

THE PARISH OF GREAT YARMOUTH
GREAT YARMOUTH MINSTER, ST PAUL'S, ST MARY'S
SUNDAY 28th November 2020 Advent Sunday

Services as follows: Facebook at 10am and 11am in the Minster.
Evening Prayer on Facebook / YouTube Thursday at 7pm.

Parish Office:
The Rectory, Town Wall Rd, Great
Yarmouth, Norfolk, NR30 1DJ
Tel: 01493 858410
office@gtyarmouthminster.org
www.gtyarmouthminster.org

Advent Sunday

Some people have tried to get started early on Christmas this year and I'm convinced there are already more sets of festive lights appearing on houses and the odd glimpse of a Christmas tree through the curtains. I can understand the urge to bring some cheer and festivity into what has been a puzzling and distressing year for many people; and it's not over yet. Normally premature Christmas decorations make me grumpy but I'm not even concerned this year.

In a month's time Christmas Day will have been and gone. We'll be in the season of Christmas. We will be marking the incarnation of our Lord but it will be different as we adjust our normal schedules of carol services and festive gatherings accordingly. It may be a bit unsettling and feel, well, just not all that Christmassy.

The gospels of Advent often give us unsettling feelings. Traditionally, the four great themes of Advent are Death, Judgement, Heaven and Hell. Our reading from Mark 13 for this Sunday gives us a flavour of that swirling, unsettling current which carries us into the start of a new liturgical year. Sometimes we simplify Advent's message into a time of "getting ready", which it is, but it is more than that. The key amidst the signs and portents is simple: keep awake!

May we be awake in this season of Advent. Busy preparing in whatever way we can this year but ever mindful of the coming of Christ.

Fr Simon

NOTICES

Public Worship will resume Sunday 6th December at 11am. Online services will continue.

Minster Open daily from 10am-12noon for private prayer and visitors. We need helpers to keep the Minster open day by day. All volunteers are welcome, not just church members. Any offers please contact the Parish Office.

Cloths: Priory School who are having class assemblies at present. We need simple, plain coloured cloths (no more than 4x4 ft) in green, red, purple and gold / white. Any offers to Parish Office.

Do you have a **Christmas Jumper** you no longer need? Priory School are collecting them for the children and can collect from you. Any offers to Kerry Jarmey, email address kjarmey3mr9@nsix.org.uk or phone 01493 843552. Or drop off jumpers at Rectory.

Stewardship. Income across the whole parish is much reduced this year and our finances are under great stress. Your support is vital. If you wish to set up a regular payment or make a one-off gift, account name: The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Great Yarmouth, sort code 20-99-21 and account number 60425850. Thank you.

Christmas Services 2020 *All services are subject to change. We advise everyone to check website / Facebook and weekly bulletins for up to date information. We may need more volunteers to help steward services across the parish.*

Day	Service	Place	Time
Thursday 17 th Dec	Chorister Carols	Minster	5pm
Saturday 19 th Dec	Carol Service	St Paul's	6.30pm
Sunday 20 th Dec	Carol Service	Minster	6.30pm
Monday 21 st Dec	Carol Service	St Mary's	6.30pm
Mon 21 st - Weds 23 rd	<i>Christingles to Go: Minster open for people to collect family Christingle kits. Music / lighting / crib / places to pause & reflect</i>		
Christmas Eve	Christingle	Zoom / Minster	4pm
	Midnight Eucharist	Minster	11.30pm
Christmas Day	Christmas Service	Online	10am
	Christmas Eucharist	St Paul's	10am
	Christmas Eucharist	St Mary's	10am
	Christmas Eucharist	Minster	10am

Electoral Roll is being revised. If you are a regular member of our church and wish to be added please complete a form. A form is available in all churches or contact Parish Office.

Parish Magazine: The December magazine is out now, if you have any articles for the magazine please contact Pat Stringer, email: pat.stringer1@sky.com

PARISH PRAYER LIST If anyone wants someone prayed for, ask any of the Ministry Team or the parish office. Pray for those who are sick or in need, all who are suffering in body, mind, or spirit or in need of God's loving care: Sheila, Brenda, Leah, David, Fleur, Della, Wendy, Bernice, Susan. Remember before God the recently departed: Kathleen Kelly, Nigel Wetton. Pray for those who work to keep our community safe and limit the spread of the virus. Pray for all staff at James Paget Hospital and for the ministry of the chaplaincy team. Pray for our church school: St Nicholas Priory School; praying especially for staff at this difficult time.

COLLECT

Almighty God,
give us grace to cast away the works of
darkness
and to put on the armour of light,
now in the time of this mortal life,
in which your Son Jesus Christ
came to us in great humility;
that on the last day,
when he shall come again in his glorious
majesty to judge the living and the
dead,
we may rise to the life immortal;
through him who is alive and reigns
with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

FIRST READING Isaiah 64:1-9

A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.

O that you would tear open the heavens and come down, so that the mountains would quake at your presence – as when fire kindles brushwood and the fire causes water to boil – to make your name known to your adversaries, so that the nations might tremble at your presence! When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect, you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence. From ages past no one has heard, no ear has perceived, no eye has seen any God besides you, who works for those who wait for him. You meet those who gladly do right, those who remember you in your ways. But you were angry, and we sinned; because you hid yourself we transgressed. We have all become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth. We all fade like a leaf, and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away. There is no one who calls on your name, or attempts to take hold of you; for you have hidden your face from us, and have delivered us into the hand of our iniquity. Yet, O LORD, you are our Father; we are the clay, and you are our potter; we are all the work of your hand. Do not be exceedingly angry, O LORD, and do not remember iniquity

for ever. Now consider, we are all your people.

PSALM Psalm 80:1-8. 18-20
(or 80:1-8)

R Turn us again, O God;
show the light of your countenance,
and we shall be saved.

Hear, O Shepherd of Israel,
you that led Joseph like a flock;
Shine forth, you that are enthroned
upon the cherubim,
before Ephraim, Benjamin and
Manasseh.

Stir up your mighty strength
and come to our salvation. **R**

O Lord God of hosts,
how long will you be angry at your
people's prayer?
You feed them with the bread of tears;
you give them abundance of tears to
drink.
You have made us the derision of our
neighbours
and our enemies laugh us to scorn. **R**

Let your hand be upon the man at your
right hand,
the son of man you made so strong for
yourself.
And so will we not go back from you;
give us life, and we shall call upon your
name. **R**

SECOND READING

1 Corinthians 1:3-9

A reading from the first letter of Paul to the Corinthians.

My brothers and sisters: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind – just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you – so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus

Christ. God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

GOSPEL Mark 13:24-37

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

Jesus said to his disciples: "In those days, after that suffering, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, and the stars will be falling from heaven, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in clouds' with great power and glory. Then he will send out the angels, and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven. From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away. But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come. It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. Therefore, keep awake – for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake."

POST COMMUNION

O Lord our God,
make us watchful and keep us faithful
as we await the coming of your Son our
Lord;
that, when he shall appear,
he may not find us sleeping in sin
but active in his service
and joyful in his praise;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Lively

Turn us a-gain, O God, show the light of your coun-ten-ance, and we shall be saved.