



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

**Sunday 15th February 2026
Next Sunday before Lent**

The Epiphany Season has come to an end, as a church we now move on from looking at the glory of God to Lent which starts on Wednesday.

Though the gospel reading is the story of the Transfiguration that is not what we are observing today, that's for another time.

Before we walk into repentance, sacrifice and self-denial God shows us who Jesus really is, so that we know why it matters.

The readings today look at the coming of the power of God into the midst of human reality. They were no ordinary events.

There are three aspects of this story:

1. The connection with Moses and Elijah reminds us of Jesu's connectedness with Israel's history.
2. The voice from the cloud confirms what had been announced at Jesu's baptism. This is my Son. My beloved. God doesn't say look at him, he says, listen to him.
3. The most important part are the words "**Listen to him**".
Listen to Jesu's words as teacher and obey his commands.
Listening leads them down the mountain to the reality of life, suffering and love.

Lent isn't about doing more, it's about listening more deeply. We live in a world of on-line influencers, fake news and A I. On line videos which are often miss-leading and dangerous.

Lent isn't a time to lose ourselves, it's a time to listen, to let go of the many voices that get in the way. The voices of anxiety, habit, fake news, our own self-criticism or our own self-justification.

I pose the question: What voices have I been listening too and why? Lent is a good time to de clutter, to clear the way and listen more attentively to Christ. To the voice of healing rather than destruction.

Exodus 24 12 -end

The LORD said to Moses, 'Come up to me on the mountain, and wait there; and I will give you the tablets of stone, with the law and the commandment, which I have written for their instruction.' So Moses set out with his assistant Joshua, and Moses went up into the mountain of God. To the elders he had said, 'Wait here for us, until we come to you again; for Aaron and Hur are with you; whoever has a dispute may go to them.'

Then Moses went up on the mountain, and the cloud covered the mountain. The glory of the LORD settled on Mount Sinai, and the cloud covered it for six days; on the seventh day he called to Moses out of the cloud. Now the appearance of the glory of the LORD was like a devouring fire on the top of the mountain in the sight of the people of Israel. Moses entered the cloud, and went up on the mountain. Moses was on the mountain for forty days and forty nights.

Matthew 17. 1-9

Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became dazzling white. Suddenly there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him. Then Peter said to Jesus, 'Lord, it is good for us to be here; if you wish, I will make three dwellings here, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.' While he was still speaking, suddenly a bright cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud a voice said, 'This is my Son, the Beloved; with him I am well pleased; listen to him!' When the disciples heard this, they fell to the ground and were overcome by fear. But Jesus came and touched them, saying, 'Get up and do not be afraid.' And when they looked up, they saw no one except Jesus himself alone.

As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus ordered them, 'Tell no one about the vision until after the Son of Man has been raised from the dead.'

TODAY 9.30am Next Sunday before Lent Rev'd Canon Jean Skinner will preside and preach. Rev'd Gerard is at St Columba's
11.30am Baptism of Ben and Max

THE WEEK AHEAD

Mon Bible Study Group
Tues 3.30-5pm, Pancake Party
Wed 10am, and 7.30pm, Ash Wednesday services
Thurs 2.00pm Community room Coffee and Conversation
Sat 10.00am Saturday Café
Sun 9.30am First Sunday of Lent Rev'd Gerard Rundell will preside and Preach

DATES FOR THE DIARY

Mon 23rd Bible Study Group
Tues 24th After School Club
7.30pm Lent Course 'The Chosen' Community Room'
Wed 25th 12pm Lent Lunch at St Aidan's
Thurs 26th Community room Chat and Craft

NOTICES

TODAY'S SERVICE LINK <https://bit.ly/StAidans2026NextBeforeLent>

BIBLE STUDY GROUP – Bible study group Monday 16th February at 7.30 pm, Contact Ken Newitt (kmnewitt@outlook.com, 07770 480938) for the joining link or further details. All welcome.

PANCAKE PARTY – Our annual Pancake Party is coming up! It'll be 3.30-5pm on Tuesday 17th Feb, with fun and games, a talk about Pancake Day and Ash Wednesday and what they mean, and, of course, freshly made pancakes! Do come, or let friends and family who might be interested know.

LENT COURSE – Our Lent Course this year will be returning to 'The Chosen' a TV series re-telling the story of Jesus and his disciples. It will be Tuesdays at 7.30pm in the Community Room and joining with others across the team.

LENT LUNCHESES – Lent lunches will held as usual on Wednesdays at 12pm:

25th Feb: St Aidan's

4th March: Sacred Heart

11th March: St Columba's

18th March: St Cuthbert's

SACRISTANS – HELP NEEDED – In the past there were four couples sharing sacristan's duties but we now only have Chris and Pauline Watson and Pat Page. We would like to expand the team to lighten the load on them. Duties involve ensuring all items including candles, altar bread, wine, and linens are prepared for the Eucharist service, and offers a chance to learn more about what goes on in the vestry behind the scenes! Training would be given to anyone interested in learning what is involved. Please speak to one of the sacristans or church wardens if that sounds like something you could do.

SOCIAL COMMITTEE – Social gatherings have always been popular at St Aidan's and with the local community and we try to provide a variety of events to suit all tastes. However, these events would not take place without the volunteers who do so much behind the scenes, and we are now looking for more volunteers to join the team. If you are interested in joining and would like more information, please speak to Linda, Margaret or Susan.

SAD NEWS- We were very sorry to hear the sad news that our dear friend Pauline Adair died on the 9th February. Details of her funeral will be advised later.

Living on God's Good Earth

February 2026: Feed the Birds

Sharing our gardens with birds, hedgehogs, and other animals is a joy. But winter and early spring is a tough time. Like us, other animals need to use lots of energy (or sleep) to survive in the cold, but unlike us, they don't have supermarkets or heaters to rely on. You can help birds and other wildlife get through these tricky months by leaving areas of leaves or branches undisturbed, planting shrubs and trees with wintering berries and fruit, putting out fresh water on frozen days, and putting up bird feeders. If you use permanent feeders, remember to wash them every week or so to prevent disease from spreading.

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 Our Prayers:

For the church. Mark Edwards and St Cuthbert's and St Matthew's. Ruth Stradling and St Columba's. Safeguarding officer Catherine, that our church will 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, Sue Bates, Christine Crompton, Charlie Bennett, Lindsay Miller, Marion Newitt, Joyce Richardson.

For those who have died Margaret Preece. Pauline Adair and remembering their families.

On their anniversaries -Jessie McGray, Joan Pendebury, Kathleen Holder, George Lonie, Mary Temple, Dorothy Smurthwaite, Philip Brantingham, Rex Chinnery, Maureen Carr, Barbara McGovern, Joan Brown, Susan Rennie.



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