



St Margaret's Church

Together we aim to: Worship God, Proclaim Jesus, Grow in the Spirit and Serve the World

In Contact

15th March 2026

Ephesians 5.1, 8-18

MOTHERS' DAY



In a way it is sad that there is only one day a year set aside for celebrating mothers or those who have cared for us like a mother. We know that for some, Mothers' Day brings mixed emotions - the pain of loss, or sadness that things were not as good as they should have been - but for many it is a day of deep appreciation and heart-warming thoughts. When we think of all the best that a mother can be, this gives us great insight into the nature and character of God.

Mothers love unconditionally. There is a unique bond between a mother and a child. It is not dependent on how we behave or what our character is like. We are simply loved. In God's eyes, we are all His children. God sent Jesus, not because we had done the right things, but simply because He loves us. God is love. Through mothers, we can experience what that unconditional love means.

Mothers want the best for their children. Although a mother's love is unconditional, it does not mean that they do not care if we live good lives or not. They want the best for their children. Ephesians 5.8 tell us that we should '*live as children of light*' and goes on to remind us that we should have nothing to do with *the 'unfruitful works of darkness'*. God, like a mother, wants the best for His children. He gives us freedom to make mistakes and learn from them, so that we can discover a better or the best way to live.

Mothers make sacrifices for their children. My own experience growing up in a single parent family saw my mother go without so we could have. She did menial jobs to earn money to provide for us (before having us, she had been a senior civil servant). She tried to create a safe, stable home environment. She always wanted to be there for us. She did not get everything right, but she certainly gave up much and put herself second. Out of love for us, God not only gave us His Son, but Jesus in turn gave His life for us. He constantly put others before Himself and paid the ultimate sacrifice upon the cross. 1 John 4.10: '*In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins.*'

Let us celebrate mothers this Sunday and give thanks for the insights they give us in to just how much God loves us.



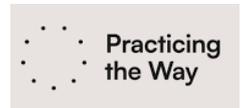
Bible Verse for 2026: *Isaiah 43.19, Philippians 3.14*

I am about to do a new thing... Press on towards the goal!

This week- Sunday 15th March 2026:

Mothers' Day Service: at 10.30am. We will be celebrating Mothers and those who are mothers to us.

LENT COURSE: Practicing the Way- with videos and discussion groups exploring how we can create a lifelong foundation for following Jesus. 7pm-8.30pm in church on Tuesdays, from 24th February to 31st March.



Next Week 22nd March 2026:

Morning Worship Service: at 10.30am. Peter Capon will be speaking from Isaiah 50: 4-9a Matt 26 1-5, 47-68 on the theme: '**Who is Jesus**'.

CW Communion at 3pm.

Electoral Roll: We are revising the Electoral Roll between Sunday **22nd March** to Sunday **12th April** 2026. If you are not on it and wish to be included please speak to Susan Stansfield.

Experience Easter: This will be set up from **23rd March**. We have booked in so far Acacias Year 2 for 1.45pm on 30th March and 1.45pm on 1st April. If you can help deliver this resource, then please speak to Matt or Steph. Melland will be coming afternoon of 24th or 25th.

March 15th – 21st, Please Pray for:

- People living in Burnage Garden Village.
- Healthy discussion & wise decisions at PCC meeting on Monday.
- Ideas to come together at the Holiday Special planning meeting on Wednesday.
- Matt at the Mission Community Chapter meeting for support & prayer.
- More bookings from schools for Experience Easter event.
- Yemeni Christians in the chaos of war; for peace to come to Yemen.
- God's provision & protection for 12 new churches being built by IEM.
- An abundant crop of maize and vegetables at Falconer Home Farm.

Looking Ahead:

Answers to prayer: we want to celebrate what God is doing amongst us, however smaller a thing it seems. Please send to revmattburnage@gmail.com or M19stmargarets@gmail.com. Here are examples shared after last Sunday's healing service: *"I liked being anointed with oil and having a blessing. When I got back to my seat I felt really different."* And another person said: *"After anointing, I felt better straight away"*

CONFIRMATION: 1st June 7pm here. If you are interested in being confirmed please see Matt.

Open doors: World Watch List 2026, listing the top 50 countries where Christians suffer persecution for their faith in Jesus. Please see Ruth if you would like a copy and use it to pray.

Easy Worship operators, Bible Readers and Prayer Leaders: If you can help here, please see Matt.



Burnage Tesco, Burnage Library
(when open) and Asda Reddish

SHOPPING LIST: Please concentrate on the following - Tinned Peas/ Sweet corn/Carrots, Tinned Potatoes, UHT Milk, Spaghetti hoops, Pasta sauce .