



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

**Sunday 12th June 2022
Trinity Sunday**

Trinity Sunday is the one week of the year that we tend to spend on this most esoteric and flighty of doctrines. That God is One, and yet also Three is among the most mind-bending of concepts, so it's a doctrine that can easily have its head in the clouds. But I think it's one that needs its feet on the ground. So, to try and ground this doctrine, I'd like to use the image of a pilgrimage. A pilgrimage with a beginning an end, and a path to connect the two.

So first, the Trinity is a beginning. We're told that in the beginning, God created, but from Genesis, to Proverbs 8, to John 1, or Colossians 1, we hear that God did not create alone. It was God, Father, Son and Spirit, who shaped all of creation. The Trinity is our beginning, because the Trinity created all that is, and that creation bears the mark of its maker. And because this maker created, not because of any lack or need - God the Trinity is already a sufficient and perfect communion of love – but instead out of an overflowing of creative love, that means that we can trust that our world is ultimately grounded in that love. However hard things may seem, the ultimate truth that encompasses and suffuses all of reality is the God who creates freely from an outpouring of love. That is our beginning.

And it is also our end. Where we're going is towards this God who is eternally Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Our destination, no matter how arduous the journey may be at times, is ultimately towards this God who is the Lover, the Beloved and the Love between them – to paraphrase St Augustine. There is always love at the end of the journey, and the journey has purpose and direction because of that love.

And finally, it is the path that joins them. As any walker will know, the road is never walked alone. Even when we're not accompanied by other people, we walk in the presence of all of creation, and in prayerful relationship with God. So, just as God is a perfect relationship of love, so our journey towards him is one of loving relationship, with each other, with the world, and with God.

And that's why this doctrine needs its feet on the ground, that's why it matters when we say this is who God is. Because at the heart of who God is, is a communion of love, and so as we walk the path that begins and ends in this God, we discover that the path itself is also communion. The path itself is loving relationship with God, with the world, and with those around us.

Proverbs 8.1-4, 22-31

Does not wisdom call,

and does not understanding raise her voice?

² On the heights, beside the way,

at the crossroads she takes her stand;

³ beside the gates in front of the town,

at the entrance of the portals she cries out:

⁴ 'To you, O people, I call,

and my cry is to all that live.

²² The Lord created me at the beginning* of his work,*
the first of his acts of long ago.

²³ Ages ago I was set up,
at the first, before the beginning of the earth.

²⁴ When there were no depths I was brought forth,
when there were no springs abounding with water.

²⁵ Before the mountains had been shaped,
before the hills, I was brought forth—

²⁶ when he had not yet made earth and fields,*
or the world's first bits of soil.

²⁷ When he established the heavens, I was there,
when he drew a circle on the face of the deep,

²⁸ when he made firm the skies above,
when he established the fountains of the deep,

²⁹ when he assigned to the sea its limit,
so that the waters might not transgress his command,
when he marked out the foundations of the earth,

³⁰ then I was beside him, like a master worker*;
and I was daily his* delight,
rejoicing before him always,

³¹ rejoicing in his inhabited world
and delighting in the human race.

John 16.12-15

'I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now.

¹³When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth; for he will not speak on his own, but will speak whatever he hears, and he will declare to you the things that are to come. ¹⁴He will glorify me, because he will take what is mine and declare it to you. ¹⁵All that the Father has is mine. For this reason I said that he will take what is mine and declare it to you.

TODAY

9.30am: Trinity Sunday Rev'd Ray Devenney is our President Rev'd Gerard Rundell will be our Preacher.

THE WEEK AHEAD

Tue 7.00pm, Church: **Newcastle University Wind Band Concert**

Wed 10.00am, Church: **BCP Midweek Eucharist**

Sat 10am – 12pm: **Saturday Café**

Sun 19th 9.30am, Church: **1st Sunday After Trinity:** Mr Bernie Troughton leads, as Rev'd Ben Pullan Presides and Preaches from : 1 Kings 19.1-4, 8-15a, Gal 3.23-end, Luke 8.26-39

DATES FOR THE DIARY

Fri 17th June, 6.00pm, Church: **Food for Thought**

Thurs 23rd June, 1pm, Newcastle Cathedral: **Launch of 'If I Told You' strategy and resources engaging with faith based abuse.**

Sun 3rd Jul, Newcastle Cathedral: **Ordination of Rosemary New**

Thurs 7th July, Community Room: **Men's Group**

NOTICES

SUNDAY SERVICE – today's live broadcast link is <https://bit.ly/Trinity2022>

NEWCASTLE UNIVERSITY WINDBAND – Come along on Tuesday night for an evening of musical entertainment. The band is generously offering all donations on the door to St Aidan's, so come and support a great group of musicians, and the church!

MEN'S GROUP - For your diaries, gentlemen!

The first meeting of the Men's Group since lockdown in March 2020 will be on Thursday, 7th July, 8.00pm in the Church Community Room. Part of this meeting will be discussion with you about speakers and ideas for future meetings. Regular meetings will be held on the first Thursday evening of every month, starting on Thursday 1st September.

Please come along on 7th July and invite neighbours, friends or anyone you know who might be interested in our gatherings. Suggestions or ideas for speakers and activities are welcomed.

More details about the July meeting will follow soon. For further information, please contact Ben Pullan on 07977320895.

TEA ROTA – we would be very grateful if anyone would be willing to be added to the rota, to make the teas and coffees after our Sunday morning service. If you'd like to know more, or to have your name added, please speak to Catherine.

FOOD FOR THOUGHT – Food For Thought will be in Church this Friday joining with our Youth Group. If you'd like to join us for a short service followed by food and chat, please do, all are welcome!

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 – face masks are optional, please 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: St Aidan's Cycle of Prayer

For the church – Pauline Pearson and St Columba's, our Bible Study groups and prayer groups.

For the community – St Aidan's Community Centre and Great Park Community Centre, and their Management Committees

For the world – particularly for Ukraine, her people, refugees and the Ukrainian community in the UK, and our own national and political life.

For those in particular need - Gladys Johnston, Sheila Lonie, Esther Wooler.

For those who grieve Derrick Phillipson and on their anniversaries Alan Brown, Stanley Craig, Violet Clancy, Bob Green, Lillian Irwin, Beatrice Brown

CONTACTS


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