

**An Order for
Mothering Sunday
Sunday, March 14, 2021 | 11:00 am EET**

The Gathering

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
the love of God,
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit
be with you all:
and also with you.

We light this candle to remind us
that the love of God is like a light in our darkness.
All **Blessed be God for ever.**

We praise you, our God,
for all mothers who have loved and laughed and laboured
as they cared for their children;
All **Blessed be God for ever.**

We praise you, our God,
for all mothers who have wept in sorrow and joy for their children:
All **Blessed be God for ever**

We praise you, our God,
for Jesus, born of a woman and nurtured in her love,
and for Mary, a reminder of your patient, waiting love.
All **Blessed be God for ever.**

Confession

Let us call to mind our sin,
our failure to value the love of others
and our failure to love as Christ has loved us.

Silence for reflection

Your love gives us life from the moment of conception.
We fail to live as your children.
Lord, have mercy.
All **Lord, have mercy.**

You call us to do good. We seek our own good.
Christ, have mercy.
All **Christ have mercy.**

You hear us when we cry for help. We ignore the cries of others.
Lord, have mercy.
All **Lord, have mercy.**

Bishop: May the Father of all mercies
cleanse *you* from *your* sins,
and restore *you* in his image
to the praise and glory of his name,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
All Amen.

Hymn: God of Eve and God of Mary

https://youtu.be/IRhmUMQE_T0

1 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.

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.

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.

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!

The Collect

Praise God who loves us.
All Praise God who cares.

The Bishop prays 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 First Reading: Exodus 2.1-10

A reading from Exodus

Now a man from the house of Levi went and married a Levite woman.

The woman conceived and bore a son;
and when she saw that he was a fine baby,
she hid him three months.

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.

His sister stood at a distance,
to see what would happen to him.

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.

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.

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?”

Pharaoh’s daughter said to her,
“Yes.”

So the girl went and called the child’s mother.
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.

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.”

This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

Psalm 127.1-4

1 Unless the Lord builds the house, ♦
those who build it labour in vain.

2 Unless the Lord keeps the city, ♦
the guard keeps watch in vain.

3 It is in vain that you hasten to rise up
early and go so late to rest, eating the bread
of toil, ♦
for he gives his beloved sleep.

4 Children are a heritage from the Lord ♦
and the fruit of the womb is his gift.

**Glory to God, Source of all being,
Eternal Word and Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning is now
and shall be for ever. Amen**

The Second Reading: Colossians 3.12-17

A reading from Paul's Letter to the Colossians

As God's chosen ones,
holy and beloved,
clothe yourselves with
compassion,
kindness,
humility,
meekness, and
patience.

Bear with one another and,
if anyone has a complaint against another,
forgive each other;
just as the Lord has forgiven you,
so you also must forgive.

Above all, clothe yourselves with love,
which binds everything together in perfect harmony.

And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts,
to which indeed you were called in the one body.

And be thankful.

Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly;
teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and
with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God.

And whatever you do,
in word or deed,
do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus,
giving thanks to God the Father through him.

This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

A Song of St Anselm

**All Gather your little ones to you, O God,
as a hen gathers her brood to protect them.**

1 Jesus, like a mother you gather your people to you; ♦
you are gentle with us as a mother with her children.

**2 Often you weep over our sins and our pride, ♦
tenderly you draw us from hatred and judgement.**

3 You comfort us in sorrow and bind up our wounds, ♦
in sickness you nurse us and with pure milk you feed us.

**4 Jesus, by your dying, we are born to new life; ♦
by your anguish and labour we come forth in joy.**

5 Despair turns to hope through your sweet goodness; ♦
through your gentleness we find comfort in fear.

**6 Your warmth gives life to the dead, ♦
your touch makes sinners righteous.**

7 Lord Jesus, in your mercy heal us; ♦
in your love and tenderness remake us.

**8 In your compassion bring grace and forgiveness, ♦
for the beauty of heaven may your love prepare us.**

**All Glory to God, Source of all being,
Eternal Word and Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning is now
and shall be for ever. Amen.**

Hymn: For the Beauty of the Earth

<https://youtu.be/tOVFvctxv6c>

1 For the beauty of the earth,
for the beauty of the skies,
for the love which from our birth
over and around us lies:
Christ, our God, to you we raise
this our sacrifice of praise.

3 For each perfect gift of thine
of your love so freely given,
graces human and divine,
flowers of earth and buds of heaven:
[Refrain]

2 For the joy of human love,
brother, sister, parent, child,
friends on earth, and friends above,
for all gentle thoughts and mild:
[Refrain]

4 For thy church, that evermore
lifteth holy hands above,
offering up on every shore
this pure sacrifice of love:
[Refrain]

The Gospel Reading: John 19.25-27

Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory.
This child is the light to enlighten the nations
and the glory of your people Israel.

Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory.

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John
All **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Meanwhile, standing near the cross of Jesus
were his mother,
and his mother's sister,
Mary the wife of Clopas,
and Mary Magdalene.

When Jesus saw
his mother
and the disciple whom he loved standing beside her,
he said to his mother,
"Woman, here is your son."

Then he said to the disciple,
"Here is your mother."

And from that hour the disciple took her into his own home.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.
All **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Homily by The Bishop in Europe

Hymn: Fathers and Mothers

<https://youtu.be/DzpjTU6bC50>

1 Fathers and mothers,
sisters and brothers,
all those who love us,
for whom we care:
help and befriend them,
keep and defend them,
Jesus our Saviour,
this is our prayer.

2 And for those others,
fathers and mothers,
children who hunger,
they must be fed:
we would be caring,
readily sharing,
one with another
our daily bread.

3 Sisters and brothers,
fathers and mothers,
we who together
offer our praise:
hear our thanksgiving,
God ever living,
may we walk with you
all of our days.

The Apostles Creed, the Faith of Our Baptism

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

An Intercession.

As children of a loving God who always listens to our cries,
let us pray to our Father in heaven.

The person leading the prayers may add particular requests and thanksgivings to the following.

Loving God, you have given us the right to be called children of God. Help us to show your love in our homes that they may be places of love, security and truth.
God of love,
All hear our prayer.

Loving God, Jesus, your Son, was born into the family of Mary and Joseph; bless all parents and all who care for children; strengthen those families living under stress and may your love be known where no human love is found.
God of love,
All hear our prayer.

Loving God, we thank you for the family of the Church. We pray that all may find in her their true home; that the lonely, the marginalized, the rejected may be welcomed and loved in the name of Jesus.
God of love,
All hear our prayer.

Loving God, as we see the brokenness of our world we pray for healing among the nations; for food where there is hunger; for freedom where there is oppression; for joy where there is

pain; that your love may bring peace to all your children.
God of love,
All hear our prayer.

At the end of which we pray:

Praise God who loves us.
All Praise God who cares.

For the care of mothers;
All Thanks be to God.

For their patience when tested;
All Thanks be to God.

For their love when tired;
All Thanks be to God.

For their hope when despairing;
All Thanks be to God.

For their service without limit;
All Thanks be to God.

The Lord's Prayer (Traditional Language)

Gathering our prayers and praise into one,
let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us
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.

Announcements

The Blessing

Praise God who loves us.

All Praise God who cares.

May God, who gave birth to all creation, bless *you*:
may God, who became incarnate by an earthly mother, bless *you*:
may God, who broods as a mother over her children, bless *you*.
May almighty God bless *you*, Father, Son and Holy Spirit,
now and for ever.

All Amen.

Hymn: Canticle of the Turning: A Paraphrase of the Magnificat, The Song of Mary

<https://youtu.be/F9QeTmRCpW4>

1 My soul cries out with a joyful shout
that the God of my heart is great,
and my spirit sings of the wondrous things
that you bring to the ones who wait.
You fixed your sight on your servant's plight
and my weakness you did not spurn.
So from east to west shall my name be blest;
could the world be about to turn?

Refrain:

My heart shall sing of the day you bring;
let the fires of your justice burn!
Wipe away all tears, for the dawn draws near,
and the world is about to turn!

2 Though I am small, my God, my all,
you work great things in me,
and your mercy will last from the depths of the past
to the end of the age to be.
Your very name puts the proud to shame,
and to those who would for you yearn,
you will show your might,
put the strong to flight
for the world is about to turn.

Refrain

3 From the halls of power to the fortress tower
not a stone will be left on stone.
Let the king beware, for your justice tears
ev'ry tyrant from his throne.
The hungry poor shall weep no more
for the food they can never earn;
there are tables spread, ev'ry mouth be fed
For the world is about to turn.

Refrain

4 Though the nations rage from age to age
we remember who holds us fast.
God's mercy must deliver us
from the conqueror's crushing grasp.
This saving word that our forebears heard
is the promise which holds us bound
'til the spear and rod can be crushed by God
who is turning the world around

Refrain My heart shall sing of the day you bring
 Let the fires of your justice burn
 Wipe away all tears
 For the dawn draws near
 And the world is about to turn!

Dismissal

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