

THE PARISH OF GREAT YARMOUTH

GREAT YARMOUTH MINSTER, ST PAUL'S, ST MARY'S

SUNDAY 26th April 2020 The Third Sunday of Easter

There are no public services at the moment. Do make time for your own prayers.
Remember that although you may be isolated, no Christian is ever alone.

Parish Office:

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

The Third Sunday of Easter

Our gospel for this Sunday takes us down the road to Emmaus. We hear how two companions travel along that road in despair and sadness but then a mysterious stranger comes alongside them and explains everything.

We all long for someone to come and make things clear to us. We are bombarded with all sorts of opinions and experiences. We go online and view any number of news sources from all over the world. We tune in to any number of radio stations and listen to the news or digest the papers. We speak to family and friends all over the world and hear what is going on where they are. Many people today process an ever-increasing burden of words and images, but does this help us to see things clearly? Does it promote understanding or enlighten us?

A stranger comes alongside. The stranger listens and then begins to explain but the final moment of understanding comes in the breaking of bread as they gather at table in Emmaus. We are conscious that as Christians in these troubling times, we are not able to gather at table. Like everyone else we must abide by the restrictions to prevent the spread of COVID-19. This Sunday I will celebrate the Eucharist and break bread for us all. We experience the sadness of not being able to reach out and receive the broken bread. However, we must remember that the Spirit of God and the life of the risen Christ is with us. The bread is broken for each one of us and the promises of God still stand.

I know we all long for a time when we gather round the table and reach out together. May the stranger draw alongside us in our troubles and worries and we pray that our minds may be enlightened to God's presence with us.

With my prayers for you all,

Fr Simon

*Give thanks with Stuart and
Amaris Woithe, married this
week in Phoenix, Arizona*

This prayer for these times:

Lord Jesus Christ,
you taught us to love our neighbour,
and to care for those in need
as if we were caring for you.
In this time of anxiety, give us strength
to comfort the fearful, to tend the sick,
and to assure the isolated
of our love, and your love,
for your name's sake.
Amen.



NOTICES

Salvation Army Foodbank needs appropriate food or cash donations:
1-3pm, Mondays & Tuesdays or call 01493 858069.

Contact During Coronavirus: Ministry Team are trying to be in touch with church members. If you, or someone you know, is in need please do make contact through the Parish Office: there are volunteers who can help people. If you have prayer requests email or phone the parish office.

Online: If you're online you can find the "Parish of Great Yarmouth" on YouTube. We'll also do live streaming on our Facebook page: www.facebook.com/GtYarMinster. You don't have to be signed up to Facebook to view these.

Regular Giving with no weekly collection plate our income is much decreased. If you wish to set up a regular payment or make a one-off gift, account name PCC of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Great Yarmouth, sort code 20-99-21 and account number 60425850. Thank you.

Magazine: The May magazine will be available next week. Any articles for the magazine can be given to Pat Stringer or emailed, pat.stringer1@sky.com.

Weekly Bulletin: This bulletin is emailed every Saturday. Contact Parish Office to be added to our circulation.

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: Wendy, Susan, David. Remember before God the recently departed: Keith Hall, Keith McCulley, David Ford, Cordelia Nickerson. Pray for those ill with Coronavirus, for our local hospitals and healthcare workers. Pray for our local hospital chaplains. Pray for Foodbank & Pathway, working to support those in need.

COLLECT

Almighty Father,
who in your great mercy gladdened the
disciples with the sight of the risen Lord:
give us such knowledge of his presence
with us,
that we may be strengthened and
sustained by his risen life
and serve you continually in righteousness
and truth;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

FIRST READING

(Alternative readings)

The reading from Acts must be used as either the first or second reading.

Acts 2:14a. 36-41

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

On the day of Pentecost, Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed the crowd, "Let the entire house of Israel know with certainty that God has made him both Lord and Messiah, this Jesus whom you crucified." Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and to the other apostles, "Brothers, what should we do?" Peter said to them, "Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ so that your sins may be forgiven; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. For the promise is for you, for your children, and for all who are far away, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to him." And he testified with many other arguments and exhorted them, saying, "Save yourselves from this corrupt generation." So those who welcomed his message were baptized, and that day about three thousand persons were added.

Or **Zephaniah 3:14-end**

PSALM Psalm 116:1-3. 10-end (or 116:1-7)

R *Gracious is the Lord and righteous.*

I love the Lord,
for he has heard the voice of my
supplication;
because he inclined his ear to me
on the day I called to him.
The snares of death encompassed me;
the pains of hell took hold of me;
by grief and sorrow was I held. **R**

Then I called upon the name of the Lord:
"O Lord, I beg you, deliver my soul."
How shall I repay the Lord
for all the benefits he has given to me? **R**

I will lift up the cup of salvation
and call upon the name of the Lord.
I will fulfil my vows to the Lord
in the presence of all his people.
Precious in the sight of the Lord
is the death of his faithful servants. **R**

O Lord, I am your servant,
your servant, the child of your handmaid;
you have freed me from my bonds.
I will offer to you a sacrifice of thanksgiving
and call upon the name of the Lord. **R**

I will fulfil my vows to the Lord
in the presence of all his people,
In the courts of the house of the Lord,
in the midst of you, O Jerusalem.
Alleluia. **R**

SECOND READING

(Alternative readings)

Either 1 Peter 1:17-23

A reading from the first letter of Peter.

If you invoke as Father the one who judges all people impartially according to their deeds, live in reverent fear during the time of your exile. You know that you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your ancestors, not with perishable things like silver or gold, but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without defect or blemish. He was destined before the foundation of the world, but was revealed at the end of the ages for your sake. Through him you have come to trust in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your faith and hope are set on God. Now that you have purified your souls by your obedience to the truth so that you have genuine mutual love, love one another deeply from the heart. You have been born anew, not of perishable but of imperishable seed, through the living and enduring word of God.

Or **Acts 2:14a. 36-41** (as above)

GOSPEL Luke 24:13-35

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

On that same day, two of the disciples were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, and talking with each other about all these things that had happened. While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them, but their eyes were kept from recognizing him. And he said to them, "What are you discussing with each other while you walk along?" They stood still, looking sad. Then one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answered him, "Are you the only stranger

in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have taken place there in these days?" Jesus asked them, "What things?" They replied, "The things about Jesus of Nazareth, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, and how our chief priests and leaders handed him over to be condemned to death and crucified him. But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things took place. Moreover, some women of our group astounded us. They were at the tomb early this morning, and when they did not find his body there, they came back and told us that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who said that he was alive. Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said; but they did not see Jesus." Then he said to them, "Oh, how foolish you are, and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared! Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?" Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures. As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on. But they urged him strongly, saying, "Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over." So he went in to stay with them. When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized Jesus; and he vanished from their sight. They said to each other, "Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?" That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem; and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together. They were saying, "The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!" Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

POST COMMUNION

Living God,
your Son made himself known to his
disciples
in the breaking of bread:
open the eyes of our faith,
that we may see him in all his redeeming
work;
who is alive and reigns, now and for ever.



Gra-cious is the Lord and righ - teous.