

THE PARISH OF GREAT YARMOUTH

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

SUNDAY 25th April 2021 4th Sunday of Easter

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

Evening Prayer on Facebook / YouTube Thursday at 7pm.

Parish Office:

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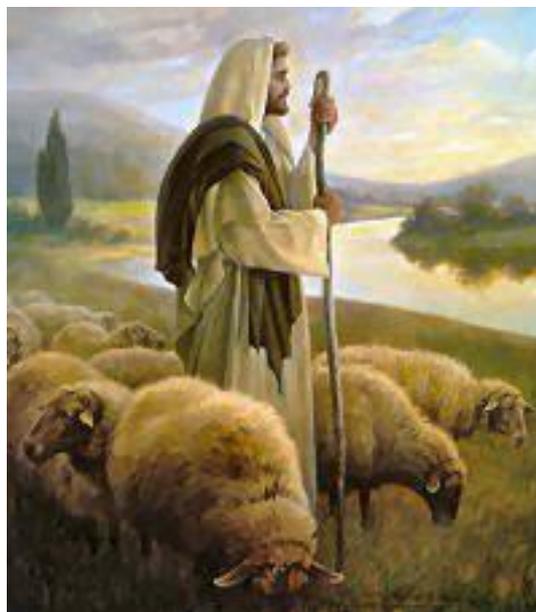
Reading the passages for this week's readings a common theme of Sheep comes to mind. Many years ago, I helped to set up a video monitoring system for monitoring how sheep behave in pens made with different materials! This was a PhD project and the idea was to film the sheep and observe their behaviour to determine if the material of the pens affected the quality of the wool.

Unlike the sheep in the PhD project Jesus's sheep know exactly who the Shepherd is and what is expected of them and Jesus gives us reassurance that we are loved no matter who we are, whatever we have done or whatever state we are in.

In the passage from John Jesus tells his disciples what his mission is. To find all his flock and to care for them even if it means laying down his life for them.

Whilst in Jordan I saw a sheep fold in the hills near Gadara the sheep are kept in at night by the shepherd lying across the entrance to guard the sheep and it struck me then and does to this day that Jesus lay in the tomb in the same position.

Jesus calls us all to one-fold, one community and if we are one community then we should work together to enable God's mission and plan to be carried out. So, if the call goes out for volunteers or helpers then think about it. After all we are one in Christ working for a common goal.



Fr Frank

NOTICES

Minster Opening times from this week the Minster will be open Monday – Sunday (excluding Wednesday), from 10am-12noon for private prayer. Please follow distancing guidelines.

Sunday Eucharist at 11am in the Minster, along with an online service at 10am. Wednesday Eucharist this week is 10.15am at St. Mary's. If you wish to volunteer to help keep the Minster open, please contact the Parish Office.

Confirmation Service has been arranged for Sunday 9th May. If you are considering being confirmed, please speak to a member of the clergy.

Ascension Day Sung Eucharist at St Mary's Church, 7.30pm on Thursday 13th May everyone is very welcome.

Pentecost there will be evensong in the Minster, 6.30pm on Pentecost, Sunday 23rd May.

Pathway Volunteers – if anyone is interested in volunteering at Pathway, please contact Jennifer King:07723 120850. 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: <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 April magazine is out now, if you have any articles for the magazine please contact Pat Stringer, email: pat.stringer1@sky.com

Funeral of the late Bernice Smith will be held in the Minster this Tuesday, 27th April 2021 at 12.45am.

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: Brenda, David, Wally, Claire, Nancy, Emma, Peter, John. Remember before God the recently departed Bernice Smith, David Knowles. Pray for St Nicholas Priory School: head teacher Maria Grimmer. Pray for all staff at James Paget Hospital and all those who work to care for others during the pandemic.

COLLECT

Almighty God,
whose Son Jesus Christ is the
resurrection and the life:
raise us, who trust in him,
from the death of sin to the life of
righteousness,
that we may seek those things which
are above,
where he 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 read as either the First or Second Reading.

Either Acts 4:5-12

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

The Jewish rulers, elders, and scribes assembled in Jerusalem, with Annas the high priest, Caiaphas, John, and Alexander, and all who were of the high-priestly family. When they had made the prisoners stand in their midst, they inquired, "By what power or by what name did you do this?" Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, "Rulers of the people and elders, if we are questioned today because of a good deed done to someone who was sick and are asked how this man has been healed, let it be known to all of you, and to all the people of Israel, that this man is standing before you in good health by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead. This Jesus is 'the stone that was rejected by you, the builders; it has become the cornerstone.' There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among mortals by which we must be saved."

**Or Genesis 7:1-5. 11-18;
8:6-18; 9:8-13**

PSALM Psalm 23

R *I will dwell in your house for ever.*

The Lord is my shepherd;
therefore can I lack nothing.
He makes me lie down in green
pastures
and leads me beside still waters. **R**

He shall refresh my soul
and guide me in the paths of
righteousness for his name's sake.
Though I walk through the valley of
the shadow of death,
I will fear no evil;
for you are with me;
your rod and your staff, they
comfort me. **R**

You spread a table before me
in the presence of those who
trouble me;
you have anointed my head with oil
and my cup shall be full.
Surely goodness and loving mercy
shall follow me all the days of my
life,
and I will dwell in the house of the
Lord for ever. **R**

SECOND READING (Alternative readings)

Either 1 John 3:16-end

A reading from the first letter of John.

We know love by this, that the Son of God laid down his life for us – and we ought to lay down our lives for one another. How does God's love abide in anyone who has the world's goods and sees a brother or sister in need and yet refuses help? Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action. And by this we will know that we are from the truth and will reassure our hearts before him whenever our hearts condemn us; for God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything. Beloved, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have boldness before God; and we receive from him whatever we ask, because we obey his commandments and do

what pleases God. And this is his commandment, that we should believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us. All who obey his commandments abide in him, and he abides in them. And by this we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit that he has given us.

Or Acts 4:5-12

GOSPEL John 10:11-18

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

Jesus said to the Pharisees: "I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away – and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it up again. I have received this command from my Father."

POST COMMUNION

Merciful Father,
you gave your Son Jesus Christ to
be the good shepherd,
and in his love for us to lay down his
life and rise again:
keep us always under his protection,
and give us grace to follow in his
steps;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

