

**THE PARISH OF GREAT YARMOUTH**  
**GREAT YARMOUTH MINSTER, ST PAUL'S, ST MARY'S**  
**SUNDAY 10<sup>th</sup> January 2021          Baptism of Christ**

Services as follows: Facebook at 10am and 11am in the Minster.

**Parish Office:**  
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### Baptism of Christ

Today we celebrate another Feast, the Baptism of Christ, and we hear that revelation of God, in all God's fullness. The loving Parent, the beloved Child, the descending Spirit. Malcolm Guite, a wonderful poet, encapsulates that moment beautifully in this sonnet:

Beginning here we glimpse the Three-in-one;  
The river runs, the clouds are torn apart,  
The Father speaks, the Spirit and the Son  
Reveal to us the single loving heart  
That beats behind the being of all things  
And calls and keeps and kindles us to light.  
The dove descends, the spirit soars and sings  
'You are beloved, you are my delight!'

In that quick light and life, as water spills  
And streams around the Man like quickening rain,  
The voice that made the universe reveals  
The God in Man who makes it new again.  
He calls us too, to step into that river  
To die and rise and live and love forever.



It would be good for us all to take time this week to think about how we have answered that call in our life as baptised Christians. How we continue to seek to die to the things which distance us from God, and come alive to the things which help God's living love to flourish in ourselves and the world. It might feel hard to find them in these times of disease, hardship, political unrest, and isolation, but the seeds are there, and the waters of our Baptism can help them grow and bloom.

*Mother Helen Lynch (she/her)*

### NOTICES

**Minster Open** daily from 10am-12noon for private prayer. Please follow distancing guidelines. There will be a Eucharist service every Sunday at 11am and the online service will still be at 10am. If you wish to volunteer to help keep the Minster open, contact the Parish Office.

**Midweek Eucharists** cancelled for January while this region is in Tier 4. We'll review this during the month.

**Annual Report 2020** – although groups only met for a short period of time last year, if any leaders wish to submit a brief report to be included in the Annual Report, please email to Tracy in the Parish office.

**Pathway Volunteers** – if anyone is interested in volunteering at Pathway, please contact Jennifer King:07715 959830. Pathway opens Mon, Wed & Fri serving a lunch. Any amount of time you can offer may help.

**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](https://www.facebook.com/GtYarMinster) . You don't have to be signed up to Facebook to view these.

**Regular Giving** 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.

**Parish Magazine:** The January magazine is out now, if you have any articles for the magazine please contact Pat Stringer, email: [pat.stringer1@sky.com](mailto:pat.stringer1@sky.com)

**PARISH PRAYER LIST** If anyone wants someone prayed for please ask. 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, David, Susan, Wally, David, Pam, Susan. Remember before God the recently departed Eileen Reed. Pray for Fr Simon as he is commissioned as Rural Dean and Revd Steven Sivyer as Assistant Rural Dean. Pray for St Nicholas Priory School: head teacher Maria Grimmer.

**COLLECT**

Eternal Father,  
 who at the baptism of Jesus  
 revealed him to be your Son,  
 anointing him with the Holy Spirit:  
 grant to us, who are born again by  
 water and the Spirit,  
 that we may be faithful to our calling  
 as your adopted children;  
 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 Genesis 1:1-5**

*A reading from the book of Genesis.*  
 In the beginning when God created  
 the heavens and the earth, the earth  
 was a formless void and darkness  
 covered the face of the deep, while  
 a wind from God swept over the face  
 of the waters. Then God said, "Let  
 there be light"; and there was light.  
 And God saw that the light was good;  
 and God separated the light from the  
 darkness. God called the light Day,  
 and the darkness he called Night.  
 And there was evening and there was  
 morning, the first day.

**PSALM Psalm 29**

**R** *The Lord shall give his people  
 the blessing of peace.*



Ascribe to the Lord, you powers of  
 heaven,  
 ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.  
 Ascribe to the Lord the honour due to  
 his name;  
 worship the Lord in the beauty of  
 holiness.  
 The voice of the Lord is upon the waters;  
 the God of glory thunders;  
 the Lord is upon the mighty waters. **R**

The voice of the Lord is mighty in  
 operation;

the voice of the Lord is a glorious voice.  
 The voice of the Lord breaks the  
 cedar trees;  
 the Lord breaks the cedars of  
 Lebanon;  
 He makes Lebanon skip like a calf  
 and Sirion like a young wild ox. **R**

The voice of the Lord splits the flash  
 of lightning;  
 the voice of the Lord shakes the  
 wilderness;  
 the Lord shakes the wilderness of  
 Kadesh.  
 The voice of the Lord makes the oak  
 trees writhe  
 and strips the forests bare;  
 in his temple all cry, "Glory!" **R**

The Lord sits enthroned above the  
 water flood;  
 the Lord sits enthroned as king for  
 evermore.  
 The Lord shall give strength to his  
 people;  
 the Lord shall give his people the  
 blessing of peace. **R**

**SECOND READING Acts 19:1-7**

*A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.*

While Apollos was in Corinth, Paul  
 passed through the inland regions  
 and came to Ephesus, where he found  
 some disciples. He said to them, "Did  
 you receive the Holy Spirit when you  
 became believers?" They replied, "No,  
 we have not even heard that there  
 is a Holy Spirit." Then he said, "Into  
 what then were you baptized?" They  
 answered, "Into John's baptism." Paul  
 said, "John baptized with the baptism  
 of repentance, telling the people to  
 believe in the one who was to come  
 after him, that is, in Jesus." On hearing  
 this, they were baptized in the name of  
 the Lord Jesus. When Paul had laid his

hands on them, the Holy Spirit came  
 upon them, and they spoke in tongues  
 and prophesied – altogether there  
 were about twelve of them.

**GOSPEL Mark 1:4-11**

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

John the baptizer appeared in the  
 wilderness, proclaiming a baptism  
 of repentance for the forgiveness  
 of sins. And people from the whole  
 Judean countryside and all the people  
 of Jerusalem were going out to him,  
 and were baptized by him in the river  
 Jordan, confessing their sins. Now  
 John was clothed with camel's hair,  
 with a leather belt around his waist,  
 and he ate locusts and wild honey. He  
 proclaimed, "The one who is more  
 powerful than I is coming after me;  
 I am not worthy to stoop down and  
 untie the thong of his sandals. I have  
 baptized you with water; but he will  
 baptize you with the Holy Spirit." In  
 those days Jesus came from Nazareth  
 of Galilee and was baptized by John  
 in the Jordan. And just as he was  
 coming up out of the water, he saw  
 the heavens torn apart and the Spirit  
 descending like a dove on him. And a  
 voice came from heaven, "You are my  
 Son, the Beloved; with you I am well  
 pleased."

**POST COMMUNION**

Lord of all time and eternity,  
 you opened the heavens  
 and revealed yourself as Father  
 in the baptism of Jesus your beloved  
 Son:  
 by the power of your Spirit  
 complete the heavenly work of our  
 rebirth  
 through the waters of the new creation;  
 through Jesus Christ our Lord.

