



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

**Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024**  
**Easter Day**

As we sit in church surrounded by company on a bright Easter morning, the story of the tomb in the garden can seem all too comfortable and familiar. But our happy setting this morning is a far cry from where our gospel reading begins. Our reading begins with Mary Magdalene all on her own, and it begins in the dark. 'Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb'. Mary is walking in the darkness of night, but she is also facing the kind of dark that only death brings, where we can't see or feel anything beyond the reality of what she has lost. And she is facing the darkness of confusion, uncertainty, and fear for the future. Mary, desperate in her grief, goes looking for Jesus while it is still dark. And it is in the darkness that Jesus meets her.

### **Acts 10:34-43**

Peter began to speak to those assembled in the house of Cornelius. 'I truly understand that God shows no partiality, but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ – he is Lord of all. That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.'

## **John 20.1-18**

Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb. So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, 'They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him.' Then Peter and the other disciple set out and went towards the tomb. The two were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. He bent down to look in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he did not go in. Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen wrappings lying there, and the cloth that had been on Jesus' head, not lying with the linen wrappings but rolled up in a place by itself. Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; for as yet they did not understand the scripture, that he must rise from the dead. Then the disciples returned to their homes. But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb; and she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had been lying, one at the head and the other at the feet. They said to her, 'Woman, why are you weeping?' She said to them, 'They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him.' When she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to her, 'Woman, why are you weeping? For whom are you looking?' Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, 'Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away.' Jesus said to her, 'Mary!' She turned and said to him in Hebrew, 'Rabbouni!' which means Teacher. Jesus said to her, 'Do not hold on to me, because I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go to my brothers and say to them, "I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God."' Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, 'I have seen the Lord'; and she told them that he had said these things to her.

## **TODAY**

6.00am: **Easter Vigil**

9.30am: **Easter Sunday Family Communion** Rev'd Gerard presides and Rev'd Dr Hannah Malcolm preaches

## **THE WEEK AHEAD**

<b>Mon-Fri</b>	8.50am, Church: <b>Morning Prayer</b>
<b>Wed</b>	10.00am, Church: <b>BCP Midweek Eucharist</b> 12.00pm, Rugby Club: <b>Lunch Group</b>
<b>Thurs</b>	2.00pm, Community Room: <b>Prayer and Praise</b> 8.00pm, Community Room: <b>Men's Group</b>
<b>Sat</b>	10am, Community Room: <b>Saturday Café</b>
<b>Sun</b>	9.30am: <b>Easter 2</b> Rev'd Ben Pullan presides and preaches with readings from Acts 4.32-35, 1 John 1.1 - 2.2 and John 20.19-31 (Gerard is on annual leave)

## **DATES FOR THE DIARY**

Wed 10<sup>th</sup> April                      2.00pm: **Funeral Service of Gladys Johnston**

## **NOTICES**

**SUNDAY SERVICE** –today's service link is <https://bit.ly/StAidan2ndofEaster2024>

**MENS GROUP** – will meet on Thursday where Nick Johnson will give a talk on 'Ancient and Veteran Trees'.

**GLADYS JOHNSTON** – following the sad news of Gladys's death last week, we can confirm that her funeral will be held on Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> April at 2.00pm. Please pray for Dennis and all those who mourn her loss.

**BRUCE SMITH** – it is with sadness that we share the news that Bruce died earlier this week. Funeral details will follow. Please pray for David, Alison and all who mourn his loss.

**NEWSLETTER** – there will be no newsletter next week.

**ZOOM CODES** – all our Zoom sessions will use only the following details:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7573778713?pwd=NGVjcTRLQjBEaStaYjFDSm1KOURtQT09>

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** - Our Bishops Mark and Helen Ann, Archdeacon Rachel Wood, and those involved at St Nicholas' Cathedral. Those who assist in our worship: lesson readers, intercessors, servers, Eucharistic assistants and sacristans. Churchwardens and all involved in looking after our building

**For the community** – Catherine McKinnell, our MP, Newcastle City Councillors, North Gosforth Parish Council. 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** - Esther Wooler, Martin Seaton, Bill Yeaman, Sue Bates

**For those who have died** – Gladys Johnston and Bruce Smith, and on their anniversaries: George Tomlinson, Katharina Middleton, Max Smith, Margery Archbold, Joan Garner, Patricia Malkin, Winifred Olsen, Nora Boyd, Ann Clothier, Robert Allison, Bob Ray, Christopher Griffith, John Noble, David Johnson. Norman Barritt, Jean Brindley, Kenneth Johnson, Doris Walton, Reginald Morgan, Arthur Fenning



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