## A prayer for Mothering Sunday – March 18th

As a mother protects her children, watching over them day by day, alert to danger, and ready if necessary to sacrifice herself for their sakes, so you Lord protect, your arms constantly encircling us, your hands delivering us from harm.

For the intensity of your love, Lord Jesus we thank you.

## For our own Mothers

Loving God, we thank you for mothers – for all they mean or have meant, for the love they have shown and the care they have given.

We thank you for the qualities of mothers – their patience, their kindness, concern and understanding.

We thank you for the part they play in our lives, and we thank you for this day of saying 'thank you' this opportunity to say what we so often mean to say but so rarely do.

For mothers and motherhood, for children and families we bring you this day our grateful praise.

## A thanksgiving for the gift of new life

Loving God, we thank you for the gift of life,
And for the miracle of new birth,
The wonder of a new born child, fashioned by your hand,
Lovingly created, and bringing such joy to so many.
We thank you for the life of [ name ] for all that stretches before
[Him/Her] - for the possibilities, joys, and discoveries you hold in store,
and for the special times we will share over the years to come,
and we ask your blessing, through Jesus, your Son, our Saviour. Amen.