



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

**Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> February 2026  
Second Sunday before Lent**

This Sunday we'll be celebrating our Eco Sunday. This is a chance to celebrate and give thanks for God's good creation as well as re-commit ourselves to it's care. In his letter to the Romans, Paul speaks of all creation 'groaning in labour pains' for the redemption of God. While the promises of God are for the redemption of us, his children, they are far more than just that. God will one day fully heal his creation as all things are made new in him. But that future promise doesn't mean that we just let things go to ruin while we wait for God to do his work. Christians instead are called to participate in the redeeming work of God. To bear, as Paul says, the 'first fruits' of God's new creation.

So this Sunday we ask how we, as Christians, filled with the first fruits of the Holy Spirit, can work for the healing of all of creation. How can we reject a world that sees creation as a resource to exploit, and learn to treat it with the reverence and love that God's handiwork deserves? How can we live our lives, and shape our societies, to be the first fruits of God's restoring healing work even here and now?

**Romans 8. 18-25**

I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God; for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to decay and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labour pains until now; and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen? But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

## **Matthew 6. 25-34**

Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds of the air; they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? And can any of you by worrying add a single hour to your span of life? And why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin, yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these. But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you—you of little faith? Therefore do not worry, saying, "What will we eat?" or "What will we drink?" or "What will we wear?" For it is the Gentiles who strive for all these things; and indeed your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. But strive first for the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

'So do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will bring worries of its own. Today's trouble is enough for today.

**TODAY** 9.30am Second Sunday before Lent – Eco Service Rev'd Gerard Rundell will preside and the Rev'd Ruth Stradling will preach

### **THE WEEK AHEAD**

**Mon**            **No Bible Study Group**  
**Tues**           3.30pm to 5.00pm **After School Drop Off Club**  
**Wed**           10.00am Church **Book of Common Prayer Midweek Eucharist**  
**Thurs**         2.00pm Community room **Film Club 'Her Majesty Mrs Brown**  
**Sat**            10.00am **Saturday Café**  
**Sun**            9.30am Next Sunday before Lent Rev'd Canon Jean Skinner will preside and preach.      Rev'd Gerard is at St Columba's

### **DATES FOR THE DIARY**

**Mon 16th**            Bible Study Group  
**Tues 17th**           3.30-5pm, Pancake Party  
**Wed 18th**           10am, and 7.30pm, Ash Wednesday services  
**Thurs 19th**         Community room Friends Having Fun  
**Tues 24th**           7.30pm Start of the Lent Course 'The Chosen' at St Aidan's  
**Wed 25th**           12pm The first Lent Lunch at St Aidan's

## **NOTICES**

TODAY'S SERVICE LINK <https://bit.ly/StAidans2026EcoService>

**BIBLE STUDY GROUP** – The Bible study group will not meet this week but will resume on Monday 16th February at 7.30 pm, Contact Ken Newitt ([kmnewitt@outlook.com](mailto:kmnewitt@outlook.com), 07770 480938) for the joining link or further details. All welcome.

**FILM CLUB** – This week are showing 'Her Majesty Mrs Brown' starring Judi Dench and Billie Connolly. It's based on the true-life relationship between Queen Victoria and John Brown, a royal servant.

**PANCAKE PARTY** – Our annual Pancake Party is coming up! It'll be 3.30-5pm on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> 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.

**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.** Janice, and all involved in family outreach events and work with children and young people. Bible Study, Prayer Groups, Eco group

**For the community** Our sponsored child Ivonia. and 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, Christine Crompton, Charlie Bennett, Lindsay Miller, Marion Newitt,

**For those who have died** Margaret Preece.

**On their anniversaries** -Alan Gregg, Geoffrey Henderson



**CONTACTS:**

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