



**The Team Parish of Christ the King
St Aidan's Church Brunton Park
Sunday 26th April 2026
Fourth Sunday of Easter**

This week's Gospel is the first half of Jesus' discourse with his disciples using the imagery of the shepherd. He speaks of the shepherd who enters through the gate and calls his sheep by name, then he goes on to speak of himself saying 'I am the gate for the sheep'. In the following verses, which we're not given today, he goes on to say: 'I am the good shepherd' the one who gives his life for the sheep. It's a discourse that reminds us that Jesus is both the way to abundant life, the gate through which we pass, and also the shepherd who leads us there.

But strikingly, in this first part Jesus speaks about the voice of the shepherd who calls his sheep by name. The sheep know his voice, and respond to his call. Perhaps this prompts us to ask what voices we respond to. The world around us, particularly in the age of the internet, is filled with voices vying for our attention: the voices of politicians, the voices of social media influencers, the voices of celebrities and entertainers, the voices of self-help gurus and wellness experts; there are a myriad podcasts and TV programmes, Tik-Tok videos and Instagram posts, all of them shouting with different voices. How in all this noise, do we listen for the voice of Jesus? Perhaps the first step is simply to take the time to turn off all those other voices, and listen. To create space in our lives for Jesus to speak, whether in prayer, in reading the bible, in worship. Because when we stop and listen we will surely hear Jesus' voice calling us through the gate to the abundant life he comes to offer.

Acts 2. 42 - end

They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.

Awe came upon everyone, because many wonders and signs were being done by the apostles. All who believed were together and had all things in common; they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.

John 10. 1 - 10

'Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers.' Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them.

So again Jesus said to them, 'Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. All who came before me are thieves and bandits; but the sheep did not listen to them. I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly.

TODAY 9.30am 3rd Sunday of Easter Mr Bernie Troughton will lead and Rev'd Gerard Rundell will preside and preach

THE WEEK AHEAD

Tues	1.40–7pm	NHS Blood and Transplant Team - Church
Wed	10.00am	BCP Midweek Eucharist
Fri	6.00pm	Beetle Drive - Church
Sat	10.00am	Saturday Café
Sun	9.30am	Easter 5 Family Service Rev'd Gerard Rundell will preside Rev'd Dr Hannah Malcolm will preach
	4.00pm	Choral Evensong with Commissioning of Parish Safeguarding Officers at Newcastle Cathedral.

DATES FOR THE DIARY

Sunday	May 10 th -16 th	Christian Aid Week
Thurs	May 14 th	Ascension Day
Saturday	May 16 th	Christian Aid Big Breakfast - Community Room
Sunday	May 17 th	11am AGM
Tues	May 19 th	7.00pm Silverline Memories Jubilee Dementia Choir Concert - Church

NOTICES

TODAY'S SERVICE LINK <https://bit.ly/StAidan2026Easter4>

HAPPY BIRTHDAY- to Margaret Charlton who celebrated her 97 years birthday this week. Margaret is a long-standing member of St Aidan's and regular attender at our Wednesday morning BCP service.

GARDENING GROUP – First meeting Sunday 26th April 2.30pm outside St Aidan's Church Community Room. We will be planning what we are going to grow in our new vegetable planters and sowing seeds and seedlings together. Would you like to be involved and garden together? Please come and join us or contact Helen on 07962802193

NHS BLOOD DONORS TEAM – will be setting up in church on Tuesday 28th April 1.40-7pm, for donors to give blood. For more information on giving blood please call the donor helpline on 0300 123 23 23 or visit www.blood.co.uk

BEETLE DRIVE – Friday 1st May 6pm with a choice of pizzas and salad. Adults £10 children £5. Please add your name to the list if you would like to come to this very popular social event.

ST AIDAN'S ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING- Sunday 17th May 11am. There are vacancies for new members to join the DCC. If anyone is interested in joining, please speak to Rev'd Gerard or the churchwardens.

TECH TEAM - If anyone is interested in joining the Tech Team, full training will be given, please contact Rev'd Gerard.

REFRESHMENTS ROTAS -There are new rotas for volunteers to serve in the Saturday Café and Sunday morning refreshments. If you feel that you are able to assist, it would be appreciated if you could please add your name or speak to Catherine for more information. Thank you.

Living on God's Good Earth: April Generous God

Some of you may know the offertory prayer used in lots of churches: 'all things come from you and of your own do we give you'. As the world springs into life, God's abundant generosity is easy to see. So, this month's challenge is to think about how we can be generous in response. What might we offer to help protect and restore God's many gifts to us? At Saturday Café this year, one of our chosen charities is Northumberland Wildlife Trust. Perhaps there is a similar charity or organisation you could support, as a way of giving thanks for all God's goodness.

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- Bishops Helen – Ann and Mark. Those assisting our worship: sacristans, musicians, readers, intercessors, servers, tech team

For the community- Catherine MKinnell, our MP and North Gosforth Parish Council. For those leading Net Zero Newcastle, creating a sustainable future for our city.

For the world – all countries facing hardship and conflict especially in the Middle East. For our own national and political life

For those in need – Esther Wooler, Sue Bates, Christine Crompton, Charlie Bennett, Lindsay Miller, Joyce Richardson. Dorothy Clasper.

For those who have died, and, on their anniversaries – Joan Kendrick, Peggy Harrison, Harry McDonnell, Geoffrey Long, Edward Keating



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