

Mothering Sunday 2025

John 19:23-27

²³ When the soldiers had crucified Jesus, they took his clothes and divided them into four parts, one for each soldier. They also took his tunic; now the tunic was seamless, woven in one piece from the top. ²⁴ So they said to one another, 'Let us not tear it, but cast lots for it to see who will get it.' This was to fulfil what the scripture says,

'They divided my clothes among themselves,
and for my clothing they cast lots.'

²⁵ And that is what the soldiers did.

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

1. What – if anything – did your Mother or Grandmother teach you about faith?
2. Do you find it helpful to think of God as mothering or as a Mother? (you might also want to read Luke 13: 34 and Luke 15: 8-10)
3. Why do you think so many women followed Jesus and his teaching? Why might women find his message and example powerful today?
4. Do you identify most with Mary or Jesus or John in this passage? Why?
5. Does Jesus' concern for Mary challenge the way Protestants sometimes think about her?
6. Activity: Have a look at the 'Monument to Motherhood' in Mexico City, which bears the inscription 'To Her Who Loved Us Before She Met Us'



Now take some time to think about the good things that your Mother or Grandmother or other significant female relation or friend gave you for which you are grateful