



ANGLICAN DIOCESE OF WANGARATTA
PAROCHIAL DISTRICT OF WANGARATTA WEST & THE WARBYS

Fourth Sunday in Lent—Mothering Sunday
10th March 2024

Mothering Sunday coincides with Mid-Lent Sunday or Refreshment Sunday, a day of respite from fasting halfway through the penitential season of Lent. Its association with mothering originates in the texts read during the Mass in the Middle Ages, these include several references to mothers and metaphors for mothers.

The Epistle reading for the day was Galatians 4:21–31, Paul the Apostle’s analysis of the story of Hagar and Sarah, speaking of “Jerusalem ... which is the mother of us all.” While acknowledging the significance of motherhood, Paul understands the story as an allegory, advocating for an understanding of motherhood that transcends the material world and fertility through quoting Isaiah 54. 1, and the Gospel for the day was John 2. 1–14, the story of the Feeding of the Five Thousand, which prompted the association between Mothering Sunday and the ‘Gifts of Mother Earth’. Inspired by the ‘We will go into the house of the Lord’ psalm, medieval people began to make processions to their local ‘mother church’ on the day, typically the local cathedral.

After the English Reformation, the *Book of Common Prayer* continued to assign the same readings. During the 16th century, Christians continued to return to their local mother churches for a service held on this Sunday. In later times, Mothering Sunday became a day when domestic servants were given a day off to visit their mother church, usually with their own mothers and other family members.

Reacting to Anna Jarvis’s efforts to establish Mother’s Day in 1913, Constance Penswick Smith created the Mothering Sunday Movement. Her most influential booklet was *The Revival of Mothering Sunday* (1921). This book has a series of four chapters outlining the different aspects of motherhood that the day should honour beyond a strictly biological one: ‘The Church – Our Mother’; ‘Mothers of Earthly Homes’; ‘The Mother of Jesus’; ‘Gifts of Mother Earth’.

By the 1950s, the occasion was celebrated across the United Kingdom and in many countries in the Commonwealth of Nations.

Why Veil Images and Crosses?

There are several explanations, among them this is a good one: there was a time when the Gospel reading for Passion Sunday (fifth Sunday of Lent) was from the eighth chapter of Saint John’s Gospel and ends with these words: “They took up stones therefore to cast at him. But Jesus hid himself and went out of the temple.” (John 8:59). In a real way Christ veiled his divinity during his passion. The unveiling for the Easter Celebrations shows us that Christ has revealed himself as risen and victorious.

It’s a simple yet effective way of drawing attention to some images of our faith, ironically by veiling for a time things that are meant to stimulate our inner eyes about the faith. Sometimes this is referred to as a fasting of the eyes.

Dates for your Diary

20th March, Wednesday—2.00pm, **Contact Drop-In** St Paul's

23rd March, Saturday—**Lady Day** at the Cathedral

24th March—Palm Sunday, at St Michael's 9.30am.

One service only in the parish, followed by m/tea

28th March, Maundy Thursday, 6.00pm at St Michael's

29th March—Good Friday— 8.00am, St George's. & 9.30am, St Michael's.

30th March — Easter Eve—6.30pm St Paul's

31st March —Easter Day — 8.00am St George, & 9.30am St Michael's

21st April—St George's Patronal Festival, 2.00pm.

4th May—Artisan Market

Please start potting up plants for our plant stall at our **Artisan Market 4th May**, it has always been a great attraction and money spinner!

Lady Day at the Cathedral Saturday 23rd March

10.15am morning tea

11.00am Eucharist Bp Clarence

Homily Revd Cathy Carden.

12.10pm Workshop

The Way Forward

1.15pm Lunch Provided

For Catering purposes, please advise Margaret Gibson 0428276255 or email wangwestac@bigpond.com to confirm your attendance by 15th March

Mother's Day Raffle

will be held this year instead of our usual Easter Raffle, and suitable contributions are sought.

Suzie DL will commence the co-ordination prior to her excursion to the Northern Territory, so please bring your items along as soon as possible. We hope to sell some tickets in Appin Street for a few weeks prior to the Artisan Market where the raffle will be drawn. Thank you Frances Whitehead once again for your expertise in producing the raffle tickets. Books of tickets will be available shortly.



All non-perishable items are appreciated, and as a special treat for children - muesli bars or similar.

Sweet and Savoury biscuits, tuna, tomato and BBQ sauce, tinned peas and beans, chunky and cuppa soup;

This month's special focus: tinned beans, tinned spaghetti, sweet biscuits.

It is also OK to buy dog food as this cannot be obtained through the food share programme.



WHAT'S ON & DAILY BIBLE READINGS

Monday, 11th March 2024.

Isaiah 65. 17-21. Psalm 30. 8-12. John 4. 43-end.

Tuesday, 12th

Ezekiel 47. 1-9, (10-11) 12. Psalm 46. 1-. John 5. 1-16.
Pangerang at St Michael's

Wednesday, 13th

Isaiah 49. 8-15. Psalm 145. 8-13. John 5. 17-30.
9.30am Craft Group—St Michael's Hall.

Thursday, 14th

Exodus 32. 7-14. Psalm 106. 20-24. John 5. 31-47.
9.30am, Holy Eucharist— St. Michael's
10.15am, morning tea followed by Bible Study.

Friday, 15th March

Jeremiah 26. 8-11. Psalm 34. 15-22. John 7. 1-2, 10, 25-30.
9.00am—12 midday, Pangerang at St Paul's.

Saturday, 16th

Jeremiah 11. 18-20. Psalm 7. 7-12. John 7. 40-52.

Sunday 17th March 2024, Fifth Sunday in Lent—Passion Sunday

8.00am, Eucharist @St George's.

9.30am, Eucharist @St. Michael's, Wangaratta.

11.00am, Eucharist @St Paul's, Glenrowan.

Jeremiah 31. 31-34; Psa 119. 9-16; Hebrews 5. 5-14; John 12. 20-33.

Bishop's Visit

We look forward to welcoming our Bishop Clarence to the Parish on Sunday 17th March, when he will confirm **Will Moore** after his baptism. This will be a joyous occasion, and we hope everyone will be there to support Will with his decision to be both baptised and confirmed. Our lovely Glad is making a special cake for the occasion, and knowing Will it will be quite a party at Morning Tea after the service.

Palm Cross making Monday 11th March. 10.00am

This needs no prior training or info as it is given on the day. Please bring a small towel and scissors (perhaps a small plate of morning tea too). Our expert guide is Jayne Jarrad, come along and learn a new skill if you haven't made them before



Sunday 10th March 2024

- ◆ **The World: *Scandinavia*:** Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, Sweden.
- ◆ **Australia:** We pray that those people who seek their ends by violent means, however expressed, may have their hearts turned to love.
We pray that people who have been traumatised and damaged may find help and healing.
- ◆ **The Church in our nation:** Lutheran Church.
- ◆ **The Anglican Church of Australia:** Ministry with the Aboriginal People of Australia: Aboriginal Clergy and People. Bishop Chris McLeod, (*Susan*).
Lord God, bring us together as one, different in culture, but given new life in Jesus Christ, together as your body, your Church, your people.
- ◆ **Our Diocese:** Bishop Clarence Bester (*Michelle & family*).
The Parochial District of Euroa: P-i-C: Andre Du Plooy (*Patricia*)
the Parish leaders and communities at:
St Paul's, Euroa. St Andrew's, Longwood. St Dunstan's, Violet Town.
- ◆ **Our Parish.** Will Moore, preparing for Baptism & Confirmation next Sunday, for Dot & John his sponsors.
- ◆ **Those in Need:** King Charles. Zoe. Robert P. Nina Colson. Melanie. Wayne. Warren G. Kaye McKenzie. Josef.
- ◆ **Year's Mind: 10th—16th March:**
[10/03] May Gerrett, 1987. [11/03] Edel Campbell, 2023.
[12/03] Marjorie Wood, 1977.
[13/03] Sr Clare Eime 2009. Margaret Gibbs, 2006. John York, 1992.
[14/03] Carolyn Oats, 2019. Charles Phillis, 1993.
[15/03] Gwendoline Dempsey, 1989. [16/03] Noel James, 2014.

Rest eternal grant unto them O Lord.
And may light perpetual shine upon them.

Prayer of the week (*pray daily*)

Almighty God,
in Christ you make all things new:
transform the poverty of our nature
by the riches of your grace,
and in the renewal of our lives
make known your heavenly glory;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**



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St. Michael's, Wangaratta. St Paul's, Glenrowan. St George's, Taminick.

Direct Debit: Parish of Wangaratta West & Warbys

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