



**Sunday 19th March 2023**  
@ PPT Bovey Tracey & St Mary's Hennock



The vicar writes:

Today we mark Mothering Sunday. It began as a medieval Church festival, when people were encouraged to return to the church of their baptism, but this was downplayed at the Reformation. Efforts to restore its place in church life in the 20th century led accidentally to the secular and now highly commercialised celebration of 'Mother's Day', when we are encouraged to show gratitude to those who gave us life and nurtured us, with gifts of cards, flowers, meals out. We should give thanks for our mothers of course, but our focus this week is our 'Mother' Church, the Church of England, which we love dearly, but which is in trouble. Many of us are naturally anxious about the future. We are asking you to complete a short survey to help us prepare to face the challenges ahead. If you want to learn more, click [this link](#) to watch the CEEC Youtube video "We love the Church of England".

yours in Christ,  
Graham

**March 2023**

**19 Sun**

**Mothering Sunday: *Mother knows best?***

PPT

9.30am  
11.00am  
5.00pm  
6.00pm  
7.00pm

Readings: Galatians 4.19-5.1, Mark 3.31-35  
Sunday Praise: Rev Graham Hamilton  
Holy Communion: Rev Graham Hamilton.  
Prayer & Praise. Rev Graham Hamilton  
Youth Alpha in Church Room.  
14-18s at Church Room PPT.

St Mary's

11.00am

Bible Readings: Ephesians 2.1-10, John 3.14-21  
Holy Communion: Rev Paul Reynolds

20 Mon

9.00am  
6.30pm

Morning Prayer Zoom -Rev Graham Hamilton  
Wise Guys at Bovey Youth Cafe.

21 Tue

9.00am

Morning Prayer Zoom- Rev Graham Hamilton

22 Wed

10.00am

Holy Communion in the Church Room: Rev Graham

23 Thu

7.00am

Men's Breakfast in Church Room

24 Fri

9.00am  
9.45am

Morning Prayer Zoom- Rev Graham Hamilton  
1st Steps in Church Room.

**26 Sun**

**5th Sunday of Lent: *Don't harden your heart.***

PPT

9.30am  
11.00am  
5.00pm

bible readings: Exodus 8.20-10.29, Hebrews 3.7-15  
Sunday Praise (HC): Mrs Carolyn Laycock  
Morning Prayer: Mrs Carolyn Laycock  
Fellowship @ Five:

St Mary's

11.00am  
12 noon

Bible readings: Acts 20.13-37, Luke 24.44-49  
Holy Communion: Rev. Graham Hamilton  
Bible readings: Exodus 7.1-8.19, Luke 11.14-20  
Annual Parochial Church Meeting

Click [here](#) to join Morning Prayer on Zoom, or enter the ID 986 2130 8247 and Passcode: 102020

**New to PPT?** We email this bulletin every week (with working hyper-links) to the members of the Church Family Roll. If you would like to receive this, to join the electoral roll, or find out more what it means to be part of the church family, then please complete a "Connect" card in church, or email [office@pptbovey.church](mailto:office@pptbovey.church)

**Mission Focus for March is the Peninsula Gospel Partnership** (<https://peninsulagospelpartnership.com/>), a network of local churches from different denominations who want to see a Christ-centred, Bible- teaching, people-loving church available to every community in Devon and Cornwall. The PGP course is a two year, weekly course, based at St Leonard' Exeter, teaching people to know and handle the bible better: many members of PPT have benefitted from the course. All gifts in the collection plate this month go to The Peninsula Gospel Partnership

**Alex Evans is fund-raising for *Limb Power*.**

Alex, who attends Sunday Club at PPT, is raising funds for Limb Power. On March 25th he will be hiking across Dartmoor from Haytor to Heatree. You may have seen him on CountryFile this week. For more information and to donate please click this link: <https://is.gd/P38yC8>

**Spree South West:** <https://www.spreesw.org/>

Friday 23rd- Sunday 25th June 2023 at Westpoint Arena. Suitable for ages 8-17 years. £75 for the weekend to include camping, activities, groups and food (PPT are covering the cost of the food!) . Speak to Rosie for more details and booking code.

**Bible Study Group**

Mark Alexander is leading a Bible study group which meets fortnightly on a Tuesday evening from 7.30-9pm. It is held at Joan Marsden's house (Knowle Pomeroy, Lowerdown, Bovey Tracey). Please contact Mark for further details on 07955 716329.

**Electoral Roll:** if you are a regular worshipper at PPT and are not yet on the Electoral Roll, please complete a form by 2 May. You will be eligible to vote at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (on Sat 20 May). The number of electoral roll members also determines the number of representatives at Deanery Synod.

**Collect for the Fourth Sunday of Lent**

Merciful Lord,  
absolve your people from their offences,  
that through your bountiful goodness  
we may all be delivered from the chains of those  
sins  
which by our frailty we have committed;  
grant this, heavenly Father,  
for Jesus Christ's sake, our blessed Lord and  
Saviour,  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

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.

**Prayer List:**

Mary Bambridge, Kathleen Ennor, Jacob Goulden, David Harris, Rieta Murray, Ruth Parnell, Ann Sammons, Laura Smith, Cilla Turner, Helen Wray

**In Memory:** Marion Tyrie.

## Study Questions

**Icebreaker:** What do you love and value about your home church?

We call God our father: who biblically should we call our spiritual mother? Who first planted and nurtured our faith? (Gal 4.19, 1 Thess 2.7, 11, 1Cor. 4:15 )

Look at Galatians 4.19- 5.1. This is one of the most complex parts of Paul's letters, and is not easy to understand! Fortunately we don't need to grasp all the details for this study.

How does Paul describe his relationship and anxiety for the Christians of Galatia (4.19)?

What threat to gospel freedom is Paul trying to counter? (Gal 1.7, 2.4, 3.10, 4.10, 5.2-4)

What support or help did Paul receive from the senior apostles in Jerusalem and church leaders in Antioch? (2.9-14).

The fact that Paul's letter to the Galatians is now part of the New Testament Canon is evidence that his argument was eventually accepted.

Look again at Gal 4.21-31. This is a dense theological argument or allegory on the story of the births of Ishmael to Hagar (Genesis 16) and Isaac to Sarah (Genesis 21). Paul sets up detailed set of parallels - 2 sons, 2 mothers, 2 covenants and 2 Jerusalems!

What are the essential differences between them?

How can we know that our 'mother church' is the Jerusalem above?

(pto)

**Mon 20 March Ps.147, Isaiah 11.1-10.**

Give thanks for the work of the Peninsular Gospel Partnership, and pray for the weekly training course meeting every Wednesday morning at St Leonard's, and Chris Keane its director.

**Tue 21 March Ps.79 Jeremiah 18.1-12.**

Pray that the Junior Doctors' strike may be fairly resolved, and that adequate emergency cover may be provided by senior consultants.

**Wed 22 March: Ps.90, Jeremiah 18.13-end.**

Give thanks for the Sunday Praise service, and pray for the focus group meeting to review and plan ahead this evening.

**Thu 23 Mar. Ps.86 Jeremiah 19.1-13.**

Pray for the work of Exeter Pregnancy Crisis Centre offering unpressured support to women facing an unexpected or unwanted pregnancy.

**Fri 24 March Ps.102, Jeremiah 19.14-20.6.**

Pray for the Social Services to be respected and properly funded as they seek to support people in difficult situations and dysfunctional families

**Sat 25 March Ps 111, 1 Sam. 2.1-10**

Pray for Diocesan Synod meeting today at Westpoint, for Graham, Dawn and all the reps- for honest debate and recognition of the challenges to our life and unity

**Sun 26 March: Ps.86, Jeremiah 31.27-37**

Pray for the Annual Parochial Meeting at St Mary's Hennock today, for fresh vision and commitment to serving the community and proclaiming the gospel.

When deep disagreement comes to Galatia, how does Paul respond?

Does he tell the Galatians to find a better church, or contend for the gospel where they are?

What gospel issue is at stake in the present controversy in the Church of England?

How should we contend for the gospel? (Jude 1.3-4)

Pray for unity in the congregation, and for the apostolic gospel to be preserved in the Church of England.

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*For full listings of PCC officers and members,  
see the termly bulletin.*

PPT Bovey is a registered Charity: 1128849.

The PPT Bank account is  
'P C C Bovey Tracey',  
acct no. 01219910, sort code 30-96-06.

The Hennock bank account is:  
FOR PCC OF HENNOCK  
acct no: 01220021 sort code 30-96-06

*The Church Website contains details of all events,  
audio sermon files and documents for download:  
go to [www.pptbovey.church](http://www.pptbovey.church)*

*"PPT Bovey is committed to the safeguarding  
of children, young people and adults.. If you  
are concerned that a child or adult has been  
harmed or may be at risk of harm please  
contact the Parish Safeguarding officer. If you  
have immediate concerns about the safety of  
someone, please contact the police or local  
authority Children or Adults Services."*