



Team Parish of Christ the King

St Aidan's Brunton Park

Sunday 13th October 2024

Trinity 20

This week's Gospel passage from Mark is one that should make us squirm as Jesus teaches about wealth. From a global perspective, every person reading this newsletter is rich. Even from a national perspective, most of us will be what we politely like to call 'comfortable'. So there are two things to notice here.

Firstly, Jesus clearly had a sceptical relationship to wealth. This is only one of many passages in his teaching (see Matthew 6.24, Luke 12.16-21, Luke 6.20, the list could go on!) that seem to encourage a denial of wealth in order to follow him. That should make us uncomfortable. Is our relationship to material wealth a barrier to our discipleship? Does our love of what we have, divide our hearts and hinder us from truly loving God and loving our neighbour? The answer is probably yes, and that should make us uncomfortable. It certainly makes me uncomfortable.

Secondly, we need to notice v.21. 'Jesus looked at him and loved him.' Jesus calls us to a life of radical simplicity and generosity not because he wants us all to be miserable, but because he loves us. This is the path to true riches. And even if we fail, he still loves us. Jesus is the one who became poor for our sake, that we might become rich in his grace (2 Cor 8.9). Will we dare to trust in his love and follow him into a radical, generous and simple life?

Job 23.1-9,16,17

Job answered his companions:

'Today also my complaint is bitter;

his hand is heavy despite my groaning.

O that I knew where I might find him,
that I might come even to his dwelling!

I would lay my case before him,
and fill my mouth with arguments.

I would learn what he would answer me,
and understand what he would say to me.

Would he contend with me in the greatness of his power?

No; but he would give heed to me.

There an upright person could reason with him,
and I should be acquitted for ever by my judge.

'If I go forward, he is not there;

or backward, I cannot perceive him;

on the left he hides, and I cannot behold him;

I turn to the right, but I cannot see him.
God has made my heart faint;
the Almighty has terrified me;
If only I could vanish in darkness,
and thick darkness would cover my face!

Mark 10.17-31

As Jesus was setting out on a journey, a man ran up and knelt before him, and asked him, 'Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?' Jesus said to him, 'Why do you call me good? No one is good but God alone. You know the commandments: "You shall not murder; You shall not commit adultery; You shall not steal; You shall not bear false witness; You shall not defraud; Honour your father and mother."' He said to Jesus, 'Teacher, I have kept all these since my youth.' Jesus looked at him and loved him, 'You lack one thing;' he said 'go, sell what you own, and give the money to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow me.' When he heard this, he was shocked and went away grieving, for he had many possessions.

Then Jesus looked around and said to his disciples, 'How hard it will be for those who have wealth to enter the kingdom of God!' And the disciples were perplexed at these words. But Jesus said to them again, 'Children, how hard it is to enter the kingdom of God! It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for someone who is rich to enter the kingdom of God.' They were greatly astounded and said to one another, 'Then who can be saved?' Jesus looked at them and said, 'For mortals it is impossible, but not for God; for God all things are possible.' Peter began to say to him, 'Look, we have left everything and followed you.' Jesus said, 'Truly I tell you there is no one who has left house or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or fields, for my sake and for the sake of the good news, who will not receive a hundredfold now in this age – houses, brothers and sisters, mothers and children, and fields – but with persecutions – and in the age to come eternal life. But many who are first will be last, and the last will be first.'

TODAY

9.30am: **Trinity 20** Rev'd Gerard Rundell presides as Mr Bernie Troughton leads

THE WEEK AHEAD

Mon-Fri 8.50am, Church: **Morning Prayer**
Tues 7.00pm, Church: **Silverline Dementia Choir Concert**
Wed 10.00am, Church: **BCP Midweek Eucharist**
7.30pm, Church: **DCC**
Thurs 2.00pm, Community Room: **Friends Having Fun**
7.45pm, Community Room: **Alpha**
Fri 6.00pm, Church: **Beetle Drive**

Sat 10.00am, Community Room: **Saturday Café**
10.30am, Church: **Kids Zone Baby and Toddler Group**

Sun 9.30am: **Trinity Last** Rev'd Dr Hannah Malcolm presides as Mr Ken Newitt preaches with readings from Job 38.1-7[34-41], Hebrews 5.1-10 and Mark 10.35-45

DATES FOR THE DIARY

Fri 25th Oct 3.00pm: **Halloween Family Fun Event**, Church
Sat 26th Oct 10.00am: **Childrens Society Coffee Morning, Community Room**
Thurs 31st Oct 11.00am: **Funeral Service of Alan Dey**, Church
Sun 3rd Nov 7.00pm: **All Souls Service**, Church
Sat 23rd Nov 7.30pm: **A Talk with Katherine Rundell**, Church
Sun 24th Nov 10.00am: **Christ the King Team Service with Bishop Helen Ann**

NOTICES - today's service link is <https://bit.ly/StAidan2024Trinity20>

HARVEST FESTIVAL – our harvest festival was a huge success and enjoyed by everyone. Big thanks go to Morrisons at Great Park for our Sell By Date breakfast. Kenton Foodbank have passed on their thanks for the huge delivery of donations they received during the week. The second delivery of donations was made to the People's Kitchen on Friday.

FRIENDS HAVING FUN – following this wet, miserable week come along for some fun and games on Thursday, at the very least you'll get a good cuppa and nice piece of cake.

BEETLE DRIVE – will be held on Friday 18th October at 6pm. It's ideal for all ages and great family fun. Supper will be take-out pizza, served with salad, coleslaw, tea, coffee or juice. £10 per person. The sign-up sheet and pizza choice is at the back of church.

ALL SOULS SERVICE – will be held on Sunday 3rd November at 7.00pm to commemorate those dearly departed. To have the name of a loved one read out during the service, please add their name to the list at the back of church. Names from previous years will not automatically be read out. If you are unable to add the name yourself, please contact the Administrator or a church warden who will add the name on your behalf.

ALAN DEY – it is with sadness that we share the news that Alan passed away on Monday. His funeral will be held on Thursday 31st October at 11am in church 12pm followed by a private committal at 2pm at the crematorium. Please hold Alan's family in your prayers as they mourn his loss.

SILVERLINE DEMENTIA CHOIR CONCERT – will be held in church on Tuesday (15th Oct) at 7pm. Payment is donations on the door.

CHILDREN NORTH EAST – have arranged a fundraising walk along the coastline of Whitley Bay and Tynemouth in solidarity with local babies, children, young people and families on Friday 1st November between 10am - 1pm. The following link gives more details if you are interested:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/walk-with-children-north-east-raise-funds-and-awareness-tickets-925249856227>

CHRISTIAN AID GAZA APPEAL – thank you to everyone who donated toward this appeal, which raised £400.

HALLOWEEN FAMILY FUN EVENT – share the news that our next family event will be held on Friday 25th October at 3pm. There'll be games and crafts, a story and tea. If you'd like to help please let us know, we'd really appreciate having you there.

CHILDREN'S SOCIETY COFFEE MORNING – our annual fund-raising coffee morning and opening of the boxes will be held on Saturday 26th October during Saturday café.

ALPHA – has started, but there's still time for you to join us on Thursday's at 7.45pm in the community room. We enjoy a hot meal while exploring faith. Even if you can't make it, please pray, it makes a huge difference!

MACMILLAN COFFEE MORNING - thank you to everyone who donated towards and supported Susan and Ann's coffee morning, raising funds for Macmillan Toon Angels. They raised a fantastic total of £365.

SAMARITAN'S PURSE SHOEBOXES - it's that time of the year again! You can prepare a Christmas shoebox that will be sent by Samaritan's Purse to other parts of the world. Your shoebox gifts will bring joy and hope to children around the world, in ways that are truly life-changing. Box by box, hearts are touched, and life by life, hope is sparked through the Gospel message. Information leaflets and boxes are available at the back of church - share the Gospel with children around the World.

For Our Prayers: St Aidan's Cycle of Prayer

For the church – Churches in our Deanery: Gosforth Parishes. DCC members and officers. **For the community** – Snakes & Ladders Playgroup, Brunton Babies, Nursery & Toddler Groups. **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 Lonnie, Christine Crompton, Alan Vout

For those who have died – Alan Dey, and on their anniversaries: Roy Dryburgh, Betty Stothard, Stanley Scott, Maria Wright, Michael Nash, Gordon Bennett, Frank Everitt

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