



**St Andrew's Parish Church Guernsey**  
**Sunday, 18 September 2022 – Trinity 14**  
**Readings: 1 Timothy 2: 1-7 & St Luke 16: 1-13**  
**Given by Rev Juliette E C Robilliard**

**The dishonest servant**

The parable of the dishonest servant, at first glance, may seem the strangest parable Jesus ever told. I doubt, however, Jesus was conveying that the rich man was stating "Bravo! Old chap, carry on!" More likely, the words were spoken with scathing sarcasm. "Your dishonesty in squandering my money, is absolute! Just as well, for once you have used what remains in your hands, all you will have left is the dishonest merchants who did not pay their full dues. See if they will support you from now into eternity!" For, 'Whoever is faithful in little, is faithful in much. Whoever is dishonest in little, is dishonest in much.'

**Her late Majesty Queen Elizabeth 11: the ultimate faithful servant**

How far removed the morals of the dishonest servant in the parable were from the example of our late Queen, who was faithful in all that she undertook throughout her reign. This is evident from the worldwide reaction on learning of her death. Whether presidents or people from every walk of life they have paid their respects. Condolence books, like the one at the back of the church are filling up or, online or, by people queuing for days, to file past her catafalque and honour the commitment she gave to the nation and Commonwealth.

**A new reign: a new servant**

Now, the late Queen's mantle has fallen on the shoulders of her beloved son, King Charles. All last week people were willing to line the streets to show their allegiance to him. He, however, has stated like his mother before him that he will achieve nothing without his faith in God to support him. If we are to assist him in that support then how appropriate the reading from Paul's letter to Timothy is, when Paul says: "First of all, then, I urge that, supplications, prayers, intercessions and thanksgivings should be made for everyone, for Kings and all who are in high positions, so that all may lead a quiet and peaceable life, in godliness and dignity."

**Our part in serving**

We do indeed pray that King Charles will lead a quiet and peaceable life, in godliness and dignity: for how he reigns will affect us all. So, what in simple terms can we do that will provide undoubted support for him and everyone? In one little phrase, the Collect asks of God, to, 'Give us pure hearts and steadfast wills to worship you in spirit and in truth.' If we commit our hearts and minds to apply that little phrase, it will enable us to be faithful in much. Amen.