

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

Sunday 25th February 2024 Lent 2

Sometimes situations seem hopeless... we can't see a way forward... except perhaps to pray...

Abram and Sarai had wanted a child for years - but time was passing and it seemed far too late... yet they remained faithful. God hears their desperation and responds with love. He promises Abram that he will have a child to carry on his line, and indeed that he will be the father of nations. And to mark the new future which lies ahead, he gives them both new names: they are transformed...

We are called to place our trust in God, whatever is facing us. Praying can sometimes feel as if we are speaking into the dark, but our voices are heard and our deepest prayers honoured. God listens and God understands - and responds with love.

Genesis 17.1-7,15,16

When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the LORD appeared to Abram, and said to him, 'I am God Almighty; walk before me, and be blameless. And I will make my covenant between me and you, and will make you exceedingly numerous.' Then Abram fell on his face; and God said to him, 'As for me, this is my covenant with you: You shall be the ancestor of a multitude of nations. No longer shall your name be Abram, but your name shall be Abraham; for I have made you the ancestor of a multitude of nations. I will make you exceedingly fruitful; and I will make nations of you, and kings shall come from you. I will establish my covenant between me and you, and your offspring after you throughout their generations, for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and to your offspring after you. God said to Abraham, 'As for Sarai your wife, you shall not call her Sarai, but Sarah shall be her name. I will bless her, and moreover I will give you a son by her. I will bless her, and she shall give rise to nations; kings of peoples shall come from her.'

Mark 8.31-38

Jesus began to teach his disciples that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, 'Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.' He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, 'If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.'

<u>TODAY</u>

9.30am: Lent 2 Rev'd Pauline Pearson presides and preaches as Rev'd Hannah Malcolm leads our service with readings from Genesis 17.1-7,15,16 and Mark 8.31-38 (Gerard is on holiday)

THE WEEK AHEAD

Mon-Fri	8.50am, Church: Morning Prayer
Mon	7.30pm, via Zoom: Bible Study
Wed	10.00am, Church: BCP Midweek Eucharist
	12.00pm, St John's URC, Wideopen
	7.00pm, St Cuthbert's Church: The Prayer Course
Sat	10am, Community Room: Saturday Café
Sun	9.30am: Lent 3 Rev'd Gerard Rundell presides and preaches with
	readings from Exodus 20.1-17, 1 Corinthians 1.18-25 and John
	2.13-22
	4.00pm: Team Evensong Farewell to Pauline, St Columba's

DATES FOR THE DIARY

Sun 10 th March	9.30am: Mothering Sunday Family Service
Thurs 7 th March	2.00pm: Prayer and Praise, Community Room
	8.00pm: Men's Group, Northern Football Club
Thurs 14 th March	2.00pm: Film Club 'A man called Ove', Comm Room

LENT LUNCHES

Wed 6th March Wed 13th March Wed 20th March 12.00pm: St Aidan's, Brunton Park12.00pm: Sacred Heart, North Gosforth,12.00pm: St Cuthbert's, Brunswick

NOTICES

SUNDAY SERVICE –today's service link is <u>https://bit.ly/StAidan2024Lent2</u>

TEAM FAREWELL SERVICE FOR PAULINE – next Sunday, 3rd March will be Pauline's final Sunday in the team before she retires. Please join us at 4pm at St Columba's to wish her well and give thanks for her ministry. There'll also be some refreshments after the service and a chance to say goodbye. Could you please sign up on the sheet at the back of church if you're able to bring something with you?

BIBLE STUDY GROUP - continues to meet on Zoom on Monday evenings during Lent (last session Mon 18th Mar) to look at the passion narrative in Luke's gospel (chapters 22 and 23). Meeting at 7.30pm, all welcome, Zoom link below. Contact Ken Newitt (<u>kmnewitt@outlook.com</u>) for more information.

ALAN GREGG - We're sorry to announce that Alan Gregg sadly died on Sunday 11th February. Details of his funeral will follow, but please do hold Carol and the family in your prayers as they mourn his loss.

LENT LUNCHES – continue as we join with our ecumenical brothers and sisters for worship and reflection, soup and chat over Lent. Do join us for this year's Lent Lunches, details above.

LENT COURSE - <u>The Prayer Course</u>: continues on Wednesday at St Cuthbert's Church, looking at how we pray, through a video series produced by 24/7 Prayer. Using a different line of the Lord's prayer each week will discuss and try out different ways of praying on our own and together. Everyone is welcome. **ZOOM CODES** – all our Zoom sessions will use only the following details: <u>https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7573778713?pwd=NGVjcTRLQjBEaStqYjFDSm1KOURtQT09</u>

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-aidannewcastle-upon-tyne

For Our Prayers: St Aidan's Cycle of Prayer

For the church Christ the King Team Parish, PCC members and officers.

Moira and Kathryn, and all who enhance our services by their playing or singing

For the community – West End Refugee Service

For the world – all countries facing hardship and conflict. For our own national and political life

For those in need - Gladys Johnston, Esther Wooler, Martin Seaton, Bruce Smith

For those who have died – Alan Gregg and on their anniversaries: Margaret Shaw, Gordon Wilson, Joyce Barker, George Owen, Cecil Talbot, Rennison Shiplay, Jeffrey Ball, Barbara Surtees, Winifred Richardson, Gladys McCardle, Audrey Dickinson



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