



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

**Sunday 28th September 2025
Trinity 15**

Gerard referred to the parable in last Sunday's gospel (the dishonest manager) as among the most confusing Jesus told. The follow-on parable in today's gospel (the rich man and Lazarus) must be among the most challenging. It chimes with two of the themes of Luke's gospel, God's 'bias to the poor' and 'reversal' in the kingdom of God overturning human power, privilege and wealth (for example, in the Magnificat 'he has filled the hungry with good things and the rich he has sent empty away' and in Luke's version of the Beatitudes which not only has 'blessed are you who are poor' but also has the corresponding 'woe to you who are rich'). It also chimes with the well-known but oft-misquoted verse from our first reading from 1 Timothy which points to the corrosive effect of wealth, 'the love of money is the root of all evil'.

The contrast between the ostentatious life of the rich man and Lazarus' desperate state could not be greater, and it's not difficult to draw comparisons with the situation in the world today. But the uncomfortable challenge to us, as to the rich man's brothers, is not just about our money and how we use it. It's broader than that. The rich man can be seen as standing for all who are indifferent to others who find themselves 'lying at our gate', excluded from the good things of life, including life in the church. The challenge to us is, Who are the Lazaruses of today, in our lives, in the church, in the world?. And how do we treat them?

1 Timothy 6:6-19

Of course, there is great gain in godliness combined with contentment; for we brought nothing into the world, so that we can take nothing out of it; but if we have food and clothing, we will be content with these. But those who want to be rich fall into temptation and are trapped by many senseless and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction. For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil, and in their eagerness to be

But as for you, man of God, shun all this; pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, endurance, gentleness. Fight the good fight of the faith; take hold of the eternal life, to which you were called and for which you made the good confession in the presence of many witnesses. In the presence of God, who gives life to all things, and of Christ Jesus, who in his testimony before Pontius Pilate made the good confession, I charge you ¹ to keep the commandment without spot or blame until the manifestation of our Lord Jesus Christ, which he will bring about at the right time—he who is the blessed and only Sovereign, the King of kings and Lord of lords. It is he alone who has immortality and dwells in unapproachable light, whom no one has ever seen or can see; to him be honour and eternal dominion. Amen.

As for those who in the present age are rich, command them not to be haughty, or to set their hopes on the uncertainty of riches, but rather on God who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment. They are to do good, to be rich in good works, generous, and ready to share, ¹ thus storing up for themselves the treasure of a good foundation for the future, so that they may take hold of the life that really is life.

Luke 16 .19 – end

'There was a rich man who was dressed in purple and fine linen and who feasted sumptuously every day. And at his gate lay a poor man named Lazarus, covered with sores, who longed to satisfy his hunger with what fell from the rich man's table; even the dogs would come and lick his sores. The poor man died and was carried away by the angels to be with Abraham. The rich man also died and was buried. In Hades, where he was being tormented, he looked up and saw Abraham far away with Lazarus by his side. He called out, "Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue; for I am in agony in these flames." But Abraham said, "Child, remember that during your lifetime you received your good things, and Lazarus in like manner evil things; but now he is comforted here, and you are in agony. Besides all this, between you and us a great chasm has been fixed, so that those who might want to pass from here to you cannot do so, and no one can cross from there to us." He said, "Then, father, I beg you to send him to my father's house—for I have five brothers—that he may warn them, so that they will not also come into this place of torment." Abraham replied, "They have Moses and the prophets; they should listen to them." He said, "No, father Abraham; but if someone goes to them from the dead, they will repent." He said to him, "If they do not listen to Moses and the prophets, neither will they be convinced even if someone rises from the dead."

TODAY Rev'd Gerard Rundell presides and Mr Ken Newitt preaches

THE WEEK AHEAD

Mon	7.30pm Bible Study on Zoom
Tues	3.30pm –5.00pm; After School Drop-Off Club
Wed	10.00am Church: BCP Midweek Eucharist
Thurs	2.00pm Community Room: Prayer and Praise 8.00pm Men's Group 'Executioner Pierrepont- My personal encounter' a talk by Rev'd Peter Moth
Sat	10.00am Community Room Saturday Cafe
Sun	9.30am: Harvest Thanksgiving Family Service Rev'd Gerard Rundell presides and preaches

DATES FOR THE DIARY

Wed 8th Oct 12pm for 12.30pm meal. **Lunch Club**
Thurs 9th Oct 2.00pm **Film Club 'A Call to Spy' Community Room**
Sat 18th Oct 10.00am **Children's Society Coffee Morning and opening of
The collection boxes**

NOTICES

TODAY'S SERVICE LINK <https://bit.ly/StAidan2025Trinity15>

BIBLE STUDY GROUP The Bible Study Group will meet again on Zoom at 7.30 pm on Monday 28th September, continuing a study of Paul's letter to the Philippians. All are welcome to join us – contact Ken Newitt on 07770 480938 or kmnewitt@outlook.com for the Zoom link or for more details.

HARVEST THANKSGIVING FAMILY SERVICE – Sunday 5th October followed by breakfast which will be made from surplus food provided by local supermarket. Donations of none perishable food can be brought to church during the week or on the day. All food donated will be taken to the Kenton Food Bank and the People's Kitchen.

LUNCH GROUP- will meet on Wednesday 8th October at the Rugby Club 12 o'clock for 12.30 meal. Names to Pat or Pauline if you wish to join.

LISTEN WITH YOUR HEART -Wednesday 8th October 11.00am St Mary's Church Fawdon message from Rev'd Geoff Miller 'We are organising this little event in response to some people wondering how they could better pray for the situation in Palestine/Israel. The videos speak for themselves but are very simple presentations by Palestinian and Israeli parents who have lost children in the conflict and are trying to work together to build hope. They are very powerful. I have accessed them from the Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle's Justice and Peace group and show them with their permission.

DCC MEETING UPDATE – Many thanks to all who joined the open DCC meeting on Thursday. The decision was made to affirm our welcome of the LGBT+ community and to make that known to those who are outside the church. We will include a statement of welcome of all people on our website, making clear that we don't discriminate on any grounds (have a read, it's also quite funny!). We will also have a series of posters on our notice board in support of various groups to offer prayer, welcome and support at various times in the year (e.g. Men's Mental Health Awareness Week, Baby Loss Awareness Week, and others), and during Pride month we will include a tasteful poster showing support and welcome of the LGBT+ community, without aligning ourselves to any particular organisation. Thank you to everyone who came to a constructive meeting that found a consensus we could all agree on.

Living on God's Good Earth: September

Brewing a fairer world

Did you know that in Britain we drink over 100 million cups of tea every day? It might be the world's most popular drink after water – but the people who grow our tea leaves rarely get a fair price for their labour. Fairtrade fortnight falls this month, and the Fairtrade Foundation are asking us to focus on the humble teabag, choosing fairtrade tea where we can and pushing the UK government to ensure a fair future for the humble brew. Find out more about at

<https://www.fairtrade.org.uk/do-it-fair/>

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 For all ministers serving in our deanery, those on deanery synod

For the community St Aidan's kid's group, baby and toddler group, after school club and youth group. The Manor House, Bowmont House and Melton House.

For the world – For refugees and recent arrivals in our community who are looking for safety and peace.

For those in need – Esther Wooler, Martin Seaton, Sue Bates, Sheila Lonie, Christine Crompton, Charlie Bennett, Pat Lawson, Lindsay Miller, Marion Newitt

For those who have died –and on their anniversaries Rene Reeves, David Lee, Phyllis Rockcliffe, Thelma Ashby, Dinah Purvis, Jean Muse. Ashby



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