



Team Parish of Christ the King St Aidan's Brunton Park Sunday 29th September 2024 Michaelmas

In scripture, angels come to us as messengers, protectors, and as worshippers drawing our attention to the throne of God. This is what Jacob encounters in his dream; he sees the angels ascending and descending on a ladder to heaven, hears God's message of protection and hope, and is prompted to offer his worship in response.

We live in a context where there is growing interest in 'spirituality' as a general idea. Many of us like the thought of having a guardian angel, angels intervening in our ordinary lives. God certainly does still send his angels to speak to us and protect us. But it can be easy to start treating angels as a kind of bridge between earth and heaven, the way we can get to God. In our gospel reading this morning we are reminded that angels might come down to us from heaven to earth, but they aren't the way that earth can get up to heaven. Jesus tells Nathanael that he – Jesus – is this ladder. Jesus is the bridge between earth and heaven. In the presence of Jesus, God hasn't just sent an angelic messenger or protector. God has sent himself.

Genesis 28.10-17

Jacob left Beer-sheba and went towards Haran. He came to a certain place and stayed there for the night, because the sun had set. Taking one of the stones of the place, he put it under his head and lay down in that place. And he dreamed that there was a ladder set up on the earth, the top of it reaching to heaven; and the angels of God were ascending and descending on it. And the LORD stood beside him and said, 'I am the LORD, the God of Abraham your father and the God of Isaac; the land on which you lie I will give to you and to your offspring; and your offspring shall be like the dust of the earth, and you shall spread abroad to the west and to the east and to the north and to the south; and all the families of the earth shall be blessed in you and in your offspring. Know that I am with you and will keep you wherever you go, and will bring you back to this land; for I will not leave you until I have done what I have promised you.' Then Jacob woke from his sleep and said, 'Surely the LORD is in this place – and I did not know it!' And he was afraid, and said, 'How awesome is this place! This is none other than the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven.'

John 1.47-end

When Jesus saw Nathanael coming towards him, he said of him, 'Here is truly an Israelite in whom there is no deceit!' Nathanael asked him, 'Where did you come to know me?' Jesus answered, 'I saw you under the fig tree before Philip called you.' Nathanael replied, 'Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!' Jesus answered, 'Do you believe because I told you that I saw you under the fig tree? You will see greater things than these.' And he said to him, 'Very truly, I tell you, you will see heaven opened and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of Man.'

TODAY

9.30am: **Michaelmas** Rev'd Gerard Rundell presides and Rev'd Hannah Malcolm preaches

4.00pm: **Team Evensong 'St Michael & All Angels'**, St Columba's

THE WEEK AHEAD

Mon-Fri 8.50am, Church: **Morning Prayer**

Wed 10.00am, Church: **BCP Midweek Eucharist**

12.00pm, Northern Rugby Club: **Lunch Club**

Thurs 2.00pm, Community Room: **Prayer and Praise**

8.00pm, Northern Football Club: **Men's Group**

Sat 10.00am, Community Room: **Saturday Café**

10.30am, Church: **Kids Zone Baby and Toddler Group**

Sun 9.30am: **Harvest Thanksgiving Family Service** including communion. Rev'd Gerard Rundell leads our family service as Rev'd Hannah Malcolm preaches with readings from Job 1.1; 2.1-10, Hebrews 1.1-4; 2.5-12 and Mark 10.2-16

DATES FOR THE DIARY

Thurs 10th Oct 2.00pm: **Film Club**, Community Room

Thurs 11th Oct 7.45pm: **Alpha**, Community Room

Wed 16th Oct 7.30am: **DCC**, Church

Fri 18th Oct 6.00pm: **Beetle Drive**, Church

Fri 25th Oct 3.00pm: **Family Fun Event**, Church

NOTICES

SUNDAY SERVICE – today's service link is <https://bit.ly/StAidans2024Michaelmas>

HARVEST DONATIONS – our donations this year will again go to the People's Kitchen and Kenton Foodbank. Tinned vegetables, meat, fruit, UHT milk and biscuits have been requested by the foodbank, however any other sauces, condiments, snacks, toiletries etc can be used by the People's Kitchen. There is a more detailed list at the back of church. Church is open daily for donations are they can be brought along on Sunday morning

HARVEST SERVICE – following our service we will be holding a 'Sell by date breakfast' – expect a mix of hot and continental options provided by Morrisons Great Park.

BEETLE DRIVE – will be held on Friday 18th October at 6pm. Supper will be take-out pizza. Put the date in your diaries and we'll have more details and a sign up sheet next week.

ALPHA – will start on Thurs 10th Oct at 7.45pm in the community room and will run for 6 sessions. We share a hot meal while exploring faith. Please take an envelope from the back of church with information about Alpha, a letter of invitation and details about our social and family events to pass on to anyone who might be interested. Have a look at the contents yourself to see what it's about – you may decide Alpha is for you too. And even if you can't make it, please pray, it makes a huge difference!

DIGGING AND PLANTING TODAY! – due to the very wet weather we've had this week, we will be digging in the compost and planting our water-loving plants into our new wetland garden today at 10.30am. Thanks again to Morrisons for very kindly donating some compost. If you can help this morning, we'd really appreciate it.

TEAM EVENSONG TODAY – join with the rest of the team at 4pm today (Sun 29th) at St Columba's church for our Team Evensong. Please come and support the wider team in you're able.

ZOOM CODES – all our Zoom sessions will use only the following details:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7573778713?pwd=NGVjcTRLQjBEaStqYjFDSm1KOURtQT09>

Meeting ID: 757 377 8713 Passcode: StAidan

BOOKING ZOOM MEETINGS: if you would like to use the St Aidan's Zoom account for a church meeting, please contact Janice

FOOD BANK – items placed in the food box will be donated to Kenton Foodbank.

PLANNED GIVING - If you would like to set up a regular financial gift to support St Aidan's please click on the following link <https://www.parishgiving.org.uk/donors/find-your-parish/brunton-park-st-aidan-newcastle-upon-tyne>

For Our Prayers: St Aidan's Cycle of Prayer

For the church – Our Bishop Mark, Archdeacon Rachel Wood, Revd Paul Baker, Area Dean. Those who assist in our worship: lesson readers, intercessors, servers, Eucharistic assistants and sacristans.

For the community – Catherine McKinnell, our MP, Newcastle City Councillors, North Gosforth Parish Council

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

For those in need - Esther Wooler, Martin Seaton, Bill Yeaman, Sue Bates, Lindsay Miller, Sheila Lonie, Christine Crompton.

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



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