



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

Sunday 12th November 2023 Remembrance Sunday

Each year on Remembrance Sunday we're asked to remember, and to pray. We're asked to remember the sacrifice of those who gave their lives in war for the sake of peace, and to pray for those who continue to be affected by the horrors and disasters of war. This year we remember and pray amid the ongoing war in Ukraine as lives there continue to be torn apart, and with the horrors of a new war in Israel and Palestine. As we seek to honour those who have offered their lives in conflicts past and present how are we to respond in the face of the overwhelming loss and tragedy today?

I admit that I have no real answer to that question. Perhaps, though, we might listen to the voice of the prophets, and seek to hear God speaking into the darkness of war. Amos, in our reading, passionately tells the people of Israel that no amount of offerings and festivals, no displays of worship, will mean anything until they remember the justice and the righteousness of God. This is the heart of the call of the people of God. Without them all worship is an empty shell.

'Let justice roll down like waters,
and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.'

Perhaps, then, this is what we hear today: the same call to the justice of God, and the righteousness of God. A call to work and pray for these above all else, for these to be the heart of our worship. This Remembrance Sunday as we remember and respond we might seek to honour and support all that makes for justice and righteousness, and to turn away from all that does not. So we honour and support the armed forces, where we see in them the pursuit of justice and righteousness. We honour their sacrifice, as it is made to defend the defenceless, and to protect peace. We honour and support those who seek to bring aid and relief into areas devastated by war, their bravery and selfless dedication. We honour and support those who work to bring peace, the diplomats and peacemakers, in the complexity of their work. And we honour and support those who speak out to expose injustice and unrighteousness; those who like Amos, call us to a clear-eyed look at the world around us, and remind us where we have fallen short of God's justice. This Remembrance Sunday, may we seek, in our prayers, in our worship, in our action, to:

'Let justice roll down like waters,
and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.'

Amos 5.18-24

Alas for you who desire the day of the LORD!
Why do you want the day of the LORD?
It is darkness, not light;
as if someone fled from a lion,
and was met by a bear;
or went into the house and rested a hand against the wall,
and was bitten by a snake.
Is not the day of the LORD darkness, not light,
and gloom with no brightness in it?
I hate, I despise your festivals,
and I take no delight in your solemn assemblies.
Even though you offer me your burnt-offerings and grain-offerings,
I will not accept them;
and the offerings of well-being of your fatted animals
I will not look upon.
Take away from me the noise of your songs;
I will not listen to the melody of your harps.
But let justice roll down like waters,
and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.

Matthew 25.1-13

Jesus spoke this parable to the disciples: 'The kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them; but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. But at midnight there was a shout, "Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him." Then all those bridesmaids got up and trimmed their lamps. The foolish said to the wise, "Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out." But the wise replied, "No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves." And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet; and the door was shut. Later the other bridesmaids came also, saying, "Lord, lord, open to us." But he replied, "Truly I tell you, I do not know you." Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.'

TODAY

9:30am: **Remembrance:** Rev'd Gerard Rundell leads our service

THE WEEK AHEAD

Mon 1:15pm: **Funeral for Pauline Kalas**, Church - City Golf Club 2pm
Wed 10.00am, Church: **BCP Midweek Eucharist**
7:30pm, Church: **DCC Meeting**
Sat 10am, Church: **Christmas Fayre**
Sun 12th 9:30am, **Second Sunday before Advent** Rev'd Gerard Rundell leads our service as Mr Ken Newitt preaches from Zephaniah 1.7,12-18, 1 Thessalonians 5.1-11, Matthew 25.14-30

DATES FOR THE DIARY

Mon 20th 1:00pm: **Funeral for Jack Murgatroyd**, Church
Thurs 23rd 2:00pm: **Chat and Craft**, Community Room
Sun 26th 10.00am: **Christ the King Team Celebration**, St Matthew's
4:00pm: **Team Confirmation Service**, St Aidan's

NOTICES

SUNDAY SERVICE – today's live link: <https://bit.ly/StAidanRemembrance2023>

CHRIST THE KING SERVICE – on Sun 26th will be a team service held at 10.00am at St Matthew's Church. There will be no morning service at St Aidan's. Please attend St Matthew's church if you are able to.

TEAM CONFIRMATION – will be held in church on Sun 26th at 4:00pm with Bishop Helen-Ann. Please keep those being confirmed in your prayers and it would be lovely if you could come along to the service to offer your support.

MESSAGE FROM SOFIIA - Thank you so much for your sincere support and constant prayers about the unjust war in Ukraine. Thank you all for your help last year with organising a 'Christmas for Ukrainian children' event. I would like to share with you as my church family that I have been fully enrolled on the International Foundation Programme in Social Sciences and Humanities at Northumbria University. For me, it is a new experience to get to know the UK university system and to know how to become a successful student. It's been only 3 weeks of studies and I am trying to take every positive moment from it, which will help in my further education. I hope that this stage of my life will be filled with God's grace and guidance. I am grateful for your support and prayers in my journey of enrolment and becoming a student at Northumbria University. May the Lord bless you abundantly, fill you with His love and grace, and be with you always.

WHITE RIBBON DAY – is a day that calls for violence against women to cease. On Saturday 25th Nov at 2pm, there will be a service at St Nicholas' Church, South Gosforth in which this subject will be the focus. It will be a time of remembrance, repentance and renewal and is suitable for all.

ST AIDAN'S CHRISTMAS FAIR - will be held in church on Saturday (18th Nov). There is still time to bring along donations for the toys, sweet and cake stalls, and tombola and raffle. Help would be welcomed on the afternoon of Friday 17th, to move chairs and get tables from the Community Centre and after the fair, from 12 noon on Saturday to put everything back. We also need volunteers to man the stalls on the day. Please let the Church Wardens or Ben Pullan know if you can help.

BIBLE STUDY GROUP –there will be no Bible study group on Monday.

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

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

PLANNED GIVING - If you would like to set up a regular financial gift to support St Aidan's please click on the following link

<https://www.parishgiving.org.uk/donors/find-your-parish/brunton-park-st-aidan-newcastle-upon-tyne>

For Our Prayers: St Aidan's Cycle of Prayer

For the church – Diocesan and Deanery Synods. Our Thursday groups and Men's group

For the community – Manor House, Bowmont House and Melton House

For the world – 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, Jack Murgatroyd, Bruce Smith


For those who have died – Pauline Kalas, Jack Murgatroyd, and on their anniversaries: David Wilson, James Toward, John Smith, Doreen Chinnery, Jim MacIntyre, Colin Dunlevy, Frank Hindmarsh, Norton Dunthorne, Molly Bilbrough, Robert Nicholson

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