

PARISH EUCHARIST

THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT
MOTHERING SUNDAY

SUNDAY 15 MARCH 2026



THE CHURCH OF ST ANDREW, SERVING
CHARVIL, SONNING AND SONNING EYE

Everyone Welcome!

Welcome to our Parish Eucharist service for Mothering Sunday and the Fourth Sunday of Lent. We welcome the Sonning Deanery Area Dean, Revd. Laura Wheatley-Downs who is taking our service this morning.

You will be guided by the welcome team to receive communion at the appropriate time.

We have gluten free communion wafers for those with gluten allergies. Please let one of the welcome team know if you would like to receive one at communion. If you are hard of hearing, we have a hearing loop in church. Please turn your hearing aid to the appropriate position to use it. Large print copies of this service booklet are available.

Sunday Club isn't running today but STAY still runs in the Ark.

Their usual Sundays are:

Sunday Club (Reception to Year 6) - 2nd, 4th and 5th Sundays of the month in the Ark during term time.

STAY (Year 7 upwards) - 3rd, 4th and 5th Sundays of each month in the Ark during term time.

The children's area is open and toys are available for younger children there. Please would parents supervise their children using this area and tidy toys away afterwards.

Please do join us for refreshments in The Ark following the service.

To request more information about our church activities please scan the QR code to the right or contact the church office by telephone or email - details on the back page.



If you would like to make a donation to the ministry and mission of this church you can do so by leaving a donation in the collection plate, using the contactless terminal by the main church door or scanning the QR code here:



*The responses and prayers in **BOLD** type are said by the whole congregation*

Please stand for the hymn (A&M 537)

For the beauty of the earth,
for the beauty of the skies,
for the love which from our birth
over and around us lies,

*Lord of all, to thee we raise
this our sacrifice of praise.*

2. For the beauty of each hour
of the day and of the night,
hill and vale and tree and flower,
sun and moon and stars of light:

*Lord of all, to thee we raise
this our sacrifice of praise.*

3. For the joy of human love,
brother, sister, parent, child,
friends on earth, and friends above,
pleasures pure and undefiled:

*Lord of all, to thee we raise
this our sacrifice of praise.*

4. For each perfect gift of thine,
to our race so freely given,
graces human and divine,
flowers of earth and buds of heaven:

*Lord of all, to thee we raise
this our sacrifice of praise.*

5. For thy church which evermore
lifteth holy hands above,
offering up on every shore
her pure sacrifice of love,

*Lord of all, to thee we raise
this our sacrifice of praise.*

Welcome in the name of Christ. God's grace, mercy and peace be with you.
And also with you.

Please sit for the welcome and notices.

Prayer of Preparation

**Faithful one, whose word is life: come with saving power to free our
praise, inspire our prayer and shape our lives for the kingdom of your
Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Prayers of Penitence

God the Father forgives us in Christ and heals us by the Holy Spirit.
Let us therefore put away all anger and bitterness, all slander and malice,
and confess our sins to God our redeemer.

cf Ephesians 4:30,32

We keep a time of quiet.

Christ came in humility to share our lives: forgive our pride.

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Christ came with good news for all people: forgive our silence.

Christ, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Christ came in love to a world of suffering: forgive our self-centredness.

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

The God of love and power forgive you and free you from your sins, heal and strengthen you by his Spirit, and raise you to new life in Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Please remain standing for the Collect and the Gospel Reading

The 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.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

Luke 2: 33-35 (*New International Version*)

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

The child's father and mother marvelled at what was said about him. Then Simeon blessed them and said to Mary, his mother: "This child is destined to cause the falling and rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be spoken against, so that the thoughts of many hearts will be revealed. And a

sword will pierce your own soul too.’

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Please sit

The Sermon

Please stand for the hymn (A&M 137)

God of Eve and God of Mary,
God of love and mother-earth,
thank you for the ones who with us
shared their life and gave us birth.

2. As you came to earth in Jesus,
so you come to us today;
you are present in the caring
that prepares us for life’s way.

3. Thank you that the Church, our Mother,
gives us bread and fills our cup,
and the comfort of the Spirit
warms our hearts and lifts us up.

4. Thank you for belonging, shelter,
bonds of friendship, ties of blood,
and for those who have no children,
yet are parents under God.

5. God of Eve and God of Mary,
Christ our brother, human Son,
Spirit, caring like a Mother,
take our love and make us one!

Please remain standing

Do you believe and trust in God the Father,
source of all being and life,
the one for whom we exist?

We believe and trust in him.

Do you believe and trust in God the Son,
who took our human nature,
died for us and rose again?

We believe and trust in him.

Do you believe and trust in God the Holy Spirit,
who gives life to the people of God
and makes Christ known in the world?

We believe and trust in him.

This is the faith of the Church.

This is our faith.

**We believe and trust in one God,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.**

Please sit or kneel

Prayers of Intercession

The end of each prayer concludes with 'Lord, in your mercy' to which we respond:
Hear our prayer.

And at the end: 'Merciful Father' to which we respond

**Accept these prayers, for the sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ.
Amen.**

THE LITURGY OF THE SACRAMENT

Please stand for the Peace

Christ is our peace. He has reconciled us to God in one body by the cross.
We meet in his name and share his peace.

The peace of the Lord be always with you. **And also with you.**

Let us offer one another a sign or a word of peace.

Preparation of the Table

Hymn (A&M 739)

Now thank we all our God
with hearts and hands and voices,
who wondrous things hath done,
in whom his world rejoices;
who from our mother's arms
hath blessed us on our way
with countless gifts of love,
and still is ours today.

2. O may this bounteous God
through all our life be near us,
with ever joyful hearts
and blessed peace to cheer us;
and keep us in his grace,
and guide us when perplexed,
and free us from all ills
in this world and the next.

3. All praise and thanks to God
the Father now be given,
the Son, and him who reigns
with them in highest heaven,
the one eternal God,
whom earth and heaven adore;
for thus it was, is now,
and shall be evermore.

Please remain standing

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation: through your goodness we have this bread to set before you, which earth has given and human hands have made. It will become for us the bread of life.

Blessed be God for ever.

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation: through your goodness we have this wine to set before you, fruit of the vine and work of human hands. It will become for us the cup of salvation.

Blessed be God for ever.

Please sit

The Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord be with you **and also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give thanks and praise.**

Father, you made the world and love your creation. You gave your Son Jesus Christ to be our Saviour. His dying and rising have set us free from sin and death. And so we gladly thank you, with saints and angels praising you, and singing:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna, hosanna in the highest, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.
Bless'd is he who comes in the name of the Lord,
Bless'd is he who comes in the name of the Lord,
Hosanna, hosanna in the highest, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.**

We praise and bless you, loving Father, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; and as we obey his command, send your Holy Spirit, that broken bread and wine outpoured may be for us the body and blood of your dear Son.

On the night before he died he had supper with his friends and, taking bread, he praised you. He broke the bread, gave it to them and said: Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me.

When supper was ended he took the cup of wine. Again he praised you, gave it to them and said: Drink this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

So, Father, we remember all that Jesus did, in him we plead with confidence his sacrifice made once for all upon the cross. Bringing before you the bread of life and cup of salvation, we proclaim his death and resurrection until he comes in glory.

We sing:

**Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.**

Lord of all life, help us to work together for that day when your kingdom comes and justice and mercy will be seen in all the earth. Look with favour on your people, gather us in your loving arms and bring us with St. Andrew and all the saints to feast at your table in heaven. Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory are yours, O loving Father, for ever and ever.
Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come; thy will be done; on earth as it is in heaven.**

Give us this day our daily bread.

And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us.

And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory, for ever and ever.

Amen.

Breaking of the Bread

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.

Though we are many, we are one body, because we all share in one bread.

Giving of Communion

God's holy gifts for God's holy people.

Jesus Christ is holy, Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

We sing:

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,

Have mercy on us, have mercy on us, have mercy.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,

Have mercy on us, have mercy on us, have mercy.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,

Grant us peace, grant us peace.

If you are a communicant member of any Christian Church you are welcome to take communion with us, or if you would prefer a blessing please bring this booklet with you when you are invited to the communion rail.

During communion the choir will sing the hymn 'From the deep places, hear me cry' (A&M 124) and afterwards the anthem 'Like as the hart' (Howells)

Prayer after Communion

Merciful God, you have called us to your table and fed us with the bread of life. Draw us and all people to serve your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen

Please stand

THE DISMISSAL

The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen**

Hymn (A&M 138) -

Our Father God in heaven

on whom our world depends,
to you let praise be given
for families and friends;
for parents, sisters, brothers,
a home where love belongs,
but on this day for mothers
we bring our thankful songs.

2. What wealth of God's bestowing
for all the world to share!
what strength of heart outgoing
to children everywhere!
Our deepest joys and sorrows
a mother's path must trace,
and earth's unknown tomorrows
are held in her embrace.

3. How well we know the story
that tells of Jesus' birth,
the Lord of heaven's glory
become a child of earth;
a helpless infant sleeping,
yet King of realms above,
to find in Mary's keeping
the warmth of human love.

4. Our Father God in heaven,
to you we lift our prayer,
that every child be given
such tenderness and care,
where life is all for others,
where love your love displays:
for God's good gift of mothers
let earth unite in praise!

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
In the name of Christ. Amen.

Organ Voluntary

Mothering Sunday posies will be given to the ladies in the congregation as they leave church

PLEASE DO JOIN US IN THE ARK AFTER THE SERVICE FOR REFRESHMENTS

Parish News

THE VICAR'S SABBATICAL - Jamie is now on sabbatical until Palm Sunday 29th March.

MESSY CHURCH - this afternoon in The Ark at 3pm. Do join us with younger children for songs, craft activities and a meal for the children. For further details email childrenswork@sonningparish.org.uk

EASTER LILIES - From Easter Saturday (4 April) we display lilies in memory of loved ones. Please place a suggested donation of £5 per stem in the office letterbox with your name and the name to be remembered. To pay by bank transfer please mark your payment 'Lilies - your surname' and pay St Andrew's PCC account number 00011793 sort code 40-52-40 and email Hilary the name to be included. Closing date - Palm Sunday, 29 March.

RENDEZVOUS LUNCH CLUB - Tuesday 24th March. Menu: sausage & apple hotpot/vegetarian hotpot followed by banoffee pie & tea/coffee. To book please call Hilary on 0118 969 3298 or email office@sonningparish.org.uk

EASTER SATURDAY BBQ - Saturday 4th April at 2pm. We will begin in the church followed by an egg hunt, egg and spoon races, free bbq, tower tours and bouncy castles for all ages. No need to RSVP just come along with your friends and family. If you would like to volunteer to help on the day please email Liz Nelson on liz.nelson1@ntlworld.com

EASTER DAY - Sunday 6th April - The 10.30am service will be a Parish Eucharist and Family Service will take place instead on Sunday 12 April.

LADIES BREAKFAST - The Ark on Saturday 21st March 9-11am - an opportunity to meet and chat in a relaxed atmosphere with a short talk and lots of lovely food and tea and coffee. Cash donations towards the food will be welcome on the day. Please contact us via the office if you are coming and if you have any dietary requirements. *Helen Craig*

ALPHA COURSE - VOLUNTEERS NEEDED! - We are running an Alpha course from 29th April to 15th July. Alpha provides a welcoming and supportive space for those who are exploring the Christian faith and asking questions about life and belief. We are seeking volunteers to assist with hospitality to:

- Prepare a meal on one (or more) Wednesdays during this period
- Help serve food and drinks during the evening
- Assist with washing up afterwards

If you are able to support in any of these ways, please speak to Helen Craig or contact office@sonningparish.org.uk

FRIENDS OF ST ANDREWS QUIZ NIGHT AND FISH & CHIP SUPPER

Thursday 26th March at 7.30pm - please contact Sally on mustangsallywilson@gmail.com for tickets - £20 per person

Prayers and Pastoral Visiting

The Ministry Team are always happy to visit, pray for or take home Communion to those in need. Please contact the Parish office if you would like to arrange this.

We remember any who have died who are known to us.

We remember any whose anniversaries fall around this time:

Jack Hine, Charles Morley

The Week Ahead

Wednesday 18 March

10.00am	Holy Communion	The Ark
8.00pm	Wednesday at 8 (<i>gemmajanewest@hotmail.co.uk for details</i>)	

Thursday 19 March

8.00pm	Thursday at 8 (<i>helen.craig50@gmail.com for details</i>)	
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Friday 20 March

6.30pm	Adults and Youth choir practice	St Sarik
6.45pm	STAY on Friday	The Ark

Saturday 21 March

9.00am	Ladies Breakfast	The Ark
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Sunday 22 March

8.00am	Holy Communion (BCP)	Church
10.30am	Parish Eucharist	Church

Parish Contacts

Vicar: Revd Jamie Taylor 0118 969 3298 vicar@sonningparish.org.uk
currently on sabbatical until 29 March - please email office@sonningparish.org.uk

Youth Minister: Chris West 07946 224 106 youthminister@sonningparish.org.uk

Youth & Children's Minister: Corinne Robertson - *currently on maternity leave in her absence please email queries to childrenswork@sonningparish.org.uk*

Parish Office Manager: Hilary Rennie 0118 969 3298 office@sonningparish.org.uk

The Parish Office is open from 9am - 1pm Monday - Friday. At all other times please leave a message or send an email and we will get back to you as soon as possible.

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