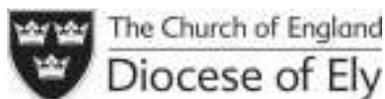


Fulbourn and the Wilbrahams



St Vigor's Fulbourn, St Nicholas' Great Wilbraham,
St John's Little Wilbraham, St George's Six Mile Bottom

22nd March 2020: Mothering Sunday

Welcome! Due to the coronavirus outbreak there are no services of public worship taking place. But we remain a church community, and one committed to making God's healing love present in these parishes. The churches remain open for prayer, contemplation, and hope.

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 forever.



'And a sword will pierce your own soul too,' Simeon says, almost as an aside, to Mary in our Gospel today. Today we celebrate Mothering Sunday. It is the day when children in service would, traditionally, return home to their own families and their parish church. It's a day that, like so much that has to do with mothers, is bittersweet. We remember, or try to remember, that the Church itself is thought of as a mother. She (the Church is traditionally spoken of as 'she') is the place where we are reborn in baptism; she feeds us with the Word of God and the sacraments; she welcomes us back however long we've been away; if she could, she would gather us under her wings as a mother hen gathers her chicks. This week, as public worship was suspended in our churches for the duration of the epidemic, we remember that it is the Church who sends us out in love

and service, caring for one another, calling, checking-up, and constantly holding us in her prayers.

Readings this week

Sunday 22nd March

Morning

Exodus 2:1-10

2 Corinthians 1:3-7

John 19:25b-27

Evening

Psalms 19

Isaiah 43:1-7

Ephesians 5:8-14

Children's ministry

Sunday School, St Vigor's Baby Dragons, Wednesday Church, and Parent and Baby Group – are all suspended for the time being.

Contacts

Rector The Rev'd Alice Goodman, goodhill@appleinter.net 01223 880337

Curate The Rev'd Miles Pateman, rev.miles@outlook.com 07396261144

Parish Assistant Rob Hawkins, fwparishassistant@gmail.com

Parish Centre 'Twelve' 15 High Street, Fulbourn, 01223 882070

Notices

Dear friends, we have received our instructions from the Archbishops. For reasons of safety, there are to be no public services in church until further notice.

The Eucharist will be offered regularly around the benefice by Miles and Alice, and we will continue to say Morning Prayer. The churches, apart from St George's, will be open daily for people to visit for private prayer. Sit in the quiet, light a candle, write a prayer.

We will be circulating material for families to continue their creative exploration of the gospel at home. This is likely to begin next week. In the meantime, there are flowers in the churches to be collected for Mothering Sunday.

Please contact us—Alice, Miles, Rob, or your church wardens - if you are ill, if you are lonely, if you need anything. Do not hesitate to ask. Our contact details are on this sheet, in The Mill, and on our website.

Lent Groups, Lent Lunches, First Communion classes, and the APCMs are all cancelled.

Twelve is likely to remain closed, but we are hoping to open one morning a week for a book swap and a chance to use Twelve Green Bottles. Details to follow.

We are now part of a community network that will enable mutual support in the coming weeks, with neighbours collecting shopping and encouraging one another by phone. Search 'Fulbourn Community Aid' on Facebook or email fulbourncommunityaid@gmail.com, either to offer help or to ask for it. Or call Twelve, and leave a message.

St Vigor's has a Facebook page, where we will post some content and short 'vlog'-style sermons when we can. Facebook for the Wilbrahams – coming soon!

It's vital that we look out for each other and keep in touch. Now is the time to call or email your friends in the congregation, and let them know you're thinking of them.

Website: <http://www.fulbournandthewilbrahams.org>