am for all those who would like to call into the church to collect them. Please observe the guidelines for social distancing if others are in Church when you call in.

As always, candles will be available for lighting and you are invited to spend some quiet time in prayer if you wish.

We hope you will enjoy the token gifts for our Mums, Grans and other special Carers. These are different this year as we have not been able to make small posies but we trust the thought behind them gives the same pleasure your loved ones.

With love and best wishes from Reverend Neil and all those at St. John the Baptist Church. Your Church remains here for you at all times.

Communication

www.ringstonegroupchurches.org.

If you have items to be included in the news sheet, please let Sue know by emailing ringstoneoffice@gmail.com before 10am on a Tuesday