

**THE PARISH OF GREAT YARMOUTH**  
**GREAT YARMOUTH MINSTER, ST PAUL'S, ST MARY'S**  
**SUNDAY 25<sup>th</sup> October 2020 Bible Sunday**

Sunday Services as follows: Facebook at 10am and 11am in the Minster.  
Midweek Eucharist: Wednesday 10.15 (*see notices for venue*)

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**Bible Sunday**

One of the phrases in the collect for today will inevitably ring a bell for some people. It's Bible Sunday and we are reminded that all scriptures are for our learning and we are invited to "hear them, to read, mark, learn and inwardly digest them". It's an old prayer first introduced by Archbishop Thomas Cranmer in the Book of Common Prayer where it is the one appointed for the Second Sunday in Advent. Then at some point, the liturgical commission of the Church of England invented Bible Sunday so we get it towards the end of the church year. Next Sunday will be All Saints Day and then we are counting down the Sundays before Advent.

It seems a good thing to consider the whole weight of scriptures: To ponder the glorious whole and think about what they are saying to us, and how we are to use and view them. It is often a day when we are reminded of those who toil for the understanding of scriptures. The work of Bible translation goes on and we should be thankful for those who have translated and continue to do so.

Cranmer intended that prayer to lay down a challenge for us all. Bible Sunday prompts the question: Do we ever get the Bible off the shelf or is it still there collecting dust? Have we blown off the dust and read it some more? Have we just read them or have we really chewed them over, thought about it and prayerfully pondered how the digested matter can nourish us? Do we allow the scriptures to shape us, form us and animate every part of our lives?

Fr Simon

**NOTICES**

**Midweek Eucharist:** Weds 28<sup>th</sup> 10.15am at St. Mary's. 4<sup>th</sup> November Eucharist at St. Paul's.

The inaugural meeting of the **FILM CLUB**, will take place next Wednesday (28th Oct), 7pm on Zoom with Mother Helen. It's not too late to join in, we'll be discussing the film [Signs](#). I have copies on DVD for anyone to borrow, I re-watched it yesterday and there is plenty to talk about! Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81245496516?pwd=d1FzU3Y3b0J6TnJtN2pPc2pHQlJTZz09>

Meeting ID: 812 4549 6516 Passcode: Minster or Join by phone - call 0203 901 7895 When prompted enter Meeting ID: 812 4549 6516 Passcode: 566513

**All Souls Day** is when we remember our departed loved ones. This year, the Minster will be open on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> November from 3.00-7pm for people to come in and light a candle of remembrance: clergy will be present at all times to pray with people. There will be a short online Commemoration Service that evening at 7.30pm.

**Spare Crosses** are needed for Priory School who are having year group assemblies at present. They need to be crosses which can stand up on a table. Any offers to Parish Office. Also: 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](mailto:kjarmey3mr9@nsix.org.uk) or phone 01493 843552.

**Calling all crafters** - we need poppies for a Remembrance project, if you could knit/crochet/sew a poppy or two, or more - red and white - we'd be delighted to receive them. They are needed by 31st October, please drop them in the box in the Minster, or take them to Helen (18 Royal Ave).

**Film Club** Film club. The first film we will watch will be 'Signs', if anyone would like to borrow a DVD to watch it, and either have a sheet of questions to think about, or join in a discussion early next month, please get in touch with me. If interested email or ring Helen [lynch.helen@outlook.com](mailto:lynch.helen@outlook.com) 07902 447821

**Lunchtime Recital** The next Recital will be Wednesday 28 October at 12.30 - David Ballard - Freelance organist and conductor (formerly North Walsham Parish Church)

**Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM)** will be held in the Minster at 12.15pm today. This will be a brief APCM but church rulings for 2020 mean it must happen before the end of October.

**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.

**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.

**Parish Magazine:** The November 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, 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, Ronnie, Leah, David, Fleur. Remember before God the recently departed: Roger Coote, Alan Varney. Pray for those who work to keep our community safe and limit the spread of the virus.

**COLLECT**

Blessed Lord,  
 who caused all holy Scriptures  
 to be written for our learning:  
 help us so to hear them,  
 to read, mark, learn and inwardly  
 digest them  
 that, through patience, and the  
 comfort of your holy word,  
 we may embrace and for ever hold  
 fast the hope of everlasting life,  
 which you have given us in our  
 Saviour Jesus Christ,  
 who is alive and reigns with you,  
 in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
 one God, now and for ever.

**FIRST READING**

**Nehemiah 8:1-4a [5-6] 8-12**  
*A reading from the book of Nehemiah.*

All the people gathered together into the square before the Water Gate. They told the scribe Ezra to bring the book of the law of Moses, which the LORD had given to Israel. Accordingly, the priest Ezra brought the law before the assembly, both men and women and all who could hear with understanding. This was on the first day of the seventh month. He read from it facing the square before the Water Gate from early morning until midday, in the presence of the men and the women and those who could understand; and the ears of all the people were attentive to the book of the law. The scribe Ezra stood on a wooden platform that had been made for the purpose; [And Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people, for he was standing above all the people; and when he opened it, all the people stood up. Then Ezra blessed the LORD, the great God, and all the people answered, "Amen, Amen," lifting up their hands. Then they bowed their heads and worshipped the LORD with their faces to the ground.] So they read from the book, from the law of God, with interpretation. They gave the sense, so that the people understood the reading. And Nehemiah, who was the governor, and Ezra the priest and scribe, and the Levites who taught the people said to all the people, "This day is holy to the LORD your

God; do not mourn or weep." For all the people wept when they heard the words of the law. Then he said to them, "Go your way, eat the fat and drink sweet wine and send portions of them to those for whom nothing is prepared, for this day is holy to our LORD; and do not be grieved, for the joy of the LORD is your strength." So the Levites stilled all the people, saying, "Be quiet, for this day is holy; do not be grieved." And all the people went their way to eat and drink and to send portions and to make great rejoicing, because they had understood the words that were declared to them.

**PSALM Psalm 119:9-16**

**R** Teach me, O Lord, the way of your statutes.

How shall young people cleanse their way to keep themselves according to your word?

With my whole heart have I sought you;  
 O let me not go astray from your commandments. **R**

Your words have I hidden within my heart,  
 that I should not sin against you.  
 Blessed are you, O Lord;  
 O teach me your statutes. **R**

With my lips have I been telling of all the judgements of your mouth.  
 I have taken greater delight in the way of your testimonies than in all manner of riches. **R**

I will meditate on your commandments and contemplate your ways.  
 My delight shall be in your statutes and I will not forget your word. **R**

**SECOND READING**

**Colossians 3:12-17**  
*A reading from the letter of Paul to the Colossians.*

As God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. Above all, clothe yourselves

with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God. And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

**GOSPEL Matthew 24:30-35**

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

Jesus said to his disciples: "The sign of the Son of Man will appear in heaven, and then all the tribes of the earth will mourn, and they will see 'the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven' with power and great glory. And he will send out his angels with a loud trumpet call, and they will gather his elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other. 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 all these things, 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."

**POST COMMUNION**

God of all grace,  
 your Son Jesus Christ fed the hungry with the bread of his life  
 and the word of his kingdom:  
 renew your people with your heavenly grace,  
 and in all our weakness sustain us by your true and living bread;  
 who is alive and reigns, now and for ever.

