

Reflection: Mothering Sunday, *Home* by Warsan Shire

I am interested in reflecting on this poem (it's only an extract below) in the context of Mothering Sunday.

Warsan Shire was born in Kenya to Somali parents and lives in London. The poem was written in about 2009.

HOME

no one leaves home unless
home is the mouth of a shark
you only run for the border
when you see the whole city running as well

your neighbors running faster than you
breath bloody in their throats
the boy you went to school with
who kissed you dizzy behind the old tin factory
is holding a gun bigger than his body
you only leave home
when home won't let you stay.

...

you have to understand,
that no one puts their children in a boat
unless the water is safer than the land
no one burns their palms
under trains
beneath carriages
no one spends days and nights in the stomach of a
truck
feeding on newspaper unless the miles travelled
means something more than journey.
no one crawls under fences
no one wants to be beaten
pitied ...

"Home" by Warsan Shire | Facing History and Ourselves

Fr David

Sunday Evening Worship Information

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83814909573?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83814909573?pwd=MDdzQWkwWt4cUZPdUR0WjdTNkRFUT09)
[pwd=MDdzQWkwWt4cUZPdUR0WjdTNkRFUT09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83814909573?pwd=MDdzQWkwWt4cUZPdUR0WjdTNkRFUT09)

Meeting ID: 838 1490 9573, Passcode: 357687

Tel: 0131 460 1196, 0203 481 5237, 0203 481 5240

NEXT SUNDAY 26.03.2023 5th Sunday of Lent

SERVICES: 10.30am Sung Eucharist in the Hall
5.00pm Evening Worship by Zoom

READINGS: OT Ezekiel 37: 1-14
NT Romans 8: 6-11
GOSPEL John 11: 1-45



CONTACT US

Fr David Nixon 01392 667192. Day off: Mondays
rev.dave@virgin.net

Revd Sarah Cumming Curate 07543604115
rev.sarahcumming@gmail.com

Revd Alison Whiting Associate Priest
rev.alisonwhiting@gmail.com

Phil Baker, Reader 07970 216740
lionelbaker@outlook.com

Revd Terry Litherland 07594633195
tlitherland36@gmail.com

Ian Totterdell Church Warden 01392 848674
07536459096 ian.totterdell@cantab.net

Judith Southam Church Warden
judithsoutham5@gmail.com

Email: parishoffice@stthomaschurhexeter.co.uk

Facebook: www.facebook.com/sttexeter

Website: www.stthomaschurhexeter.co.uk

Twitter: @sttexeter

Office Tel: 01392 437486 Messages at any time.



St Thomas, Exeter

19th March 2023

Mothering Sunday

10.30am in the Hall

Today

10.30am Sung Eucharist

Hymn Numbers

To be announced

5pm Evening Worship by Zoom

Tuesday 21st March

7.30pm Lent Group. The Farewell Prayer
See Ian for details.

Wednesday 22nd March

10am Holy Communion (BCP)

Thursday 23rd March

9.30-11am St Thomas Tots.

9.30-10.30am Community Larder

10.30am-12noon Knit & Natter

3-5pm Warm Space (Hall)

Friday 24th March

9.30am Morning Prayer

10am Staff Meeting

11.30am Stations of the Cross (Church)

Saturday 25th March

12.30pm Ladies Lunch at the Royal Oak



Collect

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. **Amen**

Exodus 2: 1-10

Now a man from the house of Levi went and married a Levite woman. The woman conceived and bore a son; and when she saw that he was a fine baby, she hid him for three months. 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. His sister stood at a distance, to see what would happen to him. 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. 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. 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?' Pharaoh's daughter said to her, 'Yes.' So the girl went and called the child's mother. 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. 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, 'I drew him out of the water.'

Colossians 3: 12-17

As God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility,

meekness, and patience. Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God. And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

Luke 2: 33-35

And the child's father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. 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 so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed—and a sword will pierce your own soul too.'

Post Communion

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.

Amen

NOTICES

Knit and Natter. On Thursdays from 10.30am-12noon at 19 Maple Road. Details from Jenny on 01392 498725.

Community Larder is receiving donations on Thursdays between 9.30 and 10.30am. Please note new day and time. On Sundays there will also be an opportunity to bring donations to the 10.30 service.

House Group Weekly throughout Lent. New people are always welcome; see Ian for Zoom details.

Food Fight (Food for Sundays) are looking for donations of warm clothing, such as hats, gloves, jackets and socks. They are also happy to receive individual-serving bottles/tetra packs of water or juices. **Volunteers are outside Nat West bank on Sunday mornings from 11am-1pm** so any donations can be dropped off there.

Simon James, social prescriber at St Thomas Medical Centre, is asking for volunteers on behalf of the **ExwickTwo's Company Befriending Service**. His telephone number is 01392 676638 For more information see <https://linkinglives.uk/project/exwick/>

We need a volunteer urgently to be responsible for **Hall party and regular users bookings** from Easter onwards and someone to be responsible for a team opening and closing the Hall after parties. These roles can be combined or split We mostly operate this system through emails. If you are interested please see Ian for details. It is important that these roles are filled **as the Hall is a significant source of income for the Church.**

Easter Flowers The price of flowers has gone up recently so Mary Naish would welcome donations from the congregation in remembrance of a loved one. If you would like to make a donation please speak to Mary Naish or one of the Churchwardens.

The Church needs to be cleaned in time for **Palm Sunday**. If you can help with this a group will meet on Saturday 1st April at 10am to 12 noon. **Please note different date and time.**

Local elections take place on 4th May. Postal votes have to be submitted 12 working days before that date. A Voter Authority Certificate has to be applied for on-line. We are able to help people to obtain the Certificate. Please talk to a member of the clergy team.

