

READINGS

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 our Lord. **Amen**

FIRST READING

A reading from the book of Exodus. (2.1–10)

A man from the house of Levi went and married a Levite woman. ²The woman conceived and bore a son; and when she saw that he was a fine baby, she hid him for three months. ³When 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. ⁴His sister stood at a distance, to see what would happen to him. ⁵The 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. ⁶When 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. ⁷Then 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?' ⁸Pharaoh's daughter said to her, 'Yes.' So the girl went and called the child's mother. ⁹Pharaoh'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. ¹⁰When 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.'

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory.

The Lord is a great God, O that today you would listen to his voice.

Harden not your hearts.

Praise to you, O Christ, king of eternal glory.

GOSPEL

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

(19. 25b-27)

Glory to you, O Lord

Standing near the cross of Jesus were his mother, and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. ²⁶When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing beside her, he said to his mother, 'Woman, here is your son.' ²⁷Then he said to the disciple, 'Here is your mother.' And from that hour the disciple took her into his own home.

This is the Gospel of the Lord

Praise to you, O Christ.

POST COMMUNION

Lord God, whose blessed Son our Saviour gave his back to the smiters and did not hide his face from shame: give us grace to endure the sufferings of this present time with sure confidence in the glory that shall be revealed; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Holy Week & Easter

Monday – Wednesday:

7.30pm Compline – St Albans Church

Maundy Thursday:

11am Chrism Service – St Albans Abbey.

4pm Eucharist of The Lord's Supper – St Paul's

7.30pm Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper & Watch until 10pm – St Mary's

Good Friday:

11am Churches Together Walk of Witness – New Town Market Square

12noon Stations of the Cross – St Mary's

1pm Meditations – St Mary's

2pm Liturgy of Good Friday – St Mary's

Holy Saturday:

10am-12noon Children's Easter Workshop – St Mary's

Easter Sunday:

6am First Mass of Easter (followed by cooked breakfast) – St Mary's

9.30am Festal Sung Mass – St Mary's

11.15am Easter Eucharist – St Paul's