



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

Sunday 2nd July 2023
St Peter's Day

This Sunday we're marking St Peter's Day. This is the time of the church year when new Deacons and Priests are traditionally ordained, and this afternoon Hannah Malcolm our new curate will be among them. It's also a good time to reflect on our calling, and our vocation. Not just for those who are called to ordained ministry, but for all who are called to love and follow Christ.

In our gospel reading from the end of John's Gospel, we see a question and answer as Jesus entrusts Peter with the gift of a ministry. So first the question: 'Simon son of John, do you love me?' This is the question at the heart of all vocation. This is the question Jesus asks as he entrusts his people with his work. 'Do you love me?': one simple requirement, one sustaining relationship, one un-ending adventure, that underpins everything we do as the church. It's a question Jesus asks three times, and Peter is hurt as he hears in the third a reminder of his betrayal of Jesus. Yet he replies: 'Lord, you know everything, you know that I love you.' So as Jesus asks us this question, we answer not because our love is perfect; not because we think we'll never stumble; not because we're the shining image of a spotless disciple. We answer despite our flaws and our failings; despite our sometimes half-heartedness; despite our forgetfulness and our distraction; despite our fears and our denials. But still we're asked the question, and we each search the depths of our hearts to respond.

And if we answer as Peter did, saying: 'Lord you know everything, you know that I love you', then the calling follows. On this one simple requirement Jesus entrusts us with his work. Jesus says to Peter: 'Feed my lambs', 'Tend my sheep', 'Feed my sheep'. We have often read this as a call to lead and care for the church, which in part it is. But it is more than that, this is Jesus entrusting the work of the Good Shepherd to his whole church. It's Jesus saying that into our flawed and frail hands, he places the gift of all those who he loves and calls to himself. Those inside the church and out. That is the vocation: 'feed my lambs, tend my sheep'. It is a profound and weighty gift, and one we're not ready for, but then neither was Peter, and Jesus only asked one thing of him. So perhaps today Jesus is asking each of us that one question: 'Do you love me?' and if we answer as Peter did, then he's asking us to get ready for the calling to come!

1 Peter 2.21-end

For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you should follow in his steps.

'He committed no sin,
and no deceit was found in his mouth.'

When he was abused, he did not return abuse; when he suffered, he did not threaten; but he entrusted himself to the one who judges justly. He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that, free from sins, we might live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed. For you were going astray like sheep, but now you have returned to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

John 21.15-19

When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, 'Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?' He said to him, 'Yes, Lord; you know that I love you.' Jesus said to him, 'Feed my lambs.' A second time he said to him, 'Simon son of John, do you love me?' He said to him, 'Yes, Lord; you know that I love you.' Jesus said to him, 'Tend my sheep.' He said to him the third time, 'Simon son of John, do you love me?' Peter felt hurt because he said to him the third time, 'Do you love me?' And he said to him, 'Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you.' Jesus said to him, 'Feed my sheep. Very truly, I tell you, when you were younger, you used to fasten your own belt and to go wherever you wished. But when you grow old, you will stretch out your hands, and someone else will fasten a belt around you and take you where you do not wish to go.' (He said this to indicate the kind of death by which he would glorify God.) After this he said to him, 'Follow me.'

TODAY

9:30am: **Family Service:** Rev'd Gerard Rundell leads and preaches

3:00pm: **Hannah Malcolm's Ordination:** Newcastle Cathedral

6:30pm: **Welcome and Evelyn's Baptism:** St Aidan's

THE WEEK AHEAD

Mon 7.30pm, Zoom **Bible Study Group**

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

Thurs 2:00pm, Community Room: **Prayer and Praise**

8:00pm, **Men's Group: Northern Football Club**

Fri 7-9pm, Church: **Art Exhibition**

Sat 10am-12pm, Community Room – **Saturday Café**

10am-12pm, Church: **Art Exhibition**

Sun 9th 9:30am: **Trinity 5** Rev'd Gerard Rundell leads and preaches.
Readings: Genesis 24.34-38,42-49, 58-67, Romans 7.15-25a
Matthew 11.16-19,25-30

DATES FOR THE DIARY

Thurs 13th Jul 2:00pm **Film Club:** Community Room – 'The Father'
8:00pm **Men's Group:** Northern Football Club

NOTICES

SUNDAY SERVICE – today's live link: <https://bit.ly/4Trinity23>

ALAN PHILLIPS – Alan Phillips sadly died on the morning of Friday 30th June. Please pray for Debs and Vicky as they mourn the loss of their Dad. He will be very much missed as a significant part of our church of St Aidan's, and as a brother in Christ. Funeral details will be announced when confirmed.

BIBLE STUDY GROUP - the bible study group will now be taking a break for the summer, resuming in September

CHILDREN'S GROUP- we are looking to expand our leaders and helpers within our Sunday morning children's group. We spend about 30 minutes with the children, telling a story, doing an easy craft, some colouring, or playing with toys. If you feel you could help us, even only occasionally, please let Gerard know. We would be very grateful.

ERIC DAVISON LEGACY - Church in the Park 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.

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.

ZOOM CODES – all our Zoom sessions will use only the following details:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7573778713?pwd=NGVjcTRLQjBEaStqYjFDsm1KOURtQT09M>
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 OPENING – church is open during the day, every day. Please come in at any time for some quiet time or prayer.

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.

FOOD BANK – any items placed in the box at the back of church will be donated to Kenton Foodbank.

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 – Bishop Helen-Ann and Bishop Mark, Archdeacon Rachel Wood, Pauline Pearson, Acting Area Dean. Those who assist in our worship: lesson readers, intercessors, servers, Eucharistic assistants and sacristans.

For the community – Catherine McKinnell, our MP, Newcastle City Councillors, North Gosforth Parish Council

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

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

For those who have died – Alan Phillips and on their anniversaries: Lewis Ternent, Fred Stout, Phyllis Atkinson, Jennie Barritt, Don Croft, Kenneth Page, Maisie Smith

CONTACTS: Office: 0191 236 7952

Administrator/Newsletter : Janice Charlton infostaidans@gmail.com

Team Rector: Revd Gerard Rundell 07394 792277 rev.g.rundell@gmail.com

Honorary Assistant Priest: Revd Ben Pullan 07977320895 brpullan@gmail.com

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