

4th Sunday of Lent
Mothering Sunday

FIRST READING

1 Samuel 1.20-end

A reading from the first book of Samuel

20 In due time Hannah conceived and bore a son. She named him Samuel, for she said, 'I have asked him of the Lord.'

21 The man Elkanah and all his household went up to offer to the Lord the yearly sacrifice, and to pay his vow.

22 But Hannah did not go up, for she said to her husband, 'As soon as the child is weaned, I will bring him, that he may appear in the presence of the Lord, and remain there for ever; I will offer him as a Nazirite for all time.'

23 Her husband Elkanah said to her, 'Do what seems best to you, wait until you have weaned him; only—may the Lord establish his word.' So the woman remained and nursed her son, until she weaned him.

24 When she had weaned him, she took him up with her, along with a three-year-old bull, an ephah of flour, and a skin of wine. She brought him to the house of the Lord at Shiloh; and the child was young.

25 Then they slaughtered the bull, and they brought the child to Eli.

26 And she said, 'Oh, my lord! As you live, my lord, I am the woman who was standing here in your presence, praying to the Lord.

27 For this child I prayed; and the Lord has granted me the petition that I made to him.

28 Therefore I have lent him to the Lord; as long as he lives, he is given to the Lord.' She left him there for the Lord.

Psalms 34.11-20

11 Come, my children, and listen to me;

I will teach you the fear of the Lord.

12 Who is there who delights in life

and longs for days to enjoy good things?

13 Keep your tongue from evil

and your lips from lying words.

14 Turn from evil and do good;

seek peace and pursue it.

15 The eyes of the Lord are upon the righteous

and his ears are open to their cry.

16 The face of the Lord is against those who do evil,
to root out the remembrance of them from the earth.
17 The righteous cry and the Lord hears them
and delivers them out of all their troubles.
18 The Lord is near to the brokenhearted
and will save those who are crushed in spirit.
19 Many are the troubles of the righteous;
from them all will the Lord deliver them.
20 He keeps all their bones,
so that not one of them is broken.

SECOND READING

2 Corinthians 1.3-7

3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and
the God of all consolation,
4 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.
5 For just as the sufferings of Christ are abundant for us, so also our consolation is
abundant through Christ.
6 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.
7 Our hope for you is unshaken; for we know that as you share in our sufferings, so
also you share in our consolation.

Gospel Reading

or John 19.25b-27

25 Meanwhile, standing near the cross of Jesus were his mother, and his mother's
sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene.
26 When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing beside her, he
said to his mother, 'Woman, here is your son.'
27 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.