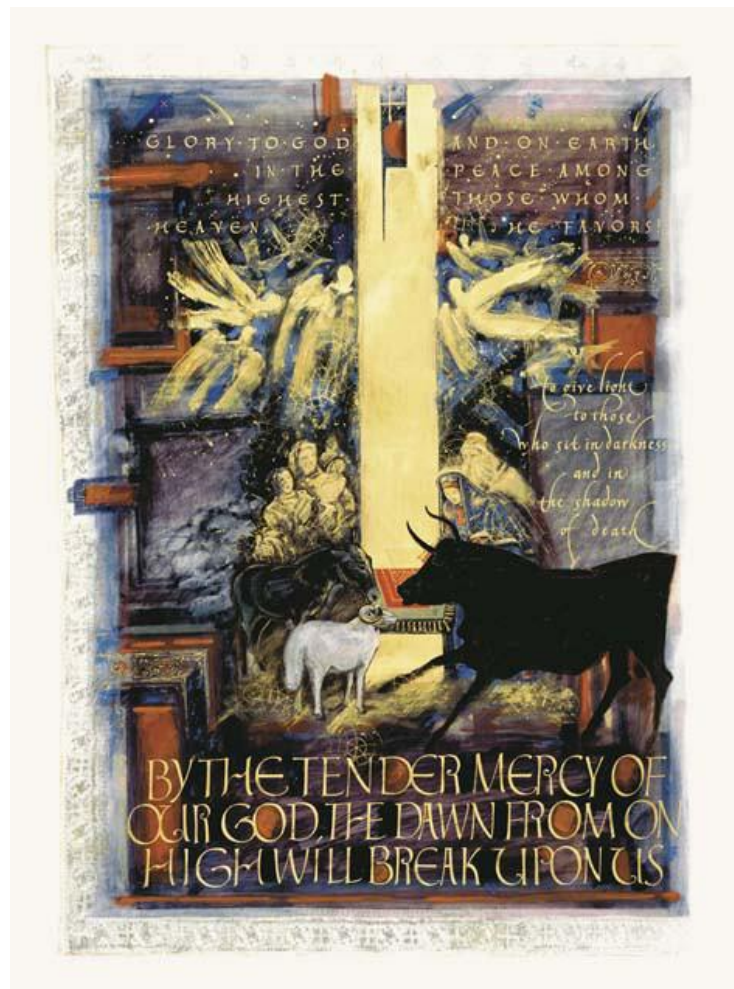




Team Parish of Christ the King St Aidan's, Brunton Park

Sunday 28th November 2021 First Sunday of Advent

This Sunday we celebrate the beginning of Advent. It marks the beginning of a new church year. It starts off the countdown to Christmas. And traditionally it asks us to focus the last things: the second coming of Christ, death, judgement, heaven and hell. It can make for a slightly downbeat approach to Christmas, but perhaps there's something to the way Advent looks for hope. The world can often feel like it's falling apart at the hinges, but at Advent we're asked to hold on to hope. We look back, anticipating the celebration of God's coming in Christ at Christmas, the word made flesh among us. We also look forward, anticipating the final coming of Christ when he will, draw all things to himself and restore a broken creation. But Advent pins us in the here and now between those moments, and tells us to hold on to hope. To hold on to the hope that Christ, in the here and now, continues to come among us. That the Advent of Christ not only the past glory of his incarnation, or the future hope of his redeeming return, but the present reality that he is here with us today.



First Reading: Jeremiah 33.14-16

The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will fulfil the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David; and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. And this is the name by which it will be called: 'The LORD is our righteousness.'

Gospel Reading: Luke 21.25-36

Jesus said to his disciples: 'There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see "the Son of Man coming in a cloud" with power and great glory. Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.'

Then he told them a parable: 'Look at the fig tree and all the trees; as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.'

Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day catch you unexpectedly, like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man.'

THE WEEK AHEAD

- Tues** 4pm, Zoom: **Advent series: Psalms in a Pandemic**
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89702028441?pwd=dXBKcyt4eFNGMDNyYXJK1hvs2tUZz09> Meeting ID: 897 0202 8441 Passcode: 796665
- Wed** 10.00am, Church: **BCP Midweek Eucharist.**
- Wed** 12pm: **Lunch Group at Rugby Club**
- Wed** 7.30pm: St Columba's: **Advent series: Psalms in a Pandemic**
- Thurs** 2.30pm: **Advent series: Psalms in a Pandemic at St Aidan's**
- Thurs** 7.30pm: **Gosforth & District Choir Christmas Concert (£6/£5 con)**
- Fri:** 5pm, Zoom: **Food for Thought**
<https://zoom.us/j/4943526982?pwd=T0tYcThsNytnR3dacWVhMFpJQi9OZz09> Meeting ID: 494 352 6982 Passcode: GJm1mc
- Fri:** 7.30pm: **Ravenswood Singers at St Columba's (suggested £5)**
- Sat:** 10am-12pm St Aidan's: **Saturday Café**

Sun 5th 8.00am, **Holy Communion : Advent 2**
9.30am, **Parish Eucharist : Advent 2**
Rev'd Gerard Rundell Presiding and Preaching
Readings from: Baruch 5.1-9 ; Malachi 3.1-4 ; Philippians 1.3-11 ;
Luke 3.1-6

DATES FOR THE DIARY

Tues 7th Dec, 4pm: **Advent series: Psalms in a Pandemic on Zoom**
Wed 8th Dec 7.30pm: **Advent series: Psalms in a Pandemic at St Columba's**
Wed 8th Dec 2pm: **Prayer and Praise at St Aidan's Church**
Thurs 9th Dec, 2.30pm: **Advent series: Psalms in a Pandemic at St Aidan's**
Sat 11th Dec, 10am-12pm, **Saturday Café in the Community Room**
Sunday 12th, 4pm: **Christingle at St Aidan's**
Monday 13th, 7.30pm: **Carols on the Green – bus stop on Melbury Estate**
Friday 17th, 6pm: **Carols in Wideopen**
Sunday 19th, 6pm: **Lessons and Carols at St Aidan's**
Monday 20th 6pm: **Angelic Carols around the Tree with the Ravenswood Singers at Great Park Community Centre**
Thursday 23rd, 3.30pm: **Church in Park Nativity:Great Park Community Centre**
Friday 24th, 4pm: **Crib Service at St Aidan's**
Friday 24th, 11.30pm: **Midnight Mass at St Aidan's**
Saturday 25th, 9.30: **Christmas Day Family Eucharist at St Aidan's**

NOTICES

SUNDAY SERVICE – today, on the First Sunday of Advent, we have a family friendly communion service with crafts in the community room for the children. The service will be broadcast live and can be viewed using this link <https://bit.ly/2021Advent1>

CHURCH OPENING – as of Monday 29th Nov, church will be open during the day, every day. Please come in at any time for some quiet time or prayer.

CHRISTMAS PRAYER AND PRAISE – will be held on Wednesday 8th December at 2pm. Everyone is welcome to the service and tea and mince pies will be served afterwards.

ADVENT SERIES - Psalms in a Pandemic: prayer and reflection for Covid and beyond. Please see above for dates and details of this series where will spend time praying and talking together, reflecting on the last 18 months. You can join us at any venue each week.

CADA - as part of a global movement of activism against domestic abuse and violence against women, CADA (Christians Against Domestic Abuse), in collaboration with Mothers Union are launching 16 days of prayer from 25th Nov-10th Dec. Join in prayer at: www.cadanortheast.org or Speak to Rosemary New or Sylvia Hickey for more details.

YOUTH GROUP – our Youth Group had a great time at their first session together on Friday. Please speak to Gerard if you'd like more information.

CHURCH CORONAVIRUS RESTRICTIONS – when attending a service, please wear a face mask, sanitise your hands on entering church, and maintain at least a one metre distance.

DONATIONS - to make a donation to St Aidan's, please use the following link: <https://givealittle.co/campaigns/8a599239-a9bd-4136-8b4b-1dcabb0a2c65>

For Our Prayers... We give thanks for our church family here at St Aidan's and pray for our Team Parish - for God's upholding in all that lies ahead.

We pray for God's world – in times of upheaval and conflict we pray for peace- for resolutions to tensions between nations and peoples, for all caught up in tragedy, disaster and despair.

In our St Aidan's cycle of prayer we pray for Christ the King Team Parish, PCC members and officers.

Within our church we pray for Moira and Kathryn, and all who enhance our services by their playing or singing. Within the wider community we pray for the West End Refugee Service.

We remember in our prayers Gladys Johnston, Sheila Lonie, Anne Havis, Margaret McMillan and all others who are unwell at home or in hospital.

We pray for those who have died in recent days, and we remember with thanksgiving and joy our loved ones who are now with Our Father in the heavenly kingdom – Bill Burn, Eric Ball, Lillian Futers, Thomas Gill, Mabel Wyatt

CONTACTS

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St Aidan's Church Brunton Park Newcastle

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