



The Parish of Darfield

All Saints Darfield and St Michael Great Houghton

Sunday 15th March 2026

Fourth Sunday in Lent

Mothering Sunday

9:00 a.m. Morning Worship *Great Houghton*

10:45 a.m. Morning Worship *Darfield*

Sunday 22nd March 2026

Fifth Sunday in Lent

9:00 a.m. Holy Communion *Great Houghton*

10:45 a.m. Holy Communion *Darfield*

Biblical Mothers:

Do not forsake your mother's teaching. Bind them always on your heart; fasten them around your neck. When you walk, they will guide you; when you sleep, they will watch over you; when you awake, they will speak to you. [Proverbs 6: 20-22]

Also called *Mid-Lent Sunday* or *Refreshment Sunday*, the Fourth Sunday of Lent, **Mothering Sunday** is a day when the rigorous observations of Lent were briefly relaxed. It is also a day when people would return for special services in what they thought of as their Mother Church. Over time this has evolved into an occasion to remember and appreciate mothers and maternal figures.

Throughout our Bible we can read of many mothers who made a significant contribution to the success of their offspring.

Eve was created as a 'helper' for Adam. [Genesis 2: 2-22] and Adam later describes her as '*the mother of all living*' [Genesis 3: 20]

Sarah, the wife of Abraham, became the mother of Isaac in her old age to begin the fulfilment of God's promise to Abraham [Genesis 12: 2-3; Genesis 21: 1-3]

Rebekah, the wife of Isaac, was chosen to become the mother of twins Jacob and Esau. Jacob would receive his own promise from God that his descendants would be spread out in all directions and bring a blessing on all peoples of the earth. [Genesis 28: 14]

Rachel and **Leah** were both married to Jacob and were mothers to their twelve sons who became leaders of the twelve tribes of Israel.

Jochebed was the mother of Moses. At that time the Israelites were living in Egypt under an oppressive Pharaoh who had decreed that all Hebrew boys should be thrown into the River Nile. Jochebed hid Moses for three months before hiding him in a basket near the river. Moses was found by Pharaoh's daughter and was saved from the decree to go on to lead the Israelites out of Egypt.

Hannah was the wife of Elkanah but was childless. She prayed to the Lord and found favour and became the mother of Samuel whom she dedicated to the Lord. [1 Samuel 1: & 2:]

Elizabeth was the wife of Zechariah, a priest, but was childless. Zechariah was visited by an Angel of the Lord who foretold that they would have a child and that *many would rejoice because of his birth*. The child, John the Baptist was later to prepare the way for the ministry of Jesus. [Luke 1: 5-25]

Mary was a young girl betrothed to Joseph. She was visited by an Angel who told her that she would bear a son to be called Jesus who would be called the *Son of the Most High*. Mary was present at the first recorded miracle at the wedding in Cana [John 2: 1-11] and at the Crucifixion [John 19: 25-27].

Eunice, the mother of Timothy and his grandmother **Lois** were recognised for their sincere faith and for instructing Timothy to draw out his faith. [2 Timothy 1: 5]

**DRAW
NEAR**
LIFE-GIVING
HABITS FOR LENT

Maundy Thursday, 2nd April 2026

We are to hold a joint Service and Shared Meal at 7:00 p.m. in Ardsley Church Hall Lounge.

It would be helpful if we could know the numbers for catering.

Sign up on the sheets at the back of Church

Or contact Carol on 07542 527 331

Please indicate if you need or can offer a lift.

Fourth Sunday of Lent

Merciful Lord, you know our struggle to serve you: when sin spoils our lives and overshadows our hearts, come to our aid and turn us back to you again; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Readings for Lent 4

1 Samuel 16: 1-13
Psalm 23
Ephesians 5: 8-14
John 9: 1-41

Readings for this week

March

15th 1 Timothy 6: 1-10
16th 1 Timothy 6: 11.-21
17th 2 Timothy 1: 1-8
18th Joshua 11: 10-23
19th Joshua 12: 1-8
20th Joshua 13: 1-7
21st Joshua 13: 8-23
22nd Joshua 13: 24-33

Prayer Square

This week we are praying for residents of Darfield

George Street
Pitt Street
Derefield Drive
Providence Street
Lantern Mews
Colliery Mount

Prayer:

Forward any prayer requests to our Prayer Ministry team through

Carol Hunter: 07542 527 331

Community Shop on the Go and Warm-Space

Next Community Shop: Thursday 19th March

Warm Space: Every Thursday 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

We will be welcoming Rt Rev Leah Vasey-Saunders, Bishop of Doncaster, to Warm Space on **19th March**

Setting a Target - organisations we support Goldthorpe Salvation Army Foodbank

We support families in our area through our annual cash tithe. In addition, for a number of years gifts at our Harvest Celebration have provided specific items which are in regular demand. A box is provided in both our churches to receive any gifts during the rest of the year or at times where specific needs are identified.

Boardgames Club

Saturday 21st March in the Rectory Cottage

6:30 p.m. for 7:00 p.m. start.

Please bring CAKES and/or FRUIT if you can

Why not bring and share your own games?

Sunday: 22nd March 2026 at St Michaels Great Houghton

An Additional Service of Holy Communion is scheduled for 9:00 a.m. on Sunday 22nd March.

Collect for 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.

Gospel Readings: Luke 2: 33-35 and John 19: 25- 27

Thoughtful Thursday at Great Houghton

Thursdays between 11:00 a.m. and noon.

Craft and Natter back after Easter

Resources and Contacts

Churchwarden
PCC Secretary

Peter Robinson
Karen Walton

01226 753 572

Safeguarding

Contact Peter Robinson
07910 728 581

Our Web Site

<http://www.darfieldallsaintschurch.org.uk/>

Email Allsaintschurchdarfield@gmail.com

Facebook [@darfieldallsaints](https://www.facebook.com/@darfieldallsaints)



Find us on A Church Near You

<https://www.achurchnearyou.com/>

Search your current location or Postcode

DEADLINE for Content

Items, preferably via e-mail, to

pdrobinson@live.co.uk

Tuesday 5:00 p.m.

All Saints



St Michael



All Saints PCC Darfield is a Registered Charity (no. 1185316).