



15<sup>th</sup> March 2026

# MOTHERING Sunday

(The Fourth Sunday of Lent | Lætare Sunday)

## Parish Family Mass

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

*(Matthew 23:37 & Luke 13:34)*

# Welcome to St Thomas the Apostle Church, Hanwell for our Parish Mass.



*We hope you enjoy your time with us. Do join us for refreshments in the Church Hall afterwards.*

*The hymns are in the Green New English Hymnal Books. The Mass Setting for this Service is the Mass of St. Thomas by David Thorne.*

*Please do take this Service Booklet away with you for your own prayers & reflections this coming week.*

**Processional Hymn: 413 Now thank we all our God.**

## The Gathering & Welcome

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

**All: Amen.**

Praise God who loves us.

**All: Praise God who cares.**

## Lighting of the Lenten Candles

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.**

## Invitation to 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.

Your love gives us life in our mother's womb and breathes into us the gift of being your children; yet we do not live as your children should.

You call us to do what is good, to seek justice and the good of all; yet we so often seek our own good alone.

You hear us when we cry to you for help, and you are near to the broken-hearted; yet we pass by the cries of others.

**All: Lord, have mercy, Lord, have mercy.**

**Christ, have mercy, Christ, have mercy.**

**Lord, have mercy, Lord, have mercy.**

Almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent, have mercy upon you, ✠ pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and keep you in life eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**All: Amen.**

## The Collect

Let us pray:

God of love, passionate and strong, tender and careful: watch over us and hold us all the days of our life; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**All: Amen.**

## The Liturgy of the Word

**The First Reading:** Exodus 2. 1-10. *(Reading is read by a Member of the Junior Church)*

A man from the tribe of Levi married a Levite woman, and she bore him a son. When she saw what a fine baby he was, she hid him for three months. But when she could not hide him any longer, she took a basket made of reeds and covered it with tar to make it watertight. She put the baby in it and then placed it in the tall grass at the edge of the river. The baby's sister stood some distance away to see what would happen to him. The king's daughter came down to the river to bathe, while her servants walked along the bank.

Suddenly she noticed the basket in the tall grass and sent a slave woman to get it. The princess opened it and saw a baby boy. He was crying, and she felt sorry for him. 'This is one of the Hebrew babies,' she said. Then his sister asked her, 'Shall I go and call a Hebrew woman to nurse the baby for you?' 'Please do,' she answered. So the girl went and brought the baby's own mother. The princess told the woman, 'Take this baby and nurse him for me, and I will pay you.' So she took the baby and nursed him. Later, when the child was old enough, she took him to the king's daughter, who adopted him as her own son. She said to herself, 'I pulled him out of the water, and so I name him Moses.'

This is the word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

**Gradual Hymn: 387 Jesus good above all other.**

## The Gospel

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

*Cantor: This child is the light to enlighten the nations and the glory of your people Israel.*

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

The Lord be with you.

**All: And with thy spirit.**

✠✠✠Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John. *(19. 25-27)*

**All: Glory to you, O Lord.**

Standing close to Jesus' cross were his mother, his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. Jesus saw his mother and the disciple he loved standing there; so he

said to his mother, 'He is your son.' Then he said to the disciple, 'She is your mother.'  
From that time the disciple took her to live in his home.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**All: Praise to you, O Christ.**

**The Talk** *is given.*

*The Motet is sung.*  
*'For the Beauty of the earth'*

*Music: John Rutter (1945- ) | Words: Folliot Sandford Pierpoint (1835-1917)*

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 joyful hymn of praise

For the beauty of the 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 joyful hymn of praise

For the joy of human love, Brother, sister, parent, child  
Friends on earth and friends above, For all gentle thoughts and mild,  
Lord of all, to thee we raise This our joyful hymn of praise

For each perfect gift of thine To our race so freely given,  
Graces human and divine, Flow'rs of earth and buds of heav'n,  
Lord of all, to thee we raise This our joyful hymn of praise

### **Affirmation of Faith**

**All: We believe in God the Father,**  
**from whom every family**  
**in heaven and on earth is named.**

**We believe in God the Son,**  
**who lives in our hearts through faith,**  
**and fills us with his love.**

**We believe in God the Holy Spirit,**  
**who strengthens us with power from on high.**

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

### **Prayers of Intercession**

*Please Kneel or Sit for the Prayers of Intercession. (Led by Members of the Junior Church)*

Loving God, you call us your children. Help us show your love to our mums, our dads, and our families.

God of love,  
**All: Hear our prayer.**

Loving God, Jesus was born into the family of Mary and Joseph; bless all parents and all who care for children; give strength to troubled families and help them live in harmony.

God of love,

**All: Hear our prayer.**

Loving God, we thank you for the family of the Church. We pray that all may be at home in this family, and that all may be welcomed and loved in the name of Jesus.

God of love,

**All: Hear our prayer.**

Loving God, we pray for peace in our world and an end to war. We think in particular about those in the Middle East and Ukraine and pray for healing among the nations. Instead of hatred, let there be love.

God of love,

**All: Hear our prayer.**

Loving God, we pray for all those who are unwell or caring for the ill. Give them strength and comfort. We also pray for all those who have passed away recently and those who are grieving.

God of love,

**All: Hear our prayer.**

Loving God, as Spring begins, we see our beautiful planet. We pray for the protection of the animals, the soil, air and water. Help us to take care of everything and be kind to all living things.

God of love,

**All: Hear our prayer.**

Loving God, we pray for the priests & people of St. Thomas the Apostle, Orchard Street, Portman Square. We give thanks for the money raised through the sale of that Church which allowed our own St Thomas's Church to come into being. We also pray for our Mother Church of St Paul's and ask you to bless the people who run the cathedral.

God of love,

**All: Hear our prayer.**

## **The Liturgy of the Sacrament**

### **The Peace**

Praise God who loves us.

**All: Praise God who cares.**

Through the prophet Isaiah, God says, 'As a mother comforts her child, so I will comfort you.'

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

**All: And also with you.**

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

*All may exchange a sign of Peace.*

**Offertory Hymn: 264 All things bright and beautiful.**

## **Preparation of the Table**

### **The Eucharistic Prayer**

The Lord is here.

**All: His Spirit is with us.**

Lift up your hearts.

**All: We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**All: It is right to give thanks and praise.**

Blessed are you, Lord God, our light and our salvation; to you be glory and praise for ever.

From the beginning you have created all things and all your works echo the silent music of your praise. In the fullness of time you made us in your image, the crown of all creation.

You give us breath and speech, that with angels and archangels and all the powers of heaven we may find a voice to sing your praise:

**All: Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord. God of power and might.**

**Heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest.**

**✠ Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest.**

How wonderful the work of your hands, O Lord. As a mother tenderly gathers her children, you embraced a people as your own. When they turned away and rebelled your love remained steadfast.

From them you raised up Jesus our Saviour, born of Mary, to be the living bread, in whom all our hungers are satisfied. He offered his life for sinners, and with a love stronger than death he opened wide his arms on the cross.

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

At the end of supper, taking the cup of wine, he gave you thanks, 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. ✠

Great is the mystery of faith:

**All: Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.**

Father, we plead with confidence his sacrifice made once for all upon the cross; we remember his dying and rising in glory, and we rejoice that he intercedes for us at your right hand.

Pour out your Holy Spirit as we bring before you these gifts of your creation; may they be for us the body and blood of your dear Son. As we eat and drink these holy things in your presence, form us in the likeness of Christ, and build us into a living temple to your glory. Remember, Lord, your Church in every land. Reveal her unity, guard her faith, and preserve her in peace.

Bring us at the last with the Blessed Virgin Mary, St Thomas, and all the saints to the vision of that eternal splendour for which you have created us; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, by whom, with whom, and in whom, with all who stand before you in earth and heaven, we worship you, Father almighty, in songs of everlasting praise:

**All: Blessing and honour and glory and power be yours for ever and ever. Amen.**

### The Lord's Prayer

As God's children, and heirs with Christ we cry in the Spirit, 'Abba', Father.

**All: 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 Breaking of the Bread

Every time we eat this bread and drink this cup.

**All: We proclaim your death, Lord Jesus, until you come again in glory.**

### The Lamb of God (Agnus Dei) *is sung.*

**All: Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.  
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.  
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: grant us peace.**

**All:** We do not presume  
to come to this your table, merciful Lord,  
trusting in our own righteousness,  
but in your manifold and great mercies.  
We are not worthy  
so much as to gather up the crumbs under your table.  
But you are the same Lord  
whose nature is always to have mercy.  
Grant us therefore, gracious Lord,  
so to eat the flesh of your dear Son Jesus Christ  
and to drink his blood,  
that our sinful bodies may be made clean by his body  
and our souls washed through his most precious blood,  
and that we may evermore dwell in him,  
and he in us.  
Amen.

### Invitation to Communion

✠ Jesus is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.  
Blessed are those who are called to his supper.

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

*The Priest, Altar Party, Choir and the People all receive communion.*

*If you are baptised and receive communion in your own church, you are welcome to receive communion here.*

*You are welcome to receive a blessing instead of communion. If you wish to receive a blessing, please keep your head bowed.*

**Communion Hymn: 297 Lord Jesus Christ.**

### Prayers after Communion

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.

**All:** Amen.

**All:** God of our pilgrimage,  
you have fed us with the bread of heaven.  
Refresh and sustain us as we go forward on our journey  
in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen.

**The Parish Notices** *are given.*

**Final Hymn: 239 Lord of all hopefulness.**

*During the Final Hymn, members of the Junior Church distribute flowers to the congregation.*

*We say the following prayer together:*

**All:** 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.

### 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.

### The Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

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

## Join us at 10 am for one of our **All Age Services at St Thomas'!**

Our family services are shorter and especially aimed at children and families, with refreshments afterwards. Children are involved in the readings, prayers, and sermon!

**15 March: Mothering Sunday  
with Cake Sale**



**5 April: Easter Sunday  
with Easter Egg Hunt**



**26 April: Feast of St Mark**

**17 May: Education Sunday**



**7 June: Environment Sunday  
with Cake Sale**



**5 July: Feast of St Thomas  
(Our Church's Birthday!)**



## Walsingham Youth Pilgrimage

Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> - Friday 7<sup>th</sup> August 2026

Join the parishes of St Thomas', Hanwell and St Martin's, Ruislip for the Walsingham Youth Pilgrimage, a week of lively worship, teaching, fellowship and fun for **11-18 year olds**.  
Please **reserve a space by 10 May 2026**.

If interested, email: [rowlandlinder@gmail.com](mailto:rowlandlinder@gmail.com) and  
[alexanderhchapman@gmail.com](mailto:alexanderhchapman@gmail.com)

### St Thomas' Easter Greenery Appeal

**Easter Garden Making - 22 March** Please bring greenery from your garden to help our Junior Church create our Easter Garden.

We are also looking for greenery for the **29 March - Palm Sunday Procession**. If you are able to contribute any suitable branches or foliage, it would be greatly appreciated.

Donations towards **Easter Flowers** to help beautify the church for Easter would also be very gratefully received.

If you are able to help with this, please speak to **Stephen Brooks** or **Terry Hutcheson**.

Thank you for helping make our church especially beautiful for Easter.

2.5K **come to the** 5K  
**St Thomas'**

# FUN RUN

SUNDAY 19TH APRIL

STARTS AT 2PM AND REGISTER AT 1.30PM  
£5 PER PERSON (CHILDREN MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY AN ADULT)  
MEET AT ST THOMAS CHURCH HALL

Throughout the week, The Daily Offices of **Morning & Evening Prayer** are observed in Church at 9am and 5pm.

Monday & Wednesday (MP - Live-Streamed on Facebook) | Tuesday & Thursday (In Person - Lady Chapel)  
Friday Morning Prayer is at 8.30am (MP - Live-Streamed on Facebook)

**Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> March 2026 - 12(Noon) MASS in the Lady Chapel**

**Sunday 22nd March 2026: Parish Mass for Passion Sunday**

Reader(s): Will Howson & Steve Purcell | Intercessor: Rowland Linder

Preacher: Blueprint for All | Chalice: Eileen Sinclair & Chris Michell

**WHATS ON AT ST THOMAS'**

**Monday 16 March**

18.00: Stations of the Cross

**Tuesday 17th March**

12.00: Mass, Lady Chapel

**Wednesday 18 March**

14.00 | 19.00: Lent Course: Shelter

**Saturday 21 March**

10.00–12.00: St Thomas' Table Sale

**Sunday 22 March**

10.00: Parish Mass, Passion Sunday

11.30: Litter Pick - Clean our Community

**Monday 23 March**

18.00: Stations of the Cross

**Tuesday 24 March**

12.00: Mass, Lady Chapel

**Wednesday 25 March**

14.00 | 19.00: Lent Course: Water

**Sunday 29 March**

10.00: Parish Mass, Palm Sunday

18.00: "A Passiontide Devotional"

**Thursday 2 April**

19.00: Maundy Thursday - Mass of the Lord's Supper

**Friday 3 April**

14.00: Stations of the Cross

15.00: Good Friday - Liturgy of the Lord's Passion

**Sunday 5 April**

06.00: Sunrise Easter Vigil at the Bandstand

10.00: Parish Mass, Easter Day

**Wednesday 8 April**

12.30: Over 50's Fellowship Lunch

**Sunday 12 April**

10.00: Parish Mass for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Easter

**Sunday 19 April**

10.00: Parish Mass for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Easter

14.00: St Thomas' Fun Run

**Sunday 26 April**

10.00: Parish Mass for the Feast of Mark, the Evangelist

**Sunday 3 May**

10.00: Parish Mass for the 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter

**Wednesday 6 May**

12.30: Over 50's Fellowship Lunch

**Sunday 10 May**

10:00: Parish Mass for Rogation Sunday  
(*Christian Aid Week Begins*)

**Thursday 14 May**

19.00: Outdoor Mass for the Feast of the Ascension of our Lord.

**Sunday 17 May**

10.00: Parish Family Mass for Education Sunday

**Sunday 24 May**

10.00: Parish Mass for the Feast of Pentecost | Whit-Sunday.

## Parish Prayers of Intercession

**The Church:** We pray for the Church throughout the world, and for our partners in mission and friendship: for ✠ Bishop George Dawson-Ahmoah and the Churches of Nkoranza; for ✠ Pfr. Jens Oehme and the people of the L utherkirche in Chemnitz; and for ✠ Revd Canon Clement Francis and the people of Christ the King, Carriacou. May our fellowship in the Gospel bear witness to Christ’s love.

**We pray for the Church of England:** For ✠ Sarah, Archbishop of Canterbury; ✠ Emma, Acting Bishop of London; ✠ Lusa, Bishop of Willesden; and ✠ Catherine, Archdeacon of Northolt; and for ✠ St Paul’s Cathedral, our Diocesan Mother church.

**Our Parish and Community:** We give thanks for this Parish of St Thomas the Apostle: for ✠ Julia our Priest, for our Churchwardens and PCC; and for all who are called to serve in the life and ministry of the Church. We give thanks for Rowland, our Pastoral Assistant and Youth Intern, and for Nilesh Patel, preparing for Ordination and joining us as Curate. Strengthen our fellowship, deepen our faith, and guide us in love, service, and truth.

**We pray for our community in Hanwell:** For our schools - Ealing Fields, Elthorne, Oaklands, St Mark’s, and New Level Academy - for all who teach and learn within them; for all who live and work in our Parish, and for the communities and friendships formed within our Parish Hall. May Christ dwell in our homes and hearts and be known among us.

**The World:** We pray for the nations of the world, especially those torn by conflict and fear: People of Gaza and Palestine, the Gulf and Middle East, Lebanon, Yemen, Iran, Iraq, India and Pakistan, Afghanistan, Myanmar, Syria, Sudan, the D.R. of Congo, and Ukraine. Grant justice to those in authority, and peace to all peoples.

**The Sick and Those in Need:** We pray for the sick, the housebound, all who are in hospital or in care, and all who are in need of healing. We remember especially: Andrea Arthurs, Roy Arthurs, John Ball, Paul Ball, Caroline Baxter, The Brooks Family, Ivan Carter, Noel Chardon, Jenny Cornwell, Baljit Dhanda, Patrick Dennerly, Daphne Dorival, Leo & Estriana Douglas, Merfyn Edwards, Geraldine, Celia Griffith, Darren Hancock, Ian King, Jaxon Prentice, Nick Lunn, Jane Marland, Arda & Joe Metcalf, Dermot Molloy, Stuart Minty, Izzy Neale, Nicholas Robinson, Sarah, Julia Schumman; Gill Shaw, Keith & Sara Spillett, Colin Spooner, Leslie Stanton, John Tozer, Lynne Wilson & Kris Wilson. Comfort all who suffer in body, mind, or spirit, and give them hope and healing.

**Those preparing for Marriage:** especially; Geraint Jones and Gabrielle Brockis, to be married at St Thomas’ on Saturday 23rd May: that their life together may be blessed with love, faithfulness, and joy.

**Those preparing for Confirmation:** especially; Benjamin & Tobias Howson, Leo Hewlett and Oliver Allen to be confirmed at St Thomas on 20th September.

**The Departed:** We commend to your mercy all who have died, especially: The Rt. Reverend Andrew Watson, ✠ Guilford, John Brake, Agnes Cato & Geoffrey Waldron. **Those whose year’s mind falls at this time:** especially; The Priests and People of St. Thomas the Apostle, Orchard Street, Portman Square. Joan Harle, Nellie Hains, Edna Eileen Cooper, Jude James Lethorne, Robert Pendleton, Albert ‘Bev’ Bowles-Bevan, Arthur Melville and Dennis Storr. May the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace, and rise in glory.

  
**ST THOMAS THE APOSTLE**  
BOSTON ROAD, HANWELL, W7 2AD

🌐 : [StThomasHanwell.com](http://StThomasHanwell.com)    📘 : [Facebook.com/StThomasHanwell](https://Facebook.com/StThomasHanwell)    📷 : [Instagram.com/StThomasHanwell](https://Instagram.com/StThomasHanwell)

Reverend Julia Palmer (MA, MSc)

Rowland Linder

Stephen Brooks

Vicar

Youth Outreach | Pastoral Assistant

Parish & Liturgical Administrator  
Hall Bookings Manager

St Thomas’ Vicarage,  
182 Boston Road,  
Hanwell, London, W7 2AD

St Thomas’ Parish Office,  
The Vestry, St Thomas the Apostle Church,  
Hanwell, London, W7 2AD

☎ : 07939 043 959

☎ : 07907 280 705

☎ : 07933 895 761

✉ : [revjuliap@msn.com](mailto:revjuliap@msn.com)

✉ : [RowlandLinder@gmail.com](mailto:RowlandLinder@gmail.com)

✉ : [stthomashanwell@gmail.com](mailto:stthomashanwell@gmail.com)

The Parish Office is open Tuesday to Thursday, 11.00am–4.00pm, and is closed on Mondays and Fridays.