



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

Sunday 5th May 2024
Easter 6

In our Gospel passage this week, Jesus makes a remarkable statement. He calls his disciples, and through them calls us, his friends. Perhaps we're so used to the idea of Jesus as our friend that we miss what an incredible statement this is. So perhaps take a step back and look at what Jesus is saying. Jesus, who the disciples call Teacher and Lord; Jesus, who is God's own Son; Jesus, the word of God made flesh, says that we are not simply servants of a commanding master, but are his friends. This isn't the kind of relationship God is supposed to have with his creation, and yet Jesus promises us a friendship so profound that he would lay down his life for us.

What does that friendship mean to you? Perhaps it's the presence of a constant companion by your side. Or the voice of a kind counsellor guiding you on your way. Perhaps the hand of a friend to lift you up when you stumble, and to lean on when you feel weak. The friendship of Jesus is all of these things and more.

In return he asks that we be friends to him, by following one simple, and yet deeply challenging commandment: to love one another as he has loved us. This week, may we be friends of Jesus, and show his friendship to others.

Acts 10.44-48

While Peter was speaking, the Holy Spirit fell upon all who heard the word. The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astounded that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the Gentiles, for they heard them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter said, 'Can anyone withhold the water for baptizing these people who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?' So he ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they invited him to stay for several days.

John 15.9-17

Jesus said to his disciples: 'As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete.

'This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you. I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.'

TODAY

9.30am: **Easter 6** Rev'd Dr Hannah Malcolm leads and Rev'd Gerard Rundell preaches

THE WEEK AHEAD

Mon-Fri 8.50am, Church: **Morning Prayer**

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

Thurs 2:00pm: **Film Club- Bridge of Spies**, Community Room

7.30pm: **Ascension Day Service**, St Columba's

Sat 10.00am, Community Room: **Saturday Café**

Sun 9.30am: **Easter 7** Rev'd Gerard Rundell presides and preaches.

Readings: Acts 1.15-17,21-26 , 1 John 5.9-13 and John 17.6-19

11.30am: **AGM**, Church

DATES FOR THE DIARY

Wed 15th May 7.30pm: **APCM**, St Cuthbert's

Fri 17th May 7.30pm: **Beetle Drive**, Church

Sat 18th May 10.00am: **Big Brekkie**, Community Room

Sat 15th Jun TBC: **Summer Fair**, Church

Sat 22nd Jun All day: **Parish Away Day**, Alnmouth

SUNDAY SERVICE – today's service link is <https://bit.ly/StAidans6thEaster2024>

NOTICES

PRIORITIES AND PLANNING – please remember to return your feedback forms to us by Sunday 12th May, using the box at the back of church.

VIOLET MEAD – will be celebrating her 100th birthday very soon. We will join in her celebrations by having a small tea party following our service on Sunday 12 May.

NATIONAL HEDGEHOG AWARENESS WEEK – is this week! There are flyers in the entrance to church with tips on how to care for our prickliest neighbours in Brunton Park. You can also visit britishhedgehogs.org.uk.

CHRISTIAN AID WEEK – 12th –18th May will help bring Dignity Equality Justice and Love for those in greatest need. Please make a note of the dates and consider being a collector – it is a very rewarding event in which we can really help those in need. (Last year we raised over £3,000 with our House-to-House collection and Big Breakfast).

BEETLE DRIVE – our first Beetle Drive of the year will be held on Friday 17th May at 6pm to raise funds for Christian Aid. Supper (for those who want it) will be pizza provided by Gosforth's Oli and Joe's. The cost is £5 per person to cover the cost of the evening with an additional donation towards Christian Aid. Please add your name to the list at the back of church if you are able to come.

BIG BREKKIE – is back on Saturday 18th May at 10am. Please come along and support this popular Christian Aid fundraiser while enjoying a bacon roll or veggie burgers with your tea and coffee.

SUMMER FAIR – will be held on Saturday 15th June, however for this to be a success we need donations for the various stalls along with volunteers to set up and assist on the day. There is a list at the back of church of possible stalls and space to add names, if you could help in any way. Any suggestions for other stalls would be welcomed.

KITCHEN TEA ROTA – are you able to help with tea duties following our 9:30am Sunday services? Please let Catherine know if we can add you to the rota. Training can be given to new volunteers.

ASCENSION DAY SERVICE – will be held as a joint service at St Columba's on Thursday 9th May at 7.30pm

INFORMATION PACK – we have put together information packs which provide a lot of information about life at St Aidan's, including AGM reports, giving booklets and feedback forms. If you have not received one, please take a spare from the back of church. Everyone is welcome to attend the AGM on 12th May.

PCC AND DCC ELECTIONS – we have 1 vacancy for a PCC member and 3 spaces for DCC members. If you would like to be part of shaping the life of St Aidan's Church, please let Gerard know that you'd like to stand.

ELECTORAL ROLL – we've updated our electoral roll in preparation for the AGM, which is now available to view. If you'd like to sign up, there's still time! Please use the link below, or complete the paperwork at the back of church. [Application for Enrolment on St Aidan's Church Electoral Roll](#).

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 - Churches in our Deanery: Jesmond Parishes. Local Ministry Group and Pastoral Care Group, Eco church Group and Social Committee

For the community – Brunton Park Medical Centre, local shops and businesses

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 – and on their anniversaries: Vigny Kain, Harry Wilkinson, John Thompson, John Dawson, Jack Tweedy, Kathryn Yeaman

CONTACTS: Office: 0191 236 7952

Administrator/Newsletter : Janice Charlton infostaidans@gmail.com

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

Team Curate: Revd Dr Hannah Malcolm 07938 433910 revhmalcolm@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)