

## Thought for the Day – Friday 18<sup>th</sup> June 2021

By Revd John Marshall

### Jesus and his family

Mark writes of an occasion when Jesus' family came to see him.

He is frantically busy – and the disciples have no time to eat. The family come to take charge of him and they said “He is out of his mind”.

He then has a dispute with the teachers of the law, which gets very serious. His family arrived as the discussion was coming to an end. The crowd draws his attention to their arrival; and it seems to us his response is very strange.

He asks “Who are my mother and my brothers?” He looks around at the crowd and says “Here are my mother and my brother! Whoever does God's will is my brother and sister and mother”. Mark 3. 20-end

Jesus seems to treat his family harshly, but he had set out on a journey which will ultimately lead to the cross.

He is challenging authorities and traditions. He has to go on not home.

We know that eventually his family join him on the journey – the way. We know his mother was at the cross, and no doubt taught his disciples. His brother James was a leader of the early church.

But we too are invited to be part of the family of Jesus, and join him on the way.