



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

**Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> March 2025  
Mothering Sunday**

Mothering Sunday is a chance to celebrate the gift of mothering love in all its forms. Our readings this morning remind us that mothering love is part of the character of God. Isaiah tells of God's faithful love for his people, equating it to the love of a mother for her child, yet greater still. In our passage from Luke's Gospel, God chooses a young woman to become a mother and bear not only a child, but the salvation of the world.

As we hear of the gift of mothering love, in whatever form we've experienced that in our lives, perhaps we're reminded of the call of Mary. A young woman was asked to carry within her the love of God and bring it birth in Christ. We too are asked to carry the strong and tender love of Christ, to allow his life to grow within us, and through our lives to bear him to the world.

**Isaiah 49.8-9, 13-15**

Thus says the Lord:

In a time of favour I have answered you,  
on a day of salvation I have helped you;

I have kept you and given you  
as a covenant to the people,[a]

to establish the land,

to apportion the desolate heritages;  
saying to the prisoners, 'Come out',  
to those who are in darkness, 'Show yourselves.'

They shall feed along the ways,  
on all the bare heights[b] shall be their pasture;

Sing for joy, O heavens, and exult, O earth;  
break forth, O mountains, into singing!

For the Lord has comforted his people,  
and will have compassion on his suffering ones.

But Zion said, 'The Lord has forsaken me,  
my Lord has forgotten me.'

Can a woman forget her nursing-child,  
or show no compassion for the child of her womb?

Even these may forget,  
yet I will not forget you.

## **Luke 1.26-38**

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, 'Greetings, favoured one! The Lord is with you.' [a] But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, 'Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favour with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob for ever, and of his kingdom there will be no end.' Mary said to the angel, 'How can this be, since I am a virgin?' [b] The angel said to her, 'The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born[c] will be holy; he will be called Son of God. And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. For nothing will be impossible with God.' Then Mary said, 'Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word.' Then the angel departed from her.

**TODAY**     9.30am: **Mothering Sunday Family Service** Rev'd Dr Hannah Malcolm leads as Rev'd Gerard Rundell preaches

## **THE WEEK AHEAD**

**Mon**        7.30pm, Zoom: **Lent Bible Study**

**Tues-Fri**    8.55am, Church: **Morning Prayer**

**Wed**        10.00am, Church: **BCP Midweek Eucharist**  
12.00pm: St John's URC, Wideopen: **Lent Lunch**  
12.00pm, Rugby Club: **Lunch Group**

**Thurs**      2.00pm, Community Room: **Prayer and Praise**  
8.00pm, Men's Group: **Community Room**

**Fri**         9.00am, West Rd Crem: **Funeral of Katherine Brown**  
6.00pm, Church: **Beetle Drive**

**Sat**         10.00am, Community Room: **Saturday Cafe**  
10.30am, Church: **Kids Zone (not 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday of the month)**

**Sun**         9.30am: **Safeguarding and Passion Sunday** Rev'd Gerard Rundell leads with input from Sarah and Bernie Troughton.

## **DATES FOR THE DIARY**

Wed 9<sup>th</sup> April 12.00pm: **Lent Lunch**, St Cuthbert's, Brunswick  
Sat 3<sup>rd</sup> May 10.00am **Eco Fest**, Church and Garden  
Sat 17<sup>th</sup> May 10.00am **Big Brekkie**, Community Room  
Sun 18<sup>th</sup> May 11.30am **AGM**, Church

## **HOLY WEEK**

Thurs 17<sup>th</sup> April 7.30pm: **Maundy Thursday Eucharist**  
Fri 18<sup>th</sup> April 10.00am: **Good Friday Family Worship**  
2.00pm: **An Hour Before the Cross**  
Sun 30<sup>th</sup> 5.30am: **Easter Vigil**  
9.30am: **Easter Eucharist**

**NOTICES** - today's service link is <https://bit.ly/StAidan2025MotheringSunday>

**LENT LUNCHES** – continue on Wednesday at St John's URC, Wideopen.

**FUNERAL OF KATHERINE BROWN** – will take place on Friday 4<sup>th</sup> April at 9am, at West Road Crematorium. All are welcome to attend.

**GOODBYE AND GOODLUCK LENA** – we are very sad to announce that our Children and Families Worker, Lena, will be moving on to pastures new after Easter. We wish her all the very best in her new venture and thank her for all the hard work she has done in our parish.

**HELP NEEDED FOR PLAYZONE** - Could you give a couple of hours a month to support our baby and toddler group? We urgently need to recruit 2 or 3 volunteers who can offer one Saturday morning a month to put out toys and chat to parents. If you could lend some support please chat to Rev Hannah.

**ELECTORAL ROLL** - Roll up, roll up! St Aidan's new Electoral Roll is being prepared now, so if you would like to have your name entered, please complete the paperwork at the back of church. Please note, as this is a brand new roll, inclusion is not automatic so members on the previous roll must also apply to be included. The deadline for completion is Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> May.

**LENT COURSE** –this week in our Lent Series 'What's this doing in the Bible?', we will be joined by the Rt Rev Stephen Platten, Former Bishop of Wakefield, who will lead us on looking at passages from Deuteronomy 7, Joshua 6.15-21, and 1 Samuel 15. Everyone is welcome. The Zoom Meeting ID is: 757 377 8713 Passcode: StAidan or contact Ken via email: ([kmnewitt@outlook.com](mailto:kmnewitt@outlook.com))

**EASTER CARDS** – we have some printed cards with details of our Easter services. If you are able to deliver them around Brunton Park, please put your details on the list at the back of church and take a bundle of cards. Thank you for your help.

**MENS GROUP** – will meet on Thursday 3rd April at 8pm in the Community Room for a talk by Rev'd Glyn Evans.

**BEETLE DRIVE** – will be held on Friday 4<sup>th</sup> April at 6pm. The cost is £10 per person with an additional donation if you would like wine with your meal, which will be pizza, salad and coleslaw. We will also hold a raffle so please bring along some spare change. The sign up sheet is at the back of church.

### **Living on God's Good Earth**

#### **March 2025: Sow Wild**

Our flowers are gone from church for Lent, but outside the world is coming into bloom. And March is the perfect time to sow a wildflower patch! All you need is a bright, sunny spot and a little packet of wildflower seeds. If you'd like a packet of seeds to take home, there are some available in the entrance to church.

There are some simple instructions available here here:

<https://www.rhs.org.uk/lawns/how-to-sow-a-wildflower-patch>. Happy sowing!

#### **For Our Prayers: St Aidan's Cycle of Prayer**

**For the church** – Mark Edwards and St Cuthbert's and St Matthew's.

St Columba's church and their future incumbent. Safeguarding officer Catherine, that our church would be a safe place for all.

**For the community** – Refugees and recent arrivals in our community, for all who have come to our city in search of safety and peace.

For those in our community who are searching for God, that they would come to faith, those preparing for baptism.

**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, Charlie Bennett, Mavis Bennett, Peter Kenney

**For those who have died** – Katherine Brown, 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

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