

## THOUGHTS FOR MOTHERING SUNDAY EVENING 22 MARCH 2020

*Children of Light* I Samuel 16:1-13, Ephesians 5:8-14, John 9

None of the lessons for today have much to say about Mothering Sunday.

The first lesson is about the identification and anointing of David as king to replace Saul, who had begun well, but had not improved with keeping. We know that David went on to be a great king, but we also know him to be far from without fault.

The gospel for today is the whole story of the healing of the blind man and the failure of the Pharisees to recognise God at work in that healing.

This morning I pointed out that God is the perfect example of self-sacrificing love that we normally associate with mothers for their children but that, even if that relationship may sometimes fail, God's love for us never does, and that we are called, mothers, fathers, women men – people of every age – to live our lives in imitation of Jesus by seeking to base them on the principles of love and self-giving.

It is in this spirit that Paul in his letter to the Ephesians is encouraging us to live, "Live as children of light – for the fruit of light is found in all that is good and right and true."

This is easier said than done, but the call remains clear, this Lent, in this time of crisis and always, that we should seek to imitate Christ and be *Children of Light*.

Clive Lemmon