



Team Parish of Christ the King

St Aidan's Brunton Park

Sunday 19th January 2025

Epiphany 2

Every year in this period between Epiphany and Candlemas, we hear the story of Jesus first sign in John's Gospel at the wedding at Cana. It's a miracle that can seem a little hard to get our heads around. The first thing Jesus does isn't heal the sick or raise the dead, but help keep a party lubricated! As we read it though this is a story that points us to something much deeper. Jesus takes the stuff of earth, water which becomes wine, a wedding party with all it's earthly joy, and through it points to heaven. A wedding feast on earth, becomes a sign of the great the wedding supper of the Lamb, as we are invited to feast at God's table in heaven.

This sign is one that Christians through the ages have read as reminding us particularly of the Eucharist. Week by week at communion the same thing happens. The material stuff of earth, ordinary bread, ordinary wine, become a sign of heaven itself. We are invited week by week to join in the heavenly feast, as Jesus feeds us with his own body and blood. Surely that is a miracle worth celebrating!

Isaiah 62.1-5

1For Zion's sake I will not keep silent,
and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest,
until her vindication shines out like the dawn,
and her salvation like a burning torch.

2The nations shall see your vindication,
and all the kings your glory;
and you shall be called by a new name
that the mouth of the LORD will give.

3You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the LORD,
and a royal diadem in the hand of your God.

4You shall no more be termed Forsaken,
and your land shall no more be termed Desolate;
but you shall be called My Delight Is in Her,
and your land Married;
for the LORD delights in you,
and your land shall be married.

5For as a young man marries a young woman,
so shall your builder marry you,
and as the bridegroom rejoices over the bride,
so shall your God rejoice over you.

John 2.1-11

On the third day there was a wedding in Cana of Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding. When the wine gave out, the mother of Jesus said to him, 'They have no wine.' And Jesus said to her, 'Woman, what concern is that to you and to me? My hour has not yet come.' His mother said to the servants, 'Do whatever he tells you.' Now standing there were six stone water-jars for the Jewish rites of purification, each holding twenty or thirty gallons. Jesus said to them, 'Fill the jars with water.' And they filled them up to the brim. He said to them, 'Now draw some out, and take it to the chief steward.' So they took it. When the steward tasted the water that had become wine, and did not know where it came from (though the servants who had drawn the water knew), the steward called the bridegroom and said to him, 'Everyone serves the good wine first, and then the inferior wine after the guests have become drunk. But you have kept the good wine until now.' Jesus did this, the first of his signs, in Cana of Galilee, and revealed his glory; and his disciples believed in him.

TODAY

9.30am: **Epiphany 2** Rev'd Dr Hannah Malcolm presides as Rev'd Gerard Rundell preaches

THE WEEK AHEAD

Tues-Fri 8.55am, Church: **Morning Prayer**
Tues 11.00am, Church: **Funeral Service for Alan Vout**
Wed 10.00am, Church: **BCP Midweek Eucharist**
Thurs 2.00pm, Community Room: **Chat and Craft**
Sat 10.00am, Community Room: **Saturday Cafe**
10.30am, Church: **Kids Zone**
6.30pm, Church: **Burn's Night Dinner**
Sun 9.30am: **Epiphany 3** Rev'd Dr Hannah Malcolm preaches as Mr Bernie Troughton leads with readings from Nehemiah 8.1-3,5-6,8-10; 1 Corinthians 12.12-31a and Luke 4.14-21

DATES FOR THE DIARY

Wed 5th Feb 12.00pm: **Lunch Group**, Rugby Club
Thurs 6th Feb 2.00pm: **Prayer and Praise**, Community Room
 8.00pm: **Mens Group**,
Sat 8th Feb 7:30pm: **In Conversation with Bishop Helen Ann**, Church

NOTICES - today's service link is <https://bit.ly/StAidan2025Epiphany2>

THE BIBLE STUDY GROUP - has resumed at 7.30 pm on Monday's, continuing their study of the Acts of the Apostles. All are welcome to join via Zoom Meeting ID: 757 377 8713, Passcode: StAidan)

(<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7573778713?pwd=NGVjcTRLQjBEaStqYjFDSm1KOURtQT09>. Contact Ken Newitt (kmnewitt@outlook.com) for further details.

BURN'S NIGHT DINNER – our Burn's Night dinner is on Saturday at 6.30pm for a 7pm meal. Tickets are £10 each. Please book your space by Wednesday via Susan, Mary, or Margaret Urquhart. There'll be Haggis, Neeps and Tatties (plus veggie and gluten free options, and sausages as an alternative), and poetry, live fiddle, and a quiz on all things Scottish.

ECO CHURCH AWARD - congratulations and thank you to everyone at St Aidan's who has supported our eco church journey over the last few years. We have now achieved a silver award!

BIG GARDEN BIRDWATCH - join the world's largest garden wildlife survey between 24-26 January 2025. Hundreds of thousands of nature lovers take part, helping to build a picture of how garden birds are faring. Find out more at <https://www.rspb.org.uk/whats-happening/big-garden-birdwatch>

TEA ROTA - the new rotas are at the back of church for volunteers to help with the Saturday cafe and Sunday morning refreshments.

CHAT AND CRAFT – is back on Thursday. If you have any crafts bring them along, otherwise just come along to enjoy a chat over tea and biscuits.

IN CONVERSATION WITH BISHOP HELEN ANN – for the second event in this series we are very pleased that Bishop Helen Ann will be joining us. This will be another interesting evening of conversation so please join us if you can.

USED STAMPS – a reminder to bring along your used stamps which we collect to raise funds for St Oswald's Hospice. There's a box on the book table.

LUNCH GROUP - will meet on Wednesday 5th February at 12pm at the Rugby Club. Please contact Pat or Pauline if you would like to join us.

Living on God's Good Earth: January

New year, new you

The new year is often a time when we feel pressure to make a new start, or try new things, but it can be hard to know where to begin. If you've never done a personal carbon footprint audit, this can be a great way to think about different areas of your life and see where simple changes can make a difference. The results can help you pick one area to focus on over the coming year. There are lots of carbon footprint audits available online, but a nice simple option is

<https://footprint.wwf.org.uk>. If you want one with more detail, go for <https://www.climatestewards.org/offset>.

For Our Prayers: St Aidan's Cycle of Prayer

For the church – Lena, Janice, all involved in family outreach events and work with children and young people. Bible Study, prayer groups, Eco church group.

For the community – Our sponsored child Ivonia. For her and her country Mozambique, facing serious threat from climate change. For the work of World Vision and the conservation and education work of Wild Impact in Mozambique.

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

For those in need – Esther Wooler, Martin Seaton, Sue Bates, Sheila Lonie, Christine Crompton.

For those who have died – Anne Thompson and Alan Vout, and on their anniversaries: John Edwards, Kenneth Thompson, Wilfred Simpson, Kenneth Rickaby, Margery Scott, Daphne Stroud, Charles Hobson, Margaret Harris, Peter Anderson

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