



**Team Parish of Christ the King
St Aidan's Brunton Park
Sunday 29th June 2025
Pentecost
Second Sunday of Trinity**

Who do you say that I am?

Life is full of questions, questions abound everywhere. What am I going to do with my life? What will tomorrow bring? Will my children/grandchildren turn out to be OK? Not only do these practical questions beg for an answer, but there are also questions concerning our spiritual life. Questions such as; Am I saved? When I die will I go to heaven? Why does God allow such tragedy and suffering to exist? Then there are the philosophical questions: Which comes first the chicken or the egg? All of these questions have one common element. Our Gospel lesson today takes us to the District of Caesarea Philippi, an area about 25 miles northeast of the Sea of Galilee and about 120 miles from Jerusalem. The region was strongly identified with various religions: It had been a centre for the worship of Baal; the Greek god Pan had shrines there and Herod the Great built a temple there to honour Augustus Caesar. It was in the midst of this pagan superstition that Peter confessed Jesus as the Son of the living God, and it was probably within sight of Caesar's temple that Jesus announced: He would not yet establish His kingdom, He would build His church. He looked at His disciples and in a moment of reflection said: **"Who do the people say that I am?"** The disciples begin sharing with Jesus what they had heard from the people: **Some** say that you are Elijah; **others** say John the Baptist, still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets. You can speak of Jesus as a Prophet, Holy man, Teacher, or Spiritual leader, and few will object..... **But, speak of Him as the Son of God, divine, of the same nature of the Father, and people will line up to express their disapproval.** Muslims will say: "Prophet, Yes. God, No!" Jews scattered around the world will say: "Teacher, Yes, Messiah, No!" Liberal Protestants and modern religionists will say: "Exemplary man, Yes, Divine, No!" But the question I ask you this morning is **'Who do you say Jesus is?'**

Acts 12. 1-11

About that time King Herod laid violent hands upon some who belonged to the church. He had James, the brother of John, killed with the sword. After he saw that it pleased the Jews, he proceeded to arrest Peter also. (This was during the festival of Unleavened Bread.) When he had seized him, he put him in prison and handed him over to four squads of soldiers to guard him, intending to bring him out to the people after the Passover. While Peter was kept in prison, the church prayed fervently to God for him. The very night before Herod was going to bring him out, Peter, bound with two chains, was sleeping between two soldiers, while guards in front of the door were keeping watch over the prison. Suddenly an angel of the Lord appeared, and a light shone in the cell. He tapped Peter on the side and woke him, saying, 'Get up quickly.' And the chains fell off his wrists. The angel said to him, 'Fasten your belt and put on your sandals.' He did so. Then he said to him, 'Wrap your cloak around you and follow me.' Peter went out and followed him; he did not realize that what was happening with the angel's help was real; he

thought he was seeing a vision. After they had passed the first and the second guard, they came before the iron gate leading into the city. It opened for them of its own accord, and they went outside and walked along a lane, when suddenly the angel left him. Then Peter came to himself and said, 'Now I am sure that the Lord has sent his angel and rescued me from the hands of Herod and from all that the Jewish people were expecting.'

Matthew 16. 13-19

Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, 'Who do people say that the Son of Man is?' And they said, 'Some say John the Baptist, but others Elijah, and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.' He said to them, 'But who do you say that I am?' Simon Peter answered, 'You are the Messiah,¹ the Son of the living God.' And Jesus answered him, 'Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock [will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven

TODAY 9.30am: **Trinity 2** Rev'd Canon Jean Skinner will preside and preach (Gerard at St Columba's)

11.30am Baptism of Adelaide

THE WEEK AHEAD

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

Thurs 2.00 pm Community Room: **Prayer and Praise**

7.30pm Church: **Gosforth and District 65th Anniversary Concert,**

8.00pm **Men's Group, Pub Night. Northern Football Club**

Sat	10.00am	Community Room: Saturday Cafe
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10.30am Church: **Kid's Zone, Summer Party (last meeting)**

Sun 9.30am: **Trinity 3 Family Service.** Rev'd Gerard Rundell will preside, and Rev'd Dr Hannah Malcolm will preach

11.30am Church: Baptism of Ellis

DATES FOR THE DIARY

Thurs 10th July 2.00pm Film Club , 'Bucket List' Community Room.

Sat 12th July 10.00am **Saturday Cafe Community Room**
(No Kld's Zone)

Sat 26th July Church Summer Trip to Newbiggin By The Sea

NOTICES

TODAY'S SERVICE LINK: <https://bit.ly/StAidan2025Trinity2>

PRAYER GROUP – There is space available in church near the High Altar for those who would like to gather for prayer before the 9.30am Sunday service.

MIM SKINNER – Anyone wanting to catchup on the talk from Mim follow this link. <https://bit.ly/MimSkinnerConversationStAidans>

BIBLE STUDY – The Bible Study Group is now taking a break until September.

GOSFORTH and DISTRICT CHOIR – will be performing their 65th Anniversary Concert on Thursday 3rd July 7.30pm in St Aidan's Church. Adm £6 Conc £5

SUMMER FAIR - Thank you to everyone who helped make it such a lovely afternoon, whether by donations, time or attending. The amount raised is £1064.

SUMMER TRIP – We are planning a Church Summer Trip on Saturday 26th July. We hope to hire a bus, but need at least a rough idea of numbers as soon as possible to confirm. Please register interest on the sheet at the back of church

FAIR-TRADE – We are now officially a fair-trade church and are purchasing all fair-trade tea, coffee, sugar and wine for use in church.

Living on God's Good Earth: June

Flight Free?

It's the time of year when lots of us make summer holiday plans. But our love of cheap flights abroad comes with a big carbon footprint - just one return flight to the U.S. totals the *annual* emissions of a Bolivian citizen. This year, could you swap one flight for travel by rail or sail instead? Or, as a bigger challenge, could you take the 'flight free' pledge, and go without plane travel for one whole year?

Check out <https://flightfree.co.uk/> for grounded travel ideas and inspiration!

SUNDAY SERMON'S

For anyone who would like one, written copies of the Sunday sermon are available from the preacher on request. Please contact either Gerard, or the preacher of the day, to be sent a copy

For the church Gerard Rundell, Hannah Malcolm, Rev'd Ray Devenney and Jean Skinner Lay ministers Ken Newitt and Bernie Troughton. Pastoral care team.

For the community Our shared outdoor spaces and the wildlife who live there, especially efforts to protect and restore the Ouseburn.

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, Pat Lawson

For those who have died – Alex Mabbs Esther Hall, Susan Pennington **and on their anniversaries-** Betty Smith, Elizabeth Douglas, Alan Phillips, Lewis Ternent, Fred Stout, Phyllis Atkinson Jennie Barritt



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