Today's Readings Sunday 10th March Mothering Sunday THE COLLECT

God of love, passionate and strong, tender and careful: watch over us and hold us all the days of our life; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

FIRST READING Exodus 2.1-10

Now a man from the house of Levi went and married a Levite woman. ² The woman conceived and bore a son; and when she saw that he was a fine baby, she hid him for three months. ³ When she could hide him no longer she got a papyrus basket for him, and plastered it with bitumen and pitch; she put the child in it and placed it among the reeds on the bank of the river. 4 His sister stood at a distance. to see what would happen to him. ⁵ The daughter of

Pharaoh came down to bathe at the river, while her attendants walked beside the river. She saw the basket among the reeds and sent her maid to bring it. ⁶ When she opened it, she saw the child. He was crying, and she took pity on him. 'This must be one of the Hebrews' children.' she said.⁷ Then his sister said to Pharaoh's daughter, 'Shall I go and get you a nurse from the Hebrew women to nurse the child for you?' 8 Pharaoh's daughter said to her, 'Yes.' So the girl went and called the child's mother. ⁹ Pharaoh's daughter said to her, 'Take this child and nurse it for me, and I will give you your wages.' So the woman took the child and nursed it. ¹⁰ When the child grew up, she brought him to Pharaoh's daughter, and she took him as her son. She named him Moses.

'because', she said, 'l drew him out of the water.'

SECOND READING 2 Corinthians 1.3-7

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.

THE GOSPEL Luke 2.33-35

And the child's father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. ³⁴ Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, 'This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed ³⁵ so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed—and a sword will pierce your own soul too.'

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Loving God, as a mother feeds her children at the breast you feed us in this sacrament with the food and drink of eternal life: help us who have tasted your goodness to grow in grace within the household of faith; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

PSALM 34.11-20

¹¹ Come, O children, listen to me; I will teach you the fear of the Lord. ¹² Which of you desires life, and covets many days to enjoy good? ¹³ Keep vour tongue from evil, and your lips from speaking deceit. ¹⁴ Depart from evil, and do good; seek peace, and pursue it. ¹⁵ The eyes of the Lord are on the righteous, and his ears are open to their cry. ¹⁶ The face of the Lord is against evildoers, to cut off the remembrance of them from the earth. ¹⁷ When the righteous cry for help, the Lord hears, and rescues them from all their troubles. ¹⁸ The Lord is near to the brokenhearted, and saves the crushed in spirit. ¹⁹ Many are the afflictions of the righteous, but the Lord rescues them from them all. ²⁰ He keeps all their bones: not one of them will be broken.