



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

**Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> December 2025  
Second Sunday of Advent**

This Second Sunday of Advent remembers the Prophets of Old. They're the ones who told us to prepare for the coming of God's chosen Messiah. As we hear their message today perhaps they might help shape how we prepare for Christmas. We prepare first with clearing away the chaff of our lives. This is the repentance that our Gospel speaks of. What might be holding you back from reaching that nourishing kernel of wheat at the heart of our faith? Perhaps this Advent is a chance to shrug it off and let it go.

But we also prepare knowing that this is not our work but God's. He has sent the one who redeems the world, and our place is simply to receive him. Isaiah tells of the shoot that comes from the stock of Jesse, and in Jesus we have seen it's fulfilment. The peace, wisdom, justice and knowledge of God are given to us in Christ. How will you prepare to receive that gift afresh this Advent?

**Isaiah 11. 1 – 10**

A shoot shall come out from the stock of Jesse,  
and a branch shall grow out of his roots. The spirit of the LORD shall rest on him,  
the spirit of wisdom and understanding,  
the spirit of counsel and might,  
the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD. His delight shall be in the fear of the LORD.

He shall not judge by what his eyes see,  
or decide by what his ears hear; but with righteousness he shall judge the poor,  
and decide with equity for the meek of the earth;  
he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth,  
Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist,  
and faithfulness the belt around his loins.

The wolf shall live with the lamb,  
the leopard shall lie down with the kid,  
the calf and the lion and the fatling together,  
and a little child shall lead them. The cow and the bear shall graze,  
their young shall lie down together;  
and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.

The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp,  
and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den.  
They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain;  
for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the LORD  
as the waters cover the sea.

On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.

### **Matthew 3. 1-12**

In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.' This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said,

'The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:  
"Prepare the way of the Lord,  
make his paths straight."'

Now John wore clothing of camel's hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then the people of Jerusalem and all Judea were going out to him, and all the region along the Jordan, and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.

But when he saw many Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, 'You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruit worthy of repentance. Do not presume to say to yourselves, "We have Abraham as our ancestor"; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the axe is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not

'I baptize you with water for repentance, but one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing-floor and will gather his wheat into the granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.'

**TODAY** Advent 2- Family Service Rev'd Gerard Rundell will lead and preach.

### **THE WEEK AHEAD**

<b>Mon</b>	7.30pm <b>Carols on the Green. Netherwitton Way/Greenfield Rd with the Salvation Army Band and refreshments.</b>
<b>Tues</b>	3.30pm –5.00pm; <b>After School Drop-Off Club</b>
<b>Wed</b>	10.00am Church: <b>BCP Midweek Eucharist</b>
<b>Thurs</b>	12.00pm <b>Men's Group Christmas Lunch. Rugby Club</b> 2.00pm Community room. <b>Film Club 'The Bishop's Wife'</b>
<b>Sat</b>	10.00am Community Room: <b>Saturday Café</b>
<b>Sun</b>	9.30am <b>Advent 3. Revd Canon Jean Skinner will preside and preach</b> 3 to 5pm <b>Christmas Party at the Vicarage</b>

## **DATES FOR THE DIARY**

<b>Sat</b>	20 <sup>th</sup> Dec 7.00pm Church: <b>Festival of Carols and Readings - with the Colla Voce Chamber Choir and Orchestra.</b>
<b>Sun</b>	21 <sup>st</sup> Dec 11.30am, Church: <b>SEN Nativity</b>
<b>Wed</b>	24 <sup>th</sup> Dec 4.30pm <b>Nativity in Church</b> 11.30pm <b>Midnight Mass</b>
<b>Thurs</b>	25 <sup>th</sup> Dec 9.30am <b>Christmas Eucharist</b>

## **NOTICES**

TODAY'S SERVICE LINK <https://bit.ly/StAidan2025Advent2>

**CHRISTMAS FAIR – raised £1562** A huge thank you to everyone who came and gave their support, donated money or items for the stalls, set up and cleared away, all very much appreciated.

**CHRISTMAS CHARITIES** – All donations given at our Christmas services will this year go to Christian Aid and St Oswald's Hospice.

**SHARED CHRISTMAS CARDS** – remember to bring one card along to church and pin it on our community Christmas card board. No need to write anymore to anyone in church. Donations in lieu of buying cards will go to our Christmas charities Christian Aid and St Oswald's Hospice.

**FILM CLUB** -The Bishop's Wife, Cary Grant, Loretta Young and David Niven. Dejected by his efforts to raise money to build a cathedral, Bishop Henry Brougham asks God for help and guidance.

**CHRISTMAS PARTY** – Gerard and Karen and the family would like to invite you to a Christmas get-together at the vicarage, 60 Barmoor Drive, NE3 5RG, on Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> December, 3-5pm. We'll have mulled wine and mince pies and a chance to meet and share each other's company! Do drop in whenever suits you between 3 and 5, and we'll look forward to seeing you.

**FESTIVAL of CAROLS and READINGS-** 20th Dec at 7.00pm in Church with the Colla Voce Chamber Choir and Orchestra. With choral music by Benjamin Britten, Cecilia McDowall, John Rutter and congregational carols.

**SEN NATIVITY** – Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> 11.30am. This year we're going to be offering a special Nativity for families who might find our Christmas Eve service a bit overwhelming. It'll be a short relaxed service, with quieter music, dimmer lighting and an invitation to come as you are. Join us on 21<sup>st</sup>, for a more accessible opportunity to hear the story of Christmas.

**CHRISTMAS FLOWERS** – There are envelopes at the back of church for anyone wishing to make a donation towards Christmas flowers. Thank you

**Living on God's good earth**

**December: Christmas is for Sharing**

It's the most expensive time of the year! As we look forward to celebrating the birth of Jesus, the pressure to spend a lot - and waste a lot - can be very high. This month, look for ways to live and give more simply. You could give one Christmas card to the whole church on our community card board, or try 'Secret Santa' style giving with family or friends, donating any money you save. When present shopping, buying experiences and consumables are a great way to cut down on waste! --

**SUNDAY SERMONS**

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.** Janice, all involved in family outreach events and work with children and young people. Bible Study, prayer groups, Echo church group.

**For the community.** Our sponsored child Ivonia. For 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, Sue Bates, Sheila Lonie, Christine Crompton, Charlie Bennett, Lindsay Miller, Marion Newitt, Rebecca

**For those who have died, and on their anniversaries.** Patricia Shields, Doreen Alsop, Eric Frost, Emma Flynn, Francis Leslie, Lawrence Smith, Cynthia Richardson, Ida Holst, Mervyn Spearing, June Ward.



**CONTACTS:**

Office: 0191 236 7952 [infostaidans@gmail.com](mailto:infostaidans@gmail.com)

Team Rector: Revd Gerard Rundell 07394 792277 [rev.g.rundell@gmail.com](mailto:rev.g.rundell@gmail.com)

Janice Charlton: Children and Family Worker [staidansfamilyworker@gmail.com](mailto:staidansfamilyworker@gmail.com)

Newsletter: Catherine Stewart [catherinedstewart@btinternet.com](mailto:catherinedstewart@btinternet.com)

Bookings Secretary : Susan Armstrong [bookings.staidansbrunton@gmail.com](mailto:bookings.staidansbrunton@gmail.com)

*St Aidan's Church Brunton Park Newcastle* [www.staidanschurchbruntonpark.co.uk](http://www.staidanschurchbruntonpark.co.uk)