



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

## Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> January 2024 Epiphany

Epiphany marks the arrival of the wise men at Bethlehem to meet Jesus, by now a toddler. While we include them in our nativity services, the wise men are actually late comers to the Christmas scene. They spot the star rising at Jesus' birth but it takes them some time to find their way to him. So, approximately two years later, after a journey that has seen its detours and stumbling blocks, the wise men meet this young King and offer both their gifts and their worship.

In our journey of faith, perhaps it takes us some time too to find our way to Jesus. Perhaps we spot something that sets us off seeking, a star in the sky, but it takes time to make our way to his side. What has your journey looked like? Are you still on the road? What is it that leads you to Bethlehem to offer your gifts and your worship before Christ, however you find him?

### **Isaiah 60:1-6**

Arise, shine; for your light has come,  
and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you.  
For darkness shall cover the earth,  
and thick darkness the peoples;  
but the LORD will arise upon you,  
and his glory will appear over you.  
Nations shall come to your light,  
and kings to the brightness of your dawn.  
Lift up your eyes and look around;  
they all gather together, they come to you;  
your sons shall come from far away,  
and your daughters shall be carried on their nurses' arms.  
Then you shall see and be radiant;  
your heart shall thrill and rejoice,  
because the abundance of the sea shall be brought to you,  
the wealth of the nations shall come to you.  
A multitude of camels shall cover you,  
the young camels of Midian and Ephah;  
all those from Sheba shall come.  
They shall bring gold and frankincense,  
and shall proclaim the praise of the LORD.

## **Matthew 2.1-12**

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, 'Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage.' When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They told him, 'In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet:

"And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel.'" Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, 'Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage.' When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure-chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

## **TODAY**

9.30am: **Epiphany Family Service:** Rev'd Gerard leads and preaches.

## **THE WEEK AHEAD**

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

**Sat** 10am, Community Room: **Saturday Café**

**Sun** 9.30am: **Epiphany 2** Rev'd Gerard Rundell presides and preaches with readings from 1 Samuel 3.1-10[11-20], Revelation 5.1-10, John 1.43-51

## **DATES FOR THE DIARY**

Thurs 11<sup>th</sup> 2.00pm: **Film Club – We Bought a Zoo**, Community Room

Wed 17<sup>th</sup> 7.30pm: **DCC Meeting**, via Zoom

Wed 24<sup>th</sup> 1.30pm: **Funeral Service for Shirley Pentland**, Church

Thurs 25<sup>th</sup> 2.00pm: **Chat and Craft**, Community Room

## **NOTICES**

**SUNDAY SERVICE** – the link for today's service is <https://bit.ly/StAidanEpiphany2024>

**SHIRLEY PENTLAND FUNERAL** – We're very sad to say that Shirley Pentland died on Christmas morning. Her funeral will be at 1.30pm on Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> Jan, in church. Please pray for her family and friends as they grieve.

**DDC MEETING** – will be held via Zoom on Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> January at 7:30pm

**SATURDAY CAFÉ** - donations at the Saturday café in 2023 totalled £1,600. We have sent £400 to each of the four nominated charities - Myaware (Myosthenia Gravis Association), Parkinsons UK, Retina UK and the Swiss/Kenya Development Association. Thank you to all who have supported these charities through the Saturday Café over the past year.

**CHRISTMAS COLLECTIONS** - collections at our special Christmas services amounted to £850, which has been split between the two charities chosen by the DCC - Children North East as the local charity and Christian Aid's Middle East appeal as the international charity. Thank you to all who contributed to these collections.

**PAULINE PEARSON** – has a significant birthday this year, and so has given notice that she will be retiring from St Columba's at the beginning of March.

**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** – St Nicholas' Cathedral. Churchwardens and all involved in looking after our building

**For the community** – Groups using our Community Room and the Community Centre

**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, Bruce Smith

**For those who have died** – Shirely Pentland, Kim Harrington and on their anniversaries: Sadie James, Peter Leask, Howard Stansby, Robert Tullin, Eva Burgon, Jean Bates, John Reed



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