



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

Sunday 27th February 2022
Sunday Next before Lent

Transfiguration Sunday

We all know what it's like to doze through something important. The disciples are dozing again in today's gospel reading.

If we read between the lines, it is clear that life with Jesus was arduous physically. They walked long distances, probably slept in the open on many nights, didn't always know where food was coming from, were pestered by crowds when they wanted to relax and faced opposition from the religious authorities. On top of that, Jesus had this habit of praying through the night, perhaps because that was the only time he could get some peace and quiet with God and often he wanted his close friends near him as he did so. No wonder the disciples are sleepy.

The disciples are living through a profound experience, one they didn't fully understand. We have the gift of hindsight and therefore can appreciate what the disciples couldn't when the Glory of Jesus is revealed on the mountain top.

Peter wishes to reduce the terrifying glory of God to something he can understand, a shrine to be visited from time to time. He learns the lesson that must continually be reinforced, that God's glory can neither be reduced or controlled.

At the heart of today's readings is the transcendence of a God who is supremely holy, characterized by the principles of justice and compassion. As a community of faith we are called to reflect that holiness so that it becomes the beating heart of who we are.



First Reading : Exodus 34.29-35

Moses came down from Mount Sinai. As he came down from the mountain with the two tablets of the covenant in his hand, Moses did not know that the skin of his face shone because he had been talking with God. When Aaron and all the Israelites saw Moses, the skin of his face was shining, and they were afraid to come near him. But Moses called to them; and Aaron and all the leaders of the congregation returned to him, and Moses spoke with them. Afterwards all the Israelites came near, and he gave them in commandment all that the LORD had spoken with him on Mount Sinai. When Moses had finished speaking with them, he put a veil on his face; but whenever Moses went in before the LORD to speak with him, he would take the veil off, until he came out; and when he came out, and told the Israelites what he had been commanded, the Israelites would see the face of Moses, that the skin of his face was shining; and Moses would put the veil on his face again, until he went in to speak with him.

Gospel Reading: Luke (9.28-36[37-43a])

Jesus took with him Peter and John and James, and went up on the mountain to pray. And while he was praying, the appearance of his face changed, and his clothes became dazzling white. Suddenly they saw two men, Moses and Elijah, talking to him. They appeared in glory and were speaking of his departure, which he was about to accomplish at Jerusalem. Now Peter and his companions were weighed down with sleep; but since they had stayed awake, they saw his glory and the two men who stood with him. Just as they were leaving him, Peter said to Jesus, 'Master, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.' Peter did not know what he said. While he was saying this, a cloud came and overshadowed them; and they were terrified as they entered the cloud. Then from the cloud came a voice that said, 'This is my Son, my Chosen; listen to him!' When the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone. And the disciples kept silent and in those days told no one any of the things they had seen.

On the next day, when they had come down from the mountain, a great crowd met him. Just then a man from the crowd shouted, 'Teacher, I beg you to look at my son; he is my only child. Suddenly a spirit seizes him, and all at once he shrieks. It throws him into convulsions until he foams at the mouth; it mauls him and will scarcely leave him. I begged your disciples to cast it out, but they could not.' Jesus answered, 'You faithless and perverse generation, how much longer must I be with you and bear with you? Bring your son here.' While he was coming, the demon dashed him to the ground in convulsions. But Jesus rebuked the unclean spirit, healed the boy, and gave him back to his father. And all were astounded at the greatness of God. Everyone was amazed at all that he was doing.

THE WEEK AHEAD

Mon	7.30pm, Zoom: Bible Study Group
Wed	10am & 7.30pm, Church: Ash Wednesday Communion and Ashing
Thurs	2pm, Community Room: Prayer and Praise
Fri	1:30pm, All Saint's Gosforth: Deanery Service for World Day of Prayer
Fri	5pm, Zoom (church code below): Food for Thought
Sun 6th	8am, Church: Said Communion 9.30am, Church: Parish Eucharist First Sunday of Lent Leading Rev'd Cannon Jean Skinner, Preaching Rev'd Gerard Rundell Readings from Deuteronomy 26.1-11, Romans 10.8b-13, Luke 4.1-13
Sun 6th	4pm, St Columba's: 'Penitence and Faith: a service to mark the beginning of Lent' including our Parish Choir

DATES FOR THE DIARY

Wed 9th Mar, 7.30pm: **'An Adventure with God' at St Cuthbert's (weekly during Lent)**
Thurs 10th March, 12pm: **Lent Lunches (weekly during Lent), St Columba's on 10th Mar**
Sunday 13th Mar, 4pm: **Taize service in Church (weekly during Lent)**
Sunday 20th March, 7:30pm: **Fundraiser Concert in church**

NOTICES

SUNDAY SERVICE – today's live broadcast link is <https://bit.ly/SundaybeforeLent22>

ASH WEDNESDAY – our 7:30pm service will be live-streamed. Please join us using this link <https://bit.ly/AshWednesday22> Small vials of ash will be available at the back of church up until Wednesday for those wishing to take some ash to use at home.

LENT COURSE: This year we're planning a Parish-wide Lent Course called: 'An Adventure with God: stories and thoughts on a life of prayer.' Each week we'll have a visiting speaker (including a Bishop, a Friar, and the leader of the Resource Church), who'll offer insights from their own journey of prayer before leading us in a time of prayer together. Wednesdays 7.30pm at St Cuthbert's, starting 9th March.

LENT LUNCHESES: During Lent we'll be meeting ecumenically with churches across the parish to share in food and fellowship. Thursdays at 12pm, starting on Thursday 10th at St Columba's.

LENT LIFTS – if you would like to attend any of our Lent services, but are struggling to get to the venue, please let us know as lifts will be available.

MESSAGE OF THANKS – has been received from DEC Afghanistan Crisis Appeal for the £1000 raised.

FACE MASKS – as of Sunday 6th March, wearing a mask in church will be at your own discretion. For those continuing to wear a mask, we suggest sitting at the back of church, behind those not wearing masks, and in our best ventilated area.

FOOD FOR THOUGHT - continues to be a weekly service/ discussion group running on Friday's at 5pm-6pm on Zoom using the St Aidan's code. There will be no online service on the 3rd Friday as we will be in church on that date.

TAIZE EVENING WORSHIP: Sundays, 4pm from 13th March. During Lent we'll be offering a short evening service of Taize chant, scripture, silence and prayer. Do join us for a peaceful and reflective time to deepen your Lenten devotion.

BIBLE STUDY GROUP - Monday 28th Feb - Tower of Babel. Join us via Zoom using Meeting ID: 881 6875 9104, Passcode: StABSG or <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88168759104?pwd=SFFWOUVzT1p2RXZ2dnBPbXZGMGxWdz09>

ZOOM CODES – all our Zoom sessions will use only the following details:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7573778713?pwd=NGVjcTRLQjBEaStqYjFDsm1KOURtQT09> 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 – please wear a face mask, sanitise your hands on entering church, and maintain at least a one metre distance.

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: St Aidan's Cycle of Prayer

For the church – Particularly 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.

For the world – Particularly during the invasion of Ukraine for her people and the Ukrainian community in the UK, and our own national and political life. In our community for the West End Refugee Service.

For those in particular need - Gladys Johnston and Adrienne Tulip.

For those who have died and those who grieve – Barbara Surtees, Thomas 'Lew' Edwards. On their anniversaries: Cecil Talbot, Rennison Shiplay, Winifred Richardson, Gladys McCardle, Audrey Dickinson, Isabella Fairburn, Muriel Gandy, Brian Flanagan, Emily Walker, Muriel Brown, Frances Wright

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