

## Beaminster Area Team

God our Father, renew our hope. By the Holy Spirit's power, strengthen us to pray readily serve joyfully and grow abundantly rejoicing in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**Week: 27<sup>th</sup> March 2022, Mothers Day**

**Old Testament: Exodus 2: 1-10**

**Psalm: Psalm 34: 11-20**

**New Testament: 2 Corinthians 1: 3-7**

**Gospel: Luke 2: 33-35**

### Reflection on the Gospel reading, written by Barbara Simmonds

Pharaoh had ordered that all male Hebrew babies were to be killed. When Moses was born, his mother managed to keep him hidden for 3 months to keep him safe. Then she waterproofed a basket, put him in it, and left it in the reeds at the edge of the river, leaving his sister to keep watch over what would happen next. When Pharaoh's daughter saw the baby in the basket, she must straight away have realised that this was a Hebrew baby. But it seems her protective instincts must have kicked in, and she decides she will keep him. Then Moses' sister steps in and asks if she should go and find a wet nurse to look after him. And so it is that Moses continues to be looked after by his mother, until he is old enough to go and live with Pharaoh's daughter, who raises him as her son.

The baby Moses had a group of women helping him to survive against the odds. His mother, who defies the order of Pharaoh, and who gives up her own claims on him in order to ensure his future. His sister, who kept watch, and enabled his mother to become his wet nurse, and Pharaoh's daughter, who was prepared to take risks, and showed compassion, and commitment.

Who are the women that we remember with gratitude today? Not just our mothers, but others too who have nurtured us, cared for and supported us in various situations in our lives. Have we shared with them how important they are to us?

### collect for the 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.

### Worship to enjoy at home

BBC Radio 4, 8.10am Sunday Morning Worship, Songs of Praise BBC1 1.15pm

**A Useful Telephone Link from The Church of England.** This is a free number where you can listen to prayers, reflections and hymns and join in worship with others.

 **0800 804 8044**  
**DailyHOPE**  
A free phone line of hymns, reflections and prayers