



# The Chapel of The Transfiguration

## Sung Eucharist

### Fourth Sunday in Lent

(Mothering Sunday)

Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> March 2025

7.30 am



Historically, Mothering Sunday is the day when Christians visited the church where they were born into the family of faith through baptism. Quite rightly, it has become a day for honouring the mothers who gave us birth into the human family, and others who have showed us a mother's love – with an especial focus on Mary, the mother whose compassionate solidarity for all other mothers is heartfelt. It is a day to celebrate beginnings, to recall joy and laughter, to acknowledge painful journeys and to remember those who are no longer with us. Nowadays, we hear the language of motherhood applied also to the Earth, to Mother Nature. Perhaps her children take her for granted: she seems bountiful and vigorous, but now we also begin to see that she is not indestructible or inexhaustible.



### Music before the Service

Rhoysemedre

*Ralph V. Williams (1872–1958)*

## Order of Service

*The congregation is asked to join in all text printed in **bold**.*

*If you are unable to stand at any point during the service, please feel free to remain seated.*

*The service is sung by the Chapel Choir of S. Thomas' College, Mount Lavinia*

*Please remain silent before the service*

# The Gathering

*Please remain seated as the choir enters and takes their place*

*Please stand as the altar party enters*

## Processional Hymn

*during which the altar is censed*



**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.**

**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.**

**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,  
who finds in Mary's keeping  
the warmth of human love.**

**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!**

Words: Timothy Dudley Smith (1924–2024)

Tune: Aurelia  
Samuel Wesley (1810–76)

*Please remain standing. The celebrant continues*

## The Greeting

In the name of the Father,  
and of the Son,  
and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

**God's mercy endures for ever.**

God says, "As a mother comforts her child, so I will comfort you."

Isaiah 66.13

Blessed be God.

**Blessed be God's reign for ever. Amen.**

*The lay assistant continues*

## Prayer of Preparation

Almighty God,  
**to whom all hearts are open,  
all desires known,  
and from whom no secrets are hidden:  
cleanse the thoughts of our hearts  
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,  
that we may perfectly love you,  
and worthily magnify your holy name;  
through Christ our Lord.  
Amen.**

*The lay assistant invites all to confess their sins*

## Prayers of Penitence

God says, "When I called, no one answered, when I spoke, they did not listen; but they did what was evil in my sight, and chose what did not please me. For I know their works and their thoughts." Let us therefore confess our sins to Almighty God.

*All kneel and silence is kept*

**Most merciful God,  
Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
we confess that we have sinned  
in thought, word and deed.  
We have not loved you with our whole heart.  
We have not  
loved our neighbours as ourselves.  
In your mercy forgive what we have been,  
help us to amend what we are,  
and direct what we shall be;  
that we may do justly, love mercy,  
and walk humbly with you, our God.  
Amen.**

*The choir sings*

Holy God,  
Holy and Strong,  
Holy and Immortal,  
Have mercy on us.

Music: David Ogden (b.1966)

*The celebrant pronounces the Absolution*

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.

**Amen.**

*The lay assistant continues*

The Collect for the Day

The Lord be with you  
**And with thy spirit.**

Let us pray

*Silence is kept*

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.**

*All sit*

## The Liturgy of the Word

### The Old Testament Reading

A reading from the Book of Exodus chapter 2

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 for 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.’

Exodus 2. 1–10

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God**

*Remain seated*

## Responsorial Psalm

**† The Lord shall keep watch over your going out and your coming in.**

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

Unless the Lord guards the city,  
the guard keeps watch in vain.

It is in vain that you rise up early and go late to rest,  
eating the bread of anxious toil;  
for he gives sleep to his beloved. †

Sons are indeed a heritage from the Lord,  
the fruit of the womb a reward.

Like arrows in the hand of a warrior  
are the sons of one’s youth. †

**Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;  
As it was in the beginning is now and shall be for ever.**

**Amen.**

Psalm 127. 1–4

*Remain seated*

## The New Testament Reading

A reading from Paul’s Second Letter to the Corinthians Chapter 1

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and the God of all consolation, who consoles us in all our affliction, so that we may be able to console those who are in any affliction with the consolation with which we ourselves are consoled by God. For just as the sufferings of Christ are abundant for us, so also our consolation is abundant through Christ. If we are being afflicted, it is for your consolation and salvation; if we are being consoled, it is for your consolation, which you experience when you patiently endure the same sufferings that we are also suffering. Our hope for you is unshaken; for we know that as you share in our sufferings, so also you share in our consolation.

2 Corinthians 1. 3–7

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God**

*All stand to sing*

## Gradual Hymn



**Lord of the home, your only Son  
received a mother's tender love,  
and from an earthly father won,  
his vision of your home above.**

**Help us, O Lord, our homes to make  
your Holy Spirit's dwelling-place;  
our hands' and hearts' devotion take  
to be the servants of your grace.**

**Teach us to keep our homes so fair  
that, were our Lord a child once more,  
he might be glad our hearth to share  
and find a welcome at our door.**

**Lord, may your Spirit sanctify  
each household duty we fulfil.  
May we our Master glorify  
in glad obedience to your will.**

Words: Albert Bayly (1901–84)

Tune: Wareham  
William Knapp (1698–1768)

*Remain standing and face the Gospel*

## The Gospel Reading

*Choir:* Praise to you O Christ, King of eternal glory.

*All repeat:*



*Choir:* 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.**

The Lord be with you  
**And with thy spirit**

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to  
St. Luke, 2<sup>nd</sup> Chapter, beginning at the 33<sup>rd</sup> verse  
**Glory be to thee, O Lord**

And the child's father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, 'This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed—and a sword will pierce your own soul too.'

St. Luke 2. 33–35

*At the end,*

This is the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ

**Praise be to thee, O Christ**

*Remain standing until invited to be seated*

Sermon

*given by*

Dr. Dinesha Samaratne

*Professor of Law*

*Colombo University*

*All stand to sing*

Affirmation of Faith

**We believe in one God,  
the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth,  
And of all things visible and invisible;**

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ,  
the only-begotten Son of God, Begotten  
of his Father before all worlds,  
God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God,  
begotten, not made,  
being of one substance with the Father,  
Through whom all things were made:  
Who for us men, and for our salvation  
came down from heaven,  
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the  
Virgin Mary, and was made man,  
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate,  
He suffered and was buried,  
and the third day he rose again  
according to the Scriptures,  
and ascended into heaven,  
and sitteth on the right hand of the Father.  
And he shall come again with glory to judge  
both the quick and the dead:  
Whose Kingdom shall have no end.**

**And we believe in the Holy Spirit, the  
Lord, the giver of life,  
Who proceedeth from the Father,  
who with the Father and the Son together is  
worshiped and glorified, who spake by the Prophets.  
And we believe One Holy Catholic  
and Apostolic Church.**

**We acknowledge one Baptism  
for the remission of sins.**

**And we look for the Resurrection of the dead,  
And the life of the world to come.**

**Amen.**

*Remain standing*

## Prayer for Mothers

For the care of mothers:

**Thanks be to God.**

For their patience when tested:

**Thanks be to God.**

For their love when tired:

**Thanks be to God.**

For their hope when despairing:

**Thanks be to God.**

For their service without limit:

**Thanks be to God.**

**Thank you God for the love of our mothers;  
thank you God for their care and concern;  
thank you God for the joys they have shared with us;  
thank you God for the pains they have borne for us;  
thank you God for all that they give us;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen.**

*All sit and children are invited to come forward to receive a token*

*All kneel or sit*

## Prayers of Intercession

*during which the following response is used*

Lord, in your mercy

**Hear our prayer.**

*at the end,*

**God of power and loving kindness,  
you hate nothing that you have made and forgive  
the sins of all who are penitent:  
create and make in us new and contrite hearts,  
so that when we turn to you and confess our sins,  
we may receive from you,  
the God of all mercy, perfect forgiveness and peace;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen.**

## The Liturgy of the Sacrament

*All stand*

### Greeting of Peace

Jesus said, "Make every effort to live in peace with everyone and to be holy; without holiness no one will see the Lord."

The peace of the Lord be with you all.

**And with thy spirit.**

## Preparation of the Table

### Offertory Hymn

*during which the bread and wine are placed on the altar,  
and a collection is taken for the work of the chapel*



**Love Divine, all loves excelling,  
Joy of heaven, to earth come down,  
Fix in us thy humble dwelling,  
All thy faithful mercies crown.  
Jesus, thou art all compassion,  
Pure unbounded love thou art;  
Visit us with thy salvation,  
Enter every trembling heart.**

**Come, almighty to deliver,  
Let us all thy life receive;  
Suddenly return, and never,  
Never more thy temples leave.  
Thee we would be always blessing,  
Serve thee as thy hosts above,  
Pray, and praise thee, without ceasing,  
Glory in thy perfect love.**

**Finish, then thy new creation,  
Pure and spotless let us be;  
Let us see thy great salvation,  
Perfectly restored in thee,  
Changed from glory into glory,  
Till in heaven we take our place,  
Till we cast our crowns before thee,  
Lost in wonder, love, and praise!**

Words: Charles Wesley (1707–88)

Tune: Blaenwern

William Penfro Rowlands (1860–1937)

Descant: John Scott (1952–2015)

*Remain standing. The celebrant invites all to say,*

**All things come from you  
and for your own do we give you,  
Creator and Lord of the universe,  
ever adored by the holy Angels.  
Accept these gifts of bread and wine  
and these offerings which we present at your  
holy table and with them the dedication of our lives  
for your service, through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen.**

*Remain standing. The celebrant continues*

## The Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord be with you  
**And with thy spirit**

Lift up your hearts  
**We lift them up unto the Lord**

Let us give thanks unto the Lord our God  
**It is meet and right so to do**

It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, Holy Father, Almighty, Everlasting God.

And now we give thee thanks because in his earthly childhood thou entrusted him to the care of a human mother.

In Mary thou gave us an example of love and devotion to him, and also a pattern of family life.

Therefore with Angels, and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name, evermore praising thee, and saying:

*All sing*

**Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God of hosts,  
heaven and earth are full of thy glory.  
Glory be to thee,  
O Lord most high.**

*The people may prayerfully sit, kneel or remain standing*

Holy indeed are you Almighty Father eternal Sovereign, who in all your gifts and works manifests your holiness to all humanity. Holy is your Only Begotten Son Jesus Christ, through whom you did order the universe. And Holy is your ever blessed Spirit who reveals all things, even the deep things of you O God. Just as you yourself are holy, so also you created us in your own image that we might live in holy fellowship.

And when we disobeyed your commandments, you did not abandon us but you guided us as a merciful Father; you revealed yourself to us through the Sages, the Law and the Prophets, and through your redeeming acts in history, and when the time was ripe, you came among us through your Son Jesus, whom you sent into the world to share our human nature in order that the Lord Jesus might revive your own image in us.

**Generous God, Jesus loves us  
and sacrificed himself for us  
and heralded the new life  
in breaking bread with companions.**

On the very night that he was betrayed to suffer death upon the cross for us, the Lord Jesus took bread and when he had given thanks to you Almighty Father, he broke it and gave it to his disciples saying:

Take, eat, this is my body which is given for you.  
Do this in remembrance of me.

In the same manner after supper, he took the cup also, and after giving thanks, he gave it to them saying:

Drink, all of you from this,  
for this is my blood of the new covenant  
which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins.  
Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

Christ is the Bread of Life

**When we eat this bread and drink this cup  
we proclaim your death, Lord Jesus,  
until you come in glory**

And so Father, we present this bread and cup in communion with your whole church, in fellowship with (Blessed Mary, and ..... ) and all the saints, and in union with all creation we celebrate your Son's death and victory; giving thanks for all that Christ has done for us; for preparing us for all that lies ahead, we receive the benefits of Christ's life, death, resurrection and session in glory, and we eagerly await the heavenly banquet after Christ's coming again.

And we entreat you most merciful God to hear us and send your All Holy Spirit on us and on these your gifts, that they being blessed and hallowed by that life giving power, may be for us the Body and Blood of your most dearly loved Son, to the end that we receiving the same may be sanctified and filled with your grace and heavenly blessing.

**Accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving;  
make us one body in Jesus Christ our Lord,  
by whom and with whom and in whom in the unity of  
the Holy Spirit all honour and glory be to you  
Almighty Father, world without end.  
Amen.**

## Breaking of the Bread

The bread which we break  
is it not a sharing in the body of Christ?

**We being many are one bread,  
one body for we all partake of the one bread.**

## The Lord's Prayer

As our Saviour Christ has taught us, we now pray

*All sing*

**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.**

*The celebrant continues*

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

The gifts of God for the people of God

*All sing*

Benedictus

**Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

## Deep Silence

*The choir sings*

Agnus Dei

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world  
Have mercy upon us.

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world  
Have mercy upon us.

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world  
Grant us thy peace.

## Giving of Communion

*The celebrant invites the people to receive the Holy Communion, saying*

Jesus is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.  
Happy are those who are called to the supper of the Lord.

**Lord, I am not worthy to receive you,  
but only say the word and I shall be healed.**

*Please sit. If you receive communion in your own church,  
you are welcome to do so here.*

*During communion the choir sings*

### Anthem

There's a wideness in God's mercy  
like the wideness of the sea;  
there's a kindness in his justice  
which is more than liberty.  
There is no place where earth's sorrows  
are more felt than up in heaven;  
there is no place where earth's failings  
have such kindly judgement given.

For the love of God is broader  
than the measure of our mind,  
and the heart of the Eternal  
is most wonderfully kind.  
But we make his love too narrow  
by false limits of our own;  
and we magnify his strictness  
with a zeal he would not own.

There is plentiful redemption  
through the blood that has been shed;  
there is joy for all the members  
in the sorrows of the Head.  
There is grace enough for thousands  
of new worlds as great as this;  
there is room for fresh creations  
in that upper home of bliss.

If our love were but more simple,  
we should take him at his word;  
and our lives would be all gladness  
in the joy of Christ our Lord.

Words: Frederick W. Faber (1814–63)

Music: Maurice Bevan (1921–2006)

*All kneel or remain seated*

## Prayers after Communion

*The celebrant says,*

Give thanks to the Lord for God is gracious.

**God's mercy endures forever.**

“Honour your father and your mother, as the Lord your God commanded you, so that your days may be long and that it may go well with you in the land that the Lord your God is giving you.”

Deuteronomy 5:16”

**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.**

*The choir sings*

## Anthem

The Lord bless you and keep you  
The Lord make his face to shine upon you,  
and be gracious unto you  
The Lord lift up the light of his countenance upon you  
and give you peace  
Amen.

Words: Numbers 6:24-26

Music: Sir John Rutter (b. 1945)

*Remain kneeling or seated*

## The Dismissal

## The Blessing

May God, who gave birth to all creation, bless us:  
may God, who became incarnate by an earthly mother, bless us:  
may God, who broods as a mother over her children, bless us;  
and may the blessing of God almighty,  
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,  
be among you and remain with you always.  
**Amen.**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

**In the name of Christ. Amen.**

Recessional Hymn  
*during which the servers and clergy depart*



**Now thank we all our God,  
With heart 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 to-day.**

**O may this bounteous God  
Through all our life be near us,  
With ever joyful hearts  
And blessèd 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.**

**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. Amen.**

Words: Martin Rinkart (1586–1649)

Tune: Nun Danket  
Johann Crüger (1598–1662)

*Remain standing as the choir moves out, then sit.*

*You are invited to be seated for the playing of the organ voluntary or you may leave quietly at this point.*

Music after the Service

Fugue in c BWV 537

J. S. Bach (1685–1750)

**Sunday Fellowship**

You are all invited to a time of fellowship on the chapel steps.

Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> April      7.30 am

Sung Eucharist

**Passion Sunday**

*Music will include:*

*Gibbons: Drop, drop slow tears*

Lift high the cross

When I survey the wondrous cross

*All are welcome to attend*



Material from Common Worship is included in this service and is copyright © The Archbishops' Council. The text for the day is written by Dr. Michael O'Connor, Associate Professor, Teaching Stream at St Michael's College, University of Toronto. The Mass Setting is by John Merbecke (1510–85). Hymns are taken from the College Hymnal. The Bible passages are read from the New Revised Standard Version of the Bible (Anglicised edition).