

**THE PARISH OF GREAT YARMOUTH****GREAT YARMOUTH MINSTER, ST PAUL'S, ST MARY'S****SUNDAY 29<sup>th</sup> August 2021 Thirteenth Sunday after Trinity**

Services Today:

St. Mary's at 10.30am, The Minster at 11am, this service will belive streamed to Facebook, Baptism at 12.30pm and Evening Prayer at 6.30pm.**Parish Office:**

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**Reflection**

In today's Gospel reading, we see an exchange of views between Jesus and the religious elders - the elders are pillars of the local community, respected citizens who have achieved their status largely through appearing very 'well-to-do' and avoiding censure or criticism. Now Jesus and his disciples come along, a load of grubby wanderers - who seem to talk about God as though he were near to everyone - nearer even to the downhearted outcast than to the respectable community leaders... and it really annoys the elders. So they criticise Jesus and his followers - not for something morally wrong, but for not following custom... and they feel they are in a strong position, because they are the authorities on tradition and custom - but Jesus calls them out: God sees the heart, and looks for truth deep within - God is not impressed by people following traditions or customs - especially when others try to enforce them as though they were divine law, 'teaching human precepts as doctrine'. The criticism of the elders melts away as Jesus effectively asks them whether their social niceties and traditions are not simply a mask, a way of hiding from the real things of God... from really caring for others and serving God faithfully. At times throughout history, religious 'tradition' - social customs - have been used to mask the truth of God's love and mercy, and his expectation of human mercy toward one another - from keeping peasants in their place, and slaves obedient to slaveowners, to insisting people stay in abusive marriages or pre-judging people according their physical appearance... human precepts disguised as divine laws. In every age, Jesus sets us the challenge of bringing every custom and habit into the light of God's immeasurable love and truth and asking - is this divinely planned or just human custom?

Rev'd Jemma Sander-Heys

**This Week's Diary**

Morning Prayer is said daily in the Minster at 9am: All welcome.

Minster open daily 10am - noon (except Wed)

Day	Time	Event	
<b>Mon 30<sup>th</sup></b>	09:00	Footprints - Worship & Activity for babies, toddlers & their carers	Online
<b>Tues 31<sup>st</sup></b>			
<b>Wed 1<sup>st</sup> Sept</b>	10:15 12:30	Eucharist Recital - Barry Carben and the Lavanter Wind Quintet	St. Mary's Minster
<b>Thurs 2<sup>nd</sup></b>	19:00	Healing Prayer	Online
<b>Fri 3<sup>rd</sup></b>			
<b>Sat 4<sup>th</sup></b>	10:00	Vestry Hour	Minster
<b>Sun 5<sup>th</sup></b>	10:30 11:00 12:30	<b>Fourteenth Sunday after Trinity</b> Eucharist Eucharist Baptism	St. Paul's Minster Minster

**NOTICES****Sponsored Bike Ride & Walk** Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> September 2021. Please contact the office for a sponsor form.**Battle of Britain Service** Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> September 2021, at 6.30pm.**Volunteering at the Minster** we are hoping to recruit some more volunteers to ensure we can keep the Minster open every day. There are also many other volunteering options, so if you are interested, or if you have family and/or friends who would be interested in volunteering, please do get in touch with Tracy in the Parish office.**Vestry Hour** is now open again, Saturday mornings 10am-11am by appointment. If you or anyone you know wishes to book a baptism or wedding, please call the office on 01493 858410.**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 September 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: Brenda, Wally, Nancy, Susan, Barry, Christian, Martyn, Zoe. Pray for our Bishops: Graham, Jane & Alan. Pray for Isla Sayce-Hall, Jencer Jenkins and Kadie O'Connell to be baptised at the Minster today. Pray for Matthew & Louisa Tozeland who renewed their vows on Wednesday and Lionel & Lynn White who are renewing their vows next Saturday.

## COLLECT

Almighty God,  
who called your Church to bear witness  
that you were in Christ reconciling the  
world to yourself:  
help us to proclaim the good news of  
your love,  
that all who hear it may be drawn to  
you;  
through him who was lifted up on the  
cross,  
and reigns with you in the unity of the  
Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

## FIRST READING

**Deuteronomy 4:1-2. 6-9**

*A reading from the book of Deuteronomy.*

Moses spoke to the people; he said:  
So now, Israel, give heed to the statutes  
and ordinances that I am teaching  
you to observe, so that you may live  
to enter and occupy the land that the  
LORD, the God of your ancestors,  
is giving you. You must neither add  
anything to what I command you nor  
take away anything from it, but keep  
the commandments of the LORD your  
God with which I am charging you. You  
must observe them diligently, for this  
will show your wisdom and discernment  
to the peoples, who, when they hear  
all these statutes, will say, "Surely this  
great nation is a wise and discerning  
people!" For what other great nation  
has a god so near to it as the LORD our  
God is whenever we call to him? And  
what other great nation has statutes  
and ordinances as just as this entire law  
that I am setting before you today? But  
take care and watch yourselves closely,  
so as neither to forget the things that  
your eyes have seen nor to let them slip  
from your mind all the days of your life;  
make them known to your children and  
your children's children.

## PSALM Psalm 15

**R** *Through the greatness of your  
mercy, I will come into your house.*

Lord, who may dwell in your  
tabernacle?  
Who may rest upon your holy hill?



Whoever leads an uncorrupt life  
and does the thing that is right; **R**

Who speaks the truth from the heart  
and bears no deceit on the tongue;  
Who does no evil to a friend  
and pours no scorn on a neighbour; **R**

In whose sight the wicked are not  
esteemed,  
but who honours those who fear the  
Lord.

Whoever has sworn to a neighbour  
and never goes back on that word; **R**

Who does not lend money in hope of  
gain,  
nor takes a bribe against the innocent;  
Whoever does these things  
shall never fall. **R**

## SECOND READING James 1:17-end

*A reading from the letter of James.*

Every generous act of giving, with every  
perfect gift, is from above, coming  
down from the Father of lights, with  
whom there is no variation or shadow  
due to change. In fulfilment of his own  
purpose he gave us birth by the word  
of truth, so that we would become a  
kind of first fruits of his creatures. You  
must understand this, my beloved: let  
everyone be quick to listen, slow to  
speak, slow to anger; for your anger  
does not produce God's righteousness.  
Therefore rid yourselves of all sordidness  
and rank growth of wickedness, and  
welcome with meekness the implanted  
word that has the power to save your  
souls. But be doers of the word, and not  
merely hearers who deceive themselves.  
For if any are hearers of the word and  
not doers, they are like those who look  
at themselves in a mirror; for they look  
at themselves and, on going away,  
immediately forget what they were like.  
But those who look into the perfect law,  
the law of liberty, and persevere, being  
not hearers who forget but doers who  
act – they will be blessed in their doing.  
If any think they are religious, and do  
not bridle their tongues but deceive  
their hearts, their religion is worthless.  
Religion that is pure and undefiled  
before God, the Father, is this: to care  
for orphans and widows in their distress,

and to keep oneself unstained by the  
world.

## GOSPEL Mark 7:1-8. 14-15. 21-23

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

When the Pharisees and some of the  
scribes who had come from Jerusalem  
gathered around Jesus, they noticed  
that some of his disciples were eating  
with defiled hands, that is, without  
washing them. (For the Pharisees, and  
all the Jews, do not eat unless they  
thoroughly wash their hands, thus  
observing the tradition of the elders;  
and they do not eat anything from the  
market unless they wash it; and there  
are also many other traditions that they  
observe, the washing of cups, pots,  
and bronze kettles.) So the Pharisees  
and the scribes asked him, "Why do  
your disciples not live according to  
the tradition of the elders, but eat  
with defiled hands?" Jesus said to  
them, "Isaiah prophesied rightly about  
you hypocrites, as it is written, 'This  
people honours me with their lips, but  
their hearts are far from me; in vain  
do they worship me, teaching human  
precepts as doctrines.' You abandon  
the commandment of God and hold to  
human tradition." Then he called the  
crowd again and said to them, "Listen  
to me, all of you, and understand:  
there is nothing outside a person that  
by going in can defile, but the things  
that come out are what defile. For it is  
from within, from the human heart, that  
evil intentions come: fornication, theft,  
murder, adultery, avarice, wickedness,  
deceit, licentiousness, envy, slander,  
pride, folly. All these evil things come  
from within, and they defile a person."

## POST COMMUNION

God our creator,  
you feed your children with the true  
manna,  
the living bread from heaven:  
let this holy food sustain us through  
our earthly pilgrimage  
until we come to that place where  
hunger and thirst are no more;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.