



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

Sunday 16th January 2022 Second Sunday of Epiphany

The Sunday we hear, as we always do during these weeks of Epiphany, of the first of Jesus' 'signs' in John's Gospel. John includes seven great miracles, signs of Jesus' glory, and this first sees him change water into wine at a wedding feast in Cana. It's a strange miracle, one that at first sight seems an odd place for Jesus to kick off his ministry. It's almost literally a party trick, God's miraculous power put to service in letting a wedding feast stay suitably lubricated. But perhaps there's more to it.

First, perhaps we might hear that Jesus doesn't reject our earthly pleasure. He doesn't spurn the company of friends, he doesn't avoid laughter and celebration. He doesn't sit out the dancing and singing. He won't say no to a drink. Perhaps this story gives us a reason to question the more censorious impulses of the church. Not that we don't recognise the potential for hurt in any good thing taken to excess. But we also recognise that God enters into the joy of a celebration and we can too.

But also, perhaps we see here a pointer to a deeper joy. Jesus is said to 'reveal his glory' in this sign. The final joy of heaven is pictured throughout Scriptures as a wedding feast, and here Jesus is at the heart of it. Jesus offers a foretaste of the heavenly banquet, where the best wine is saved for last. He calls us to enter into the joy of heaven that is deeper still than the pleasures of earth. Into the true joy of the heavenly wedding feast. So even now, we're invited to taste that deep and profound joy as we drink the wine Jesus offers us.



First Reading: Isaiah Isaiah 62.1-5

For Zion's sake I will not keep silent,
and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest,
until her vindication shines out like the dawn,
and her salvation like a burning torch.
The nations shall see your vindication,
and all the kings your glory;
and you shall be called by a new name
that the mouth of the LORD will give.
You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the LORD,
and a royal diadem in the hand of your God.
You shall no more be termed Forsaken,
and your land shall no more be termed Desolate;
but you shall be called My Delight Is in Her,
and your land Married;
for the LORD delights in you,
and your land shall be married.
For as a young man marries a young woman,
so shall your builder marry you,
and as the bridegroom rejoices over the bride,
so shall your God rejoice over you.

Gospel: John 2.1-11

On the third day there was a wedding in Cana of Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding. When the wine gave out, the mother of Jesus said to him, 'They have no wine.' And Jesus said to her, 'Woman, what concern is that to you and to me? My hour has not yet come.' His mother said to the servants, 'Do whatever he tells you.' Now standing there were six stone water-jars for the Jewish rites of purification, each holding twenty or thirty gallons. Jesus said to them, 'Fill the jars with water.' And they filled them up to the brim. He said to them, 'Now draw some out, and take it to the chief steward.' So they took it. When the steward tasted the water that had become wine, and did not know where it came from (though the servants who had drawn the water knew), the steward called the bridegroom and said to him, 'Everyone serves the good wine first, and then the inferior wine after the guests have become drunk. But you have kept the good wine until now.' Jesus did this, the first of his signs, in Cana of Galilee, and revealed his glory; and his disciples believed in him.

THE WEEK AHEAD

Mon	7.30pm, Zoom: Bible Study Group
Tues	12:00pm, Church: Funeral of Kenneth Hylton
Wed	10.00am, Church: BCP Midweek Eucharist
	3:00pm, Church: Thanksgiving service for John Ward
	7:30pm, Zoom(church code below): DCC

Thurs 7:30pm, Church: **Healing: Ministry and Medicine, Dr Stan Chapman**
Fri 5pm, Zoom (church code below): **Food for Thought**
Sun 23rd 9.30am, **Parish Eucharist: Third Sunday of Epiphany**
Rev'd Gerard Rundell Presiding, Mr Ken Newitt Preaching
Readings : 1 Corinthians 12.12-31a and Luke 4.14-21
4:00pm: **Healing Service**

DATES FOR THE DIARY

Wed 26th Jan, 1.30pm in church: **Funeral of Jean Carson**

Sat 5th Feb. 10am-12pm: **Saturday Cafe Fundraiser for the Afghanistan Crisis**

NOTICES

SUNDAY SERVICE – today's live broadcast link is <https://bit.ly/2Epiphany2022>

KENNETH HYLTON – our prayers go to Kenneth's family and friends following his death. His funeral will be held in church on Tuesday 18th January at 12pm

JOHN WARD– at John's request, please wear bright colours to his thanksgiving service on Wednesday 19th January at 3pm at St Aidan's. The service will be broadcast live and can be viewed using this link <https://bit.ly/ThanksgivingJohnWard> . Everyone is invited to Northern Rugby Club for refreshments afterwards.

JEAN CARSON – following the sad news of Jean's death we can confirm that her funeral will be held on Wednesday 26th January at 1.30pm at St Aidan's

HEALING SERVICE – our next healing service will be held on Sunday 23rd January at 4pm. This is a quiet reflective service with the opportunity to receive prayer and anointing with oil either for yourself or someone you know who is in need. Do join us for this special service.

BIBLE STUDY GROUP - the group has resumed on Monday's at 7:30pm via Zoom with a series looking at Genesis 1-11 the opening chapters of the Bible taking us from creation, through Adam and Eve and Noah and the Flood, to the Tower of Babel, chapters that are at the heart of our Christian understanding of the beginnings of our world. But do they have anything to say to us today in the scientific age of the 21st century? Join us using Meeting ID: 881 6875 9104, Passcode: StABSG or <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88168759104?pwd=SFFWOVUzT1p2RXZ2dnBPbXZGMGxWdz09> or contact Ken Newitt (kmnewitt@outlook.com) for more details

ZOOM CODES – all our Zoom sessions will use only the following details:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7573778713?pwd=NGVjcTRLQjBEaStqYjFDSm1KOURtQT0>

Meeting ID: 757 377 8713 Passcode: StAidan

BOOKING ZOOM MEETINGS: if you would like to use the St Aidan's Zoom account for a church meeting, please contact Janice

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.

USED STAMPS – if you have any used stamps, please save them and put them in the box at the back of church to raise fund for St Oswald's Hospice.

CHURCH OPENING – church is now open during the day, every day. Please come in at any time for some quiet time or prayer.

FOOD BANK – a little reminder that we still collect for the foodbank. There is a box at the back of church for donations.

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 Churches in our Deanery: Gosforth Parishes. Within our church we pray DCC members and officers. Within the wider community we pray for Snakes & Ladders Playgroup, Brunton Babies, Nursery & Toddler Groups

We remember in our prayers Gladys Johnston, Sheila Lonie and all others who are unwell at home or in hospital. We pray for those who have died in recent days remembering especially Margaret McMillan, Kenneth Hylton, John Ward and Jean Carson.

We remember with thanksgiving and joy our loved ones who are now with Our Father in the heavenly kingdom – Margaret Staniland, Rosemary Edwards, Audrey Jordison, Alma Thompson, Joan Routledge, Winifred Heal, Jeff Robinson, Eric Quenet, John Edwards, Wilfred Simpson, Kenneth Rickaby

CONTACTS

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