



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

Sunday 25th June 2023

Trinity 3

Amidst all that is going on in the world, it is easy to be overtaken by despair. As the media focus on the sad loss of five people in one disaster, many more people have been lost amongst those fleeing war and famine, for example in the boat disaster off Greek shores. Our government is working to stop dangerous boat crossings in the Channel by sacrificing people's right to claim asylum in the UK.

As victims of forced work and exploitation in a somewhat dysfunctional family, Hagar with her son Ishmael find themselves fleeing Sarah's jealousy and Abraham's inability to oppose her. It isn't long before they are in dire straits and the young boy Ishmael is clearly not going to make it. She is in despair. They may be in the middle of nowhere, but they have not strayed from the loving gaze of God. God is in that place and assures Hagar they will live, and then provides a well of water to make sure this will happen. Eventually Ishmael will have a people of his own.

Today's readings focus on hope and holiness. Hope in that God is always greater than the sum of all our mistakes and failures and it is never all up to us to make sure the purposes of God move forward in our world. Holiness in that we are called to do our best to be Christ-like, holy – to simply live God's love and compassion – disruptive as that may be.

Genesis 21.8-21

Isaac grew, and was weaned; and Abraham made a great feast on the day that Isaac was weaned. But Sarah saw the son of Hagar the Egyptian, whom she had borne to Abraham, playing with her son Isaac. So she said to Abraham, 'Cast out this slave woman with her son; for the son of this slave woman shall not inherit along with my son Isaac.' The matter was very distressing to Abraham on account of his son. But God said to Abraham, 'Do not be distressed because of the boy and because of your slave woman; whatever Sarah says to you, do as she tells you, for it is through Isaac that offspring shall be named after you. As for the son of the slave woman, I will make a nation of him also, because he is your offspring.' So Abraham rose early in the morning, and took bread and a skin of water, and gave it to Hagar, putting it on her shoulder, along with the child, and sent her away. And she departed, and wandered about in the wilderness of Beer-sheba.

When the water in the skin was gone, she cast the child under one of the bushes. Then she went and sat down opposite him a good way off, about the distance of a bowshot; for she said, 'Do not let me look on the death

of the child.' And as she sat opposite him, she lifted up her voice and wept. And God heard the voice of the boy; and the angel of God called to Hagar from heaven, and said to her, 'What troubles you, Hagar? Do not be afraid; for God has heard the voice of the boy where he is. Come, lift up the boy and hold him fast with your hand, for I will make a great nation of him.' 19Then God opened her eyes, and she saw a well of water. She went, and filled the skin with water, and gave the boy a drink. God was with the boy, and he grew up; he lived in the wilderness, and became an expert with the bow. He lived in the wilderness of Paran; and his mother got a wife for him from the land of Egypt.

Matthew 10.24-39

As Jesus summoned the twelve and sent them out with the following instruction: 'A disciple is not above the teacher, nor a slave above the master; it is enough for the disciple to be like the teacher, and the slave like the master. If they have called the master of the house Beelzebul, how much more will they malign those of his household!

So have no fear of them; for nothing is covered up that will not be uncovered, and nothing secret that will not become known. What I say to you in the dark, tell in the light; and what you hear whispered, proclaim from the housetops. Do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul; rather fear him who can destroy both soul and body in hell. Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground unperceived by your Father. And even the hairs of your head are all counted. So do not be afraid; you are of more value than many sparrows.

Everyone therefore who acknowledges me before others, I also will acknowledge before my Father in heaven; but whoever denies me before others, I also will deny before my Father in heaven.

Do not think that I have come to bring peace to the earth; I have not come to bring peace, but a sword.

For I have come to set a man against his father,
and a daughter against her mother,
and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law;
and one's foes will be members of one's own household.

Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; and whoever loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me; and whoever does not take up the cross and follow me is not worthy of me. Those who find their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it.'

TODAY

9:30am: **Trinity 3** Rev'd Pauline Pearson leads and preaches today

11:30am: **Baptism of Francesca**

THE WEEK AHEAD

Mon 7.30pm, Zoom **Bible Study Group**
Wed 10.00am, Church: **BCP Midweek Eucharist**
Sat 10am-12pm, Community Room – **Saturday Café**
2-4pm: **Summer Fayre**
Sun 2nd 9:30am: **Family Service** Rev'd Gerard Rundell leads and preaches. Readings: Genesis 22.1-14 and Matthew 10.40-42
3:00pm: **Hannah Malcolm's Ordination** Cathedral
6:30pm: **Welcome and Evelyn's Baptism:** St Aidan's

DATES FOR THE DIARY

Thurs 6 th Jul	2:00pm	Prayer and Praise: Community Room
	8:00pm	Men's Group: Northern Football Club
Fri 7 th Jul	7-9pm	Art Exhibition: Church
Sat 8 th Jul	10am-12pm	Art Exhibition: Church

NOTICES

SUNDAY SERVICE – today's live link: <https://bit.ly/3Trinity23>

OPEN GARDEN TODAY – Sun 25th Jun, 16 Milford Gardens, 2.30 to 5.00pm. As part of the All Saints' Gosforth Open Garden programme, Pat & Vic Spong will open their garden this afternoon, hoping that friends from St Aidan's will join them.

BIBLE STUDY GROUP - our study of St Luke's gospel continues at 7.30pm on Mon 26th June, looking at Luke 19.28-48, Luke's story of the events of Palm Sunday. All welcome, contact Ken Newitt (kmnewitt@outlook.com) for more details. Zoom: Meeting ID: 757 377 8713 Passcode: StAidan or link <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7573778713?pwd=NGVjcTRLQjBEaStqYjFDsm1KOURtQT09>

NO 8AM COMMUNION NEXT WEEK - No one has been attending the 8am Communion service over the past few months - our one regular is no longer able to make it - so the DCC decided to no longer offer a monthly early communion. There will be more discussion about a Eucharistic offering on 1st Sundays in due course.

ERIC DAVISON LEGACY - Church in the Park this week received a very generous legacy from Eric Davison, a former resident at Bowmont House and supporter of Ruth's work. The funds will be used to further ministry and mission on the Great Park. Legacies like this can make a huge difference to a church's work, and we're very grateful to Eric for his!

MEN'S GROUP - the new programme cards are available at the back of the church.

SUMMER FAYRE UPDATE – Saturday 1st July, 2 – 4pm. All the favourite stalls, games, raffle and refreshments. We still need: items for some of the stalls, particularly the bottle stall, tombola cake stall, small toys and some good items for the raffle; some more volunteers for various stalls and activities. We also need help on Friday afternoon and after the fayre on Saturday to move the chairs in the church and to collect and return tables from the Community Centre. Please let Pat Page, Ben or Ruth Pullan or one of the church wardens know if you can help.

ANNUAL ART EXHIBITION – our annual art exhibition featuring work by local artists and St Aidan's Art Group, takes place here in church on Friday evening 7th July from 7–9pm and Saturday morning 8th July from 10am – 12pm . On Friday evening entrance is £3 and this includes a glass of wine or soft drink and cheese and nibbles. On Saturday entrance is free. There will also be a raffle. Money raised will go to local charities.

HANNAH MALCOLM ORDINATION AND WELCOME BUFFET– following Hannah's ordination service at **3pm at Newcastle Cathedral on Sunday 2nd July**, her new baby Evelyn will be baptised at **6.30pm at St Aidan's**. There will be a welcome buffet afterwards. If you are able to bring an item for the shared buffet please note on the sheet at the back of church what you will bring so that we know we have a variety of items.

For Our Prayers: St Aidan's Cycle of Prayer

For the church – Sacred Heart RC and St John's URC. Retired clergy: Ben Pullan, Christine Crompton, Ray Devenney and Jean Skinner

For the community – Christian Aid, the Children's Society, and other charities supported by the church and the Saturday café

For the world – for Turkey, Syria, Ukraine and all countries facing hardship and conflict. For our own national and political life

For those being baptised: Francesca

For those in need - Gladys Johnston, Esther Wooler, Alan Gregg, Martin Seaton, Alan Phillips, Sofiia Karnaukh, Susan Armstrong

For those who have died – and on their anniversaries: Doris Smith, Connie Inglis, John Dodd, Rita Brydon, Clem Cleminson, Betty Smith, Elizabeth Douglas

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