



**Parish of Wiverton in the Vale:
One flock, One Shepherd, Six Pastures
Notices 22nd March 2020**

Mothering Sunday

Message from the Rectory

Birth and Youth of Moses Exodus 2:1-10

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, "because," she said, "I drew him out of the water."

Six Women of Courage

The self-made man, wrote Twain, is as likely as the self-laid egg. The early life of Moses, the great Patriarch, is saved and shaped by six courageous and resourceful women.

According to the Jewish Midrash, his mother **Yocheved** insists that he be conceived, and then after hiding him for three months she coats a papyrus basket in bitumen and pitch and hides her precious child among the reeds on the banks of the river.

Midwives [Shiphrah and Puah](#), defied Pharaoh who had commanded that all male children should be killed and let the boys live. These women put their own safety at stake because they feared God more than they feared Pharaoh. And “So God was kind to the midwives and the people increased and became even more numerous. And because the midwives feared God, he gave them families of their own.”

Next is [Miriam](#), Moses’ big sister, who boldly steps into the story to offer her mother’s services to Pharaoh so that Moses can continue to be nursed by his mother and raised among his own people.

The woman who was to raise Moses to adulthood was [Pharaoh’s daughter](#). She knew that Moses was the child of Hebrew slave however, Pharaoh’s daughter saves his life, fully knowing that her father has decreed his death. Under her care Moses will grow up with all the privileges and advantages her status affords within the palace court. The woman yet to appear, unless you count the female slave who must not be forgotten because she would have to use her will and wiles to negotiate this arrangement without it getting back to the ears of Pharaoh, is Moses’s wife [Zipporah](#).

Zipporah will not appear for many years. However, before we read of great escapes and the Red Sea parting in a mysterious passage, we read in Exodus 4:24-26 that Moses’ life was once more in peril. Zipporah takes initiative, swift action and thanks to her intervention Moses’ life is saved once again.

Without the women, Moses would not have lived to even breathe, much less to become the great leader that he was.

This Sunday is Mothering Sunday, a day that [Churches Together in England](#) have called us all to prayer and action.

Mothering Sunday: a time of thankfulness, remembering especially mothers who have served us, often in very costly ways. It is also a very mixed day for many. For some the remembrance is painful, and for others Mothering Sunday is a reminder of disappointment or loss. In many ways, this period under the shadow of the coronavirus will be prompting similarly diverse reactions and so it seems especially appropriate that the call to prayer is made this Sunday. At this time of uncertainty join in with the [National Day of Prayer and Action](#), lighting a candle of hope.

We will remember that, like those courageous and resourceful women, we are all called to live lives of courage, hope and faith in the coming days, weeks and months.

If we are fit and able let us throw our weight behind community initiatives. Live generously towards our neighbours, on the phone, to the food bank, our community and to our church and diocese. Please do consider, if you do not already do so, how you might join our regular supporters who faithfully give each month by standing order. You can find details at the end of our newsletter.

If you are struggling in any way, please contact us directly or leave a prayer request online at our [virtual Prayer Box](#).

Whether we are self-isolating or able to go abroad in the community let us join together in prayer, throughout the day; if possible pausing together at midday to pray as one for ourselves and for our nation.

And of course, on Sunday at 7pm let's join together in prayer for ourselves, our nation and our world by lighting a candle of hope in our windows.

"Cast all your anxiety on him, because he cares for you." 1 Peter 5:7

With love,

Rev'd Rachel

Prayer course - "Give us this day our daily bread"

In [Session 3](#) the significance of asking God in prayer is unpacked.

You can still follow this at home. The resource "How to Pray" by Pete Greig - can be [bought in hard copy](#) or [the course may be downloaded](#) from prayercourse.org.

***** There will be no Sunday Services in church until further notice *****

However, Colston Bassett, Langar, Granby and Cropwell Bishop churches will be open during the day for private prayer.

In light of the Government guidance around non-essential contact, the Archbishops of Canterbury and York have issued advice that public worship is to be suspended until further notice. Further information is available on the following link:

www.churchofengland.org/more/media-centre/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-parishes

Archbishop to lead first national virtual Church of England service

The Archbishop of Canterbury Justin Welby is to lead a national broadcast as the Church of England responds to the challenge of becoming a “different sort of church” in the face of the coronavirus crisis.

The service including prayers, hymns and a short sermon will be broadcast online by the Church of England and broadcast across 39 local BBC radio stations this Sunday, including Radio Nottingham at 8am.

Find out more here www.churchofengland.org/more/media-centre/news/archbishop-canterbury-lead-first-national-virtual-church-england-service

Farewell service postponed

The Government advice on coronavirus has led to the postponement of the farewell service for Bishop Tony and his wife Lucille. It was due to take place at Southwell Minster on Sunday (22nd) but will now be held in the autumn. However, there will be a livestreamed interview with Bishop Tony at 3.30pm on Sunday. At time of press we have no details in how to accessed this so please visit the diocesan website www.southwell.anglican.org.

Songs of Praise

Sunday 22nd March at 1.15pm on BBC1, hymns and songs, together with Katie Piper and her mum Diane talking about their faith.

Important information regarding Safeguarding

‘The Church of England is undertaking a second review of files held in all dioceses and parishes to ensure that churches and church related activities are as safe as possible for children and vulnerable adults.

Known as the Past Cases Review 2, it aims to identify both good practice and institutional failings in the way that allegations of abuse have been handled in the past. It will also provide recommendations on how practice and processes can be improved.

*Individuals who wish to make representations to the PCR2 process, or who need to come forward with information, or make any disclosures regarding church related abuse, are encouraged to make direct contact with the [Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser \(DSA\)](mailto:safeguarding@southwell.anglican.org) on **01636 817200** or **email safeguarding@southwell.anglican.org***

*However, recognising that for those with a lived experience of abuse from within the church may not feel comfortable, a dedicated telephone helpline - **0800 80 20 20** - operated independently from the church, by the NSPCC, has been set up. Anyone can use the helpline to provide information or to raise concerns regarding abuse within the Church of England; whether they are reporting issues relating to children, adults or seeking to whistle blow about poor safeguarding practice.'*

What would you like to read about that would lift your spirits during this challenging time?

Please send anything you would like to contribute and could be included in the next notice sheet, including messages of hope, expressions of thanks, prayers, puzzles, recipes, etc to the Parish Administrator at administrator@wivertoninthevale.co.uk or 07592 873751.

PUZZLE PAGE

- 1) Mary's mum has four children. First child's name is April, second child's name is May, third child's name is June. Then what is the name of the fourth child?
- 2) If Linda's daughter is my daughter's mother, what is Linda to me?
- 3) A mother gave birth to twin boys, but they were born in different years and on different days. And no, they are not part of two sets. How is this possible?
- 4) A mother has five children. Half of them are sons. Is this possible?
- 5) If your uncle's sister is not your aunt, what relation is she to you?
- 6) This mother comes from a family of eight,
Supports her children in spite of their weight,
Turns around without being called,
Has held you since the time you crawled. Who is she?
- 7) Two mothers and two daughters went to the shop to buy themselves a pair of shoes. In all they bought three pairs of shoes. They each got a pair of shoes. How can this be true?

8) A doctor and a boy were fishing. The boy was the doctor's son, but the doctor was not the boy's father. Who was the doctor?

9) If a widow and her daughter take a father and son in marriage, so that the son marries the mother and the father the daughter, what is the relationship of their sons?

10) If your mother is from Iceland, and your father is from Cuba, what are you?

ANSWERS:

1: Mary; 2: My Mother-in-law; 3: They were born late on 31st December and early the following day; 4: Yes, but only if the other half are sons too!; 5: Your mother!; 6: Mother Earth; 7: They are grandmother, daughter and granddaughter; 8: his mother; 9: The two sons are both uncle and nephew to each other; 10: An ice cube!

MOTHERS FROM THE BIBLE:

Can you solve these anagrams?

- 1) Vee
- 2) A rash
- 3) My arriving
- 4) Aargh!
- 5) Bake her
- 6) Hale
- 7) Clear 'h'
- 8) I moan
- 9) Heal zit? Be!
- 10) He Sabbath

ANSWERS:

1: Eve; 2: Sarah; 3: Virgin Mary; 4: Hagar; 5: Rebekah; 6: Leah; 7: Rachel; 8: Naomi; 9: Elizabeth; 10: Bathsheba

PRAYER MATTERS: *Please remember in your prayers this week:*

Our observance of Lent.

Those affected by flooding and are who are now contending with the Covid-19.

All those anxious, afraid and confused by the increasingly fast changing developments in our lives caused by the spread of the Coronavirus.

We pray for all frontline workers; our Government and leaders, those who live alone, the bereaved, families separated by break-up, work or care needs; those struggling with problems with existing health issues and all in self-isolation.

We pray for those for whom we love and care for who are sick in body soul and mind. We also pray for the family and loved ones of those who have died recently.

PRAYERS

We are not people of fear:
we are people of courage.

We are not people who protect our own safety:
we are people who protect our neighbours' safety.

We are not people of greed:
we are people of generosity.

We are your people God,
giving and loving,
wherever we are,
whatever it costs

For as long as it takes
wherever you call us.

Barbara Glasson, President of the Methodist Conference

Keep us, good Lord,
under the shadow of your mercy
in this time of uncertainty and distress.
Sustain and support the anxious and fearful,
and lift up all who are brought low;
that we may rejoice in your comfort
knowing that nothing can separate us from your love
in Christ Jesus our Lord. **Amen.**

DID YOU KNOW? The Church of England receives no government funding other than some tax concessions, and our churches are dependent upon money given or raised locally to fund their ministry and upkeep, including heating, insurance and maintenance.

HOW CAN WE GIVE? Most of our worshippers and wider supporters give regularly by standing order. This is usually supplemented by offerings ('collection') in services, which is a lovely way of demonstrating commitment in response to God's loving generosity to us. Now that we are not able to host services, then if you are not already contributing by standing order, this might be the right time for you to consider this. *If you would like to find out more about this, or to change an existing order, please contact Max in confidence via treasurer@wivertoninthevale.co.uk*

Keeping in touch; staying informed

These notices are posted week by week on the Parish website:

www.wivertoninthevale.co.uk

To receive a copy of these notices by email every Saturday, please subscribe to the website notification service at

www.wivertoninthevale.co.uk/subscribe

Key Contacts

Rev'd Rachel: email: rector@wivertoninthevale.co.uk
phone: 07944 992178 N.B **Rachel's day off:** Friday

Parish Administrator

Anna Hemati Kang Sofla: 07592 873751

Email: administrator@wivertoninthevale.co.uk

Anna can direct enquiries to the most appropriate person.

Safeguarding Officer / Coordinator

Gareth Parker the Safeguarding Coordinator for the Parish, and any concerns regarding a safeguarding issue should be directed to him. 07738 091338 or gareth.parker@wivertoninthevale.co.uk

Further information and contact details can be found on the parish website at www.wivertoninthevale.co.uk/whos-who