



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

Sunday 20th November 2022 Feast of Christ the King

This Sunday as we gather together as churches of the Parish of Christ the King, perhaps we might ask what Jesus' Kingship means for us. And three symbols from a King's coronation might help us do that, as they contrast with the King on a cross.

The first is a crown. The royal crown is decked with gold and gems, including the world's largest diamond. And yet Jesus was crowned with thorns. Where our world is enamoured with displays of status, Jesus was mocked and beaten. Where a king would be decked with riches, they stripped Jesus and cast lots for his clothes. Where a king would wear a crown of gold and gems, Jesus wears only thorns. The Kingship of Jesus has none of the markers of status. No wealth or opulence. How, as churches, can we leave behind our desire to project status, or hold on to wealth? How can we radically follow Jesus as a King who had nothing, as we serve him in our mission to the world?

The second is the orb and sceptre placed in a King's hands. Symbols of wisdom and authority given to rule. And yet Jesus had nails put in his hands and was hung on a cross to die. As they were driven through his flesh he prayed: 'Father forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing.' The wisdom and authority of Jesus rule is not the 'wisdom of the wise' or authority to command. It is the foolishness of the cross, and the prayer of forgiveness. Not a governor decreeing from on high, but a man who forgives as nails pierce his hands. How, as churches, might we follow his wisdom, trusting in the power of forgiveness and the path of the cross?

And finally, a throne. A king is seated on a throne as the final symbol of power. From there his rule is absolute. And yet Jesus's throne is a cross. It is there that his power was shown as he gave his life for the whole world. It is in a moment of sacrifice that Jesus became our true King. This is the power of God, the power that now reigns forever in all the glory, splendour and majesty of heaven. A power that is crowned with thorns, with nails in his hands, and enthroned on a cross. The King of love shows the power of God in giving himself for us. How as churches can we love as he loved us, and tell the story of his grace.

Jeremiah 23.1-6

Woe to the shepherds who destroy and scatter the sheep of my pasture! says the LORD. Therefore thus says the LORD, the God of Israel, concerning the shepherds who shepherd my people: It is you who have scattered my flock, and have driven them away, and you have not attended to them. So I will attend to you for your evil doings, says the LORD. Then I myself will gather the remnant of my flock out of all the lands where I have driven them, and I will bring them back to their fold, and they shall be fruitful and multiply. I will raise up shepherds over them who will shepherd them, and they shall not fear any longer, or be dismayed, nor shall any be missing, says the LORD.

The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch, and he shall reign as king and deal wisely, and shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. In his days Judah will be saved and Israel will live in safety. And this is the name by which he will be called: 'The LORD is our righteousness.'

Luke 23.33-43

When they came to the place that is called The Skull, they crucified Jesus there with the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. Then Jesus said, 'Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing.' And they cast lots to divide his clothing. And the people stood by, watching; but the leaders scoffed at him, saying, 'He saved others; let him save himself if he is the Messiah of God, his chosen one!' The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine, and saying, 'If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!' There was also an inscription over him, 'This is the King of the Jews.' One of the criminals who were hanged there kept deriding him and saying, 'Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us!' But the other rebuked him, saying, 'Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? And we indeed have been condemned justly, for we are getting what we deserve for our deeds, but this man has done nothing wrong.' Then he said, 'Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.' Jesus replied, 'Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise.'

TODAY

10:00am: Feast of Christ the King: Team Service Rev'd Pauline Pearson & Rev'd Mark Edwards preside over the service. Rev Gerard Rundell preaches

6:30pm: 40th Anniversary Celebration: St Columba's

THE WEEK AHEAD

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

Thurs 2:00pm, Community Room: **Chat and Craft**

Sat 10am-12pm, Community Room: **Saturday Cafe**

Sun 27th 9:30am **Advent 1:** Rev'd Cannon Jean Skinner presides as Mr Ken Newitt preaches from Isaiah 2.1-5, Romans 13.11-14, Matthew 24.36-44 (Rev'd Rundell at St Matthews and St Cuthberts)
12:30pm **Baptism** of Sadie Ann Reeves

DATES FOR THE DIARY

Wed 30th 12.15pm: **Funeral Service of Nancy Middleton**
Thurs 1st Dec 2:00pm: **Christmas Prayer and Praise**
8:00pm: **Men's Group, Games Night**
Sat 3rd 7:00pm: **Coquet Concert Band**
Sun 11th 4:00pm: **Christingle**
Mon 12th 7.30pm: **Carols on the Green (bus stop at Greenfield Rd)**
Wed 14th 7:00pm: **Men's Group Christmas Dinner**
Sun 18th 6:30pm: **Lessons and Carols**
Sun 24th 4:00pm: **Nativity**
Sun 24th 11:30pm: **Midnight Mass**

NOTICES

SUNDAY SERVICE – today's live broadcast link <https://bit.ly/ChristKing22>

ST AIDAN'S COMMUNITY CENTRE CHRISTMAS TEA PARTY - Thurs 8th December, 3.30pm-5.30pm. This is a free event open to anyone over 70-ish – food, drinks, entertainment, music, singing and lots of Christmas cheer. Details and booking forms are on the table at the back of church, Further information from Ben Pullan, tel. 07977 320 895 or Leigh Geddes. tel. 07491 295 449.

REAL ADVENT CALENDARS – we have a supply of the UK's only fair trade chocolate advent calendar with a free nativity storybook sharing the true meaning of Christmas. Behind each door, is a tasty chocolate treat and a line from the Christmas story with a high-quality colour picture. At £5 per calendar, each sale supports charitable causes.

LUNCH GROUP – our Christmas lunch at the Rugby Club will be held on 7th Dec. Meeting at 12pm for a 12:30pm meal. Names to Pauline or Pat please.

WINDBAND CONCERT – the Coquet Concert Band will be returning to St Aidan's on Saturday 3rd Dec at 7pm. Entrance is by donations on the door, and wine and nibbles will be served during the interval, again for donations.

PHOTOS – over the coming weeks you may notice photographs being taken during our services. These may include specific parts of the service but also the congregation. These photos will be used on our website to create a gallery of church life at St Aidan's and used to promote St Aidan's on social media. Please let us know if you are not happy to be in these photographs (including in a congregation shot) and we will blur out your image.

BIBLE STUDY GROUP – there will be no Bible study on Monday 21st November

CHRISTMAS PRAYER & PRAISE – is on Thursday 1st Dec at 2pm, and will be followed by tea, mince pies, and good company. Everybody is very welcome.

EASY FUNDRAISING - As we approach Black Friday, a reminder that one way of raising money for St Aidan's is to register Easyfundraising, so you can raise FREE donations for us when you do online shopping. Easyfundraising partners with over 7,000 brands, including John Lewis, H&M and Argos, and many other service providers like Amazon, who will donate a small percentage of what you spend to your chosen cause. All you have to do to support us is go to the easyfundraising website (or click on this link <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/staidanschurchurchbruntonpark/>), sign up, and find the retailer you want to shop with. Easyfundraising will redirect you to the retailer, you then shop as usual and the retailer will donate to us when you make a purchase – at no cost to you!

KNITTED ANGELS – a huge thank you to everyone who has already sent in their handmade angels, they are fantastic. Please let us know how many more we can expect- the more the better...with a few weeks left there's still time to get involved.

DELIVERY OF CHRISTMAS CARDS – we really appreciate any help that can be offered by putting cards through doors, either in your street, when out for a walk or by getting the kids involved. If you can help, please let us know, we particularly need help on Great Park.

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

For Our Prayers: St Aidan's Cycle of Prayer

For the church – diocesan office staff and diocesan advisers. Readers Ken Newitt and Chris Sayers and Authorised Minister Bernie Troughton

For the community – businesses on the Great Park

For the world – particularly for Ukraine, her people, and refugees. For Pakistan suffering devastating effects of flooding. For our own national and political life.

For the baptism of – Sadie Ann Reeves

For those in need - Gladys Johnston, Esther Wooler, Michael and Bob Harkness

For those who have died and grieve – Lillian Harkness, John Edwin Craig, Nancy Middleton and on their anniversaries Margaret Green, Rita Gillespie, Madeline Howard, Ronald Scott, Sylvia Haywood, Ralph Pyke, Anne Havis

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 [St Aidan's Church Brunton Park Newcastle www.staidanschurchurchbruntonpark.co.uk](https://www.staidanschurchurchbruntonpark.co.uk)