

# Mothering Sunday Family Prayers

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## Opening Prayer

*You may want to get different members of your family to read different parts of the prayer*

Loving Father, you have told us we are your children  
and that you love us.

Help us to show your love in our home.  
we pray that our home will be a place of love, security and truth.

Help us to get along with each other,  
especially now the schools are closed.

Help our Mums care for us,  
help us to enjoy being together.

We pray for all those people we know who can't go out.

*Here, remember anyone by name who is self-isolating.....*

Strengthen those families living under stress,  
May your love be known everywhere.  
May we know it in our hearts. Amen

## Story - Moses the Baby: Exodus 2:1-10

Older children will be able to read this story – you could get a doll for the baby and act it out.

This is in the style of the stories from the Lion Story-Teller Bible which is used for assemblies in our schools. For future use you can buy a copy of that book [here](#), or better still at our local book stores. It will be a really useful resource for you and your family when they are off school. You can read a story a day and have a prayer time.

## The Mother Who Trusted God

Desperate times call for desperate measures.  
This was such a time and people did not know what to do.

It was terrible for the Hebrew people.  
They were all living in Egypt where they had settled during the time of Joseph.  
Joseph had welcomed all his brothers and their families and they had done well. They were the Hebrews.

A new Pharaoh was King and he feared the Hebrews.  
There were many of them and they were fit and well.  
So he put them to work as slaves, building temples, palaces, and pyramids.  
But still they grew in numbers.

Pharaoh was afraid so he told his soldiers to throw every baby boy into the river Nile.

The Hebrews cried and wailed.

One mother gave birth to a boy and she hid him.  
She kept him quiet. She loved him and hugged him,  
but when he was three months old, he could not be hidden any longer.

She made a plan – she would trust his life to God.

She got a reed basket and covered it in tar so it would float.  
She put her baby in the basket and gently placed it in the Nile.  
She ran home and could not look.

Her daughter, the baby's sister stayed by the river, unable to leave her brother.  
She watched as the basket bobbed in the river.  
She followed it from the bank as it drifted downstream and then something amazing happened.

Further downstream a young woman had come to bathe.  
She was not any young woman; she was the daughter of the Pharaoh himself.  
The princess spotted the basket and heard the baby crying, so she pulled it out of the river and instantly loved the child.

The baby's sister ran up to her and the princess asked her if she knew of anyone who could take care of the child for her. She would pay and would see they were protected. The baby's sister knew immediately who that person could be, the very best person – the baby's mother.

The Princess was delighted and named the baby Moses – which means pulled out – because she pulled him out of the water.

The mother who trusted God was able to care for her child, but when he was older, he was returned to the princess to be brought up as a Prince of Egypt. He would be the one to bring freedom to his people.

This story is taken from Exodus chapters 1 and 2

## Talk about the Story

The story is about trusting in God. Egypt had been wonderful for the Hebrew people, but things had suddenly changed. They needed to trust God in uncertain times and they needed leadership.

We live in extraordinary times. We have lived in peace and comfort for a long time – we now need to trust God.

The conversation you may have after this story may or may be an opportunity to go deeper into worries and concerns around Coronavirus.

It may not be the right time. If so be prepared. I have offered some advice on how we can speak to children about Coronavirus [here](#)

## Plant

We are asking all families to plant Sweet Peas – you may not have any today, but if you can access seeds safely – ***please do not put yourself at risk*** – it is something you can do at 'school' this week.

Children can do this as a gift to their mothers – one that will grow and grow (literally)

**Why Sweet Peas?** They are lovely and easy to grow, but they also thrive when cared for. You need to plant the seed in some compost (lots of online advice) and water. After a week or so of daily care shoots will appear. After a few weeks – around Easter time they will have some leaves and you then need to pinch off the tip of the plant. You will see new life – new shoots and you will need to pinch

again for more growth. Then in the summer you will get flowers. To get more you will need to keep picking them. You will have flowers for your house and flowers to give to others.

Sweet Peas require care and when they get that they share love.

## Pray

When you have planted them you can pray:

Loving God, as we think about our world pray for:

- Healing for those who are sick
- The doctors and nurses who are helping them
- The government trying to help
- Those who are worried.

## The Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come, your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins

as we forgive those who sin against us.

Lead us not into temptation

but deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power,

and the glory are yours now and for ever. Amen.

## Blessing

Say this together:

May the one God and Father of all,

who is over all and through all and in all,

Keep us in one through the bond of peace.

May we be completely humble and gentle;

And give us patience so we bear with one another in love.

Amen