



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

**Sunday 27th October 2024
Bible Sunday**

This Sunday is Bible Sunday, the day in the church's year that particularly celebrates the gift of Scripture. So why is the Bible important to Christians? Well first because it feeds us. Our reading from Isaiah says: 'Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good and delight yourself in rich food.' Many of the metaphors for God's word compare it to food. We find nourishment, sustenance, and delight in the words of Scripture. The Bible is like a rich meal to be taken daily. It should be as much a part of what keeps our spirit alive as eating food is for keeping our bodies alive.

Secondly it leads us. God's word is active and has purpose. Again Isaiah says: 'so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and succeed in the thing for which I sent it.' The Bible is the place we look to for God to be active within our lives. How do we discern the best way to act, the right thing to do, the truest path to a good life? For Christians, we immerse ourselves in Scripture. Not that there's a verse or a proof-text for every situation we come across, there isn't. But as we allow ourselves to be shaped by the narrative and world of the Bible, we learn more and more to hear God's guiding and leading word for our lives. And ultimately that word leads us to Christ, and to a life that seeks to follow him.

Isaiah 55.1-11

The LORD says this:

Everyone who thirsts,

come to the waters;

and you that have no money,

come, buy and eat!

Come, buy wine and milk

without money and without price.

Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread,

and your labour for that which does not satisfy?

Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good,

and delight yourselves in rich food.

Incline your ear, and come to me;

listen, so that you may live.

I will make with you an everlasting covenant,

my steadfast, sure love for David.

See, I made him a witness to the peoples,

a leader and commander for the peoples.

See, you shall call nations that you do not know,
and nations that do not know you shall run to you,
because of the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel,
for he has glorified you.

Seek the LORD while he may be found,
call upon him while he is near;

let the wicked forsake their way,
and the unrighteous their thoughts;

let them return to the LORD, that he may have mercy on them,
and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

For my thoughts are not your thoughts,
nor are your ways my ways, says the LORD.

For as the heavens are higher than the earth,
so are my ways higher than your ways
and my thoughts than your thoughts.

For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven,
and do not return there until they have watered the earth,
making it bring forth and sprout,

giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater,
so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth;

it shall not return to me empty,

but it shall accomplish that which I purpose,
and succeed in the thing for which I sent it.

John 5.36b-47

Jesus said to the Jews: 'The works that the Father has given me to complete, the very works that I am doing, testify on my behalf that the Father has sent me. And the Father who sent me has himself testified on my behalf. You have never heard his voice or seen his form, and you do not have his word abiding in you, because you do not believe him whom he has sent.

You search the scriptures because you think that in them you have eternal life; and it is they that testify on my behalf. Yet you refuse to come to me to have life. I do not accept glory from human beings. But I know that you do not have the love of God in you. I have come in my Father's name, and you do not accept me; if another comes in his own name, you will accept him. How can you believe when you accept glory from one another and do not seek the glory that comes from the one who alone is God? Do not think that I will accuse you before the Father; your accuser is Moses, on whom you have set your hope. If you believed Moses, you would believe me, for he wrote about me. But if you do not believe what he wrote, how will you believe what I say?'

TODAY

9.30am: **Bible Sunday** Rev'd Gerard Rundell presides and preaches

THE WEEK AHEAD

Tues-Fri 8.55am, Church: **Morning Prayer**

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

Thurs 11.00am, Church: **Funeral Service of Alan Dey**

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

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

Sun 9.30am: **All Saints Family Service** Rev'd Gerard Rundell leads our service with readings from Wisdom 3.1-9, Isaiah 25.6-9, Revelation 21.1-6a and John 11.32-44

7.00pm, Church: **All Souls Service**

DATES FOR THE DIARY

Thurs 7th Nov 2.00pm: **Prayer and Praise**: Community Room

8.00pm: **Mens Group**: Community Room

Sun 10th Nov 9.30am: **Remembrance Sunday**, Church

Mon 11th Nov 10.50am: **Act of Remembrance**, outside church

Sat 23rd Nov 7.30pm: **In Conversation with Katherine Rundell**, Church

Sun 24th Nov 10.00am: **Christ the King Team Service with Bishop Helen Ann**

Wed 27th Nov 12.00pm: **Lunch Group**, Rugby Club

Sun 30th Nov 10.00am: **Christmas Fayre**, Church

NOTICES - today's service link is <https://bit.ly/StAidan2024LastAfterTrinity>

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.

IN CONVERSATION WITH KATHERINE RUNDELL – 'The Life of an Author'. Find out what it's like to be an author of both successful children's and adult books. We hope this will start a series of talks at St Aidan's, so save the date, tell your friends, and come along!

TEA ROTA – the list is at the back of church for anyone able to help with Saturday café or Sunday morning teas. Please add your name if you are able to help.

DIPPING COMMUNION WAFERS IN WINE – we have made the decision to stop the practice of dipping communion wafers into the wine chalice. This has always been discouraged by the Church of England as it is known to increase the risk of spreading infections. Receiving just the bread is a full participation in communion if you don't want to drink from the cup.

LUNCH GROUP - our festive lunch will be on Wednesday 27th November at the Rugby Club at 12 30pm (meet at 12pm). If you would like to join us, please let Pat or Pauline know.

RECYCLING IN CHURCH - the council is now trialling a plastic bags and packets collection in our neighbourhood, so we will no longer collect crisp and biscuit packets. However, you can still recycle your dental products under the book table.

MENS GROUP – will meet on Thursday 7th November at 8pm in the Community Room to have a talk by Chris Balfour of Age UK Northumberland.

ALAN DEY FUNERAL – will be held on Thursday 31st October at 11am in church followed by a private committal at 12pm at the crematorium. Please hold Alan's family in your prayers as they mourn his loss.

For Our Prayers: St Aidan's Cycle of Prayer

For the church – Sacred Heart RC and St John's URC. Social committee, welcome team, tea & coffee, flower arrangers – all who make church an inviting place

For the community – Christian Aid, especially their Middle East appeal, and the Children's Society. Assemblies and presence in local schools: Brunton First, Havannah

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: Pauline Kalas, Joan Carnaby, Robert Atwell, Joan Rockiffe, Gillian Holt, Sylvia Caldicott

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