

**Team Parish of Christ the King**

**St Aidan's Brunton Park**

**Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> January 2025**

**Epiphany 3**



Our gospel this morning drops into the first few weeks of Jesus' public ministry. So far, it's off to a promising start. He's on a preaching and miracles tour of local towns and villages, and he's currently the man of the moment. And then he comes to preach in his hometown, his home synagogue – in Nazareth. He reads from Isaiah, and then delivers perhaps the shortest sermon in history, a one-line mic drop. The passage Jesus chooses to read is like an opening statement of intent, a summary of his message and mission. Throughout Luke's gospel, we see Jesus fulfil these promises of healing and rescue. But there is more to this passage than meets the eye. Jesus misses out a key line from Isaiah: 'the day of vengeance of our God'. Jesus transforms our idea of good news. He comes to offer justice without revenge, peace without a sword, hope not just for God's chosen people but for all people. And he tells us that this good news is found in Jesus himself, the saviour who comes to lead his people into justice and grace.

### **1 Corinthians 12.12-31a**

Just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body - Jews or Greeks, slaves or free – and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.

Indeed, the body does not consist of one member but of many. If the foot would say, 'Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body,' that would not make it any less a part of the body. And if the ear would say, 'Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body,' that would not make it any less a part of the body. If the whole body were an eye, where would the hearing be? If the whole body were hearing, where would the sense of smell be? But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose. If all were a single member, where would the body be? As it is, there are many members, yet one body. The eye cannot say to the hand, 'I have no need of you,' nor again the head to the feet, 'I have no need of you.' On the contrary, the members of the body that seem

to be weaker are indispensable, and those members of the body that we think less honourable we clothe with greater honour, and our less respectable members are treated with greater respect; whereas our more respectable members do not need this. But God has so arranged the body, giving the greater honour to the inferior member, that there may be no dissension within the body, but the members may have the same care for one another. If one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honoured, all rejoice together with it.

Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it. And God has appointed in the church first apostles, second prophets, third teachers; then deeds of power, then gifts of healing, forms of assistance, forms of leadership, various kinds of tongues. Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? Do all possess gifts of healing? Do all speak in tongues? Do all interpret? But strive for the greater gifts.

### **Luke 4.14-21**

Jesus, filled with the power of the Spirit, returned to Galilee, and a report about him spread through all the surrounding country. He began to teach in their synagogues and was praised by everyone.

When he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read, and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written:

'The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,  
because he has anointed me  
to bring good news to the poor.  
He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives  
and recovery of sight to the blind,  
to let the oppressed go free,  
to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour.'

And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. Then he began to say to them, 'Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.'

**TODAY** 9.30am: Epiphany 3 Rev'd Dr Hannah Malcolm preaches as Mr Bernie Troughton leads (Revd Gerard at St Columba's)

## THE WEEK AHEAD

<b>Tues-Fri</b>	8.55am, Church: <b>Morning Prayer</b>
<b>Wed</b>	10.00am, Church: <b>BCP Midweek Eucharist</b>
<b>Thurs</b>	7.45pm, Community Room: <b>Alpha</b>
<b>Sat</b>	10.00am, Community Room: <b>Saturday Cafe</b> 10.30am, Church: <b>Kids Zone (not 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday of the month)</b>
<b>Sun</b>	9.30am: <b>Candlemass Family Service</b> Rev'd Gerard Rundell leads our service and Rev Lee Kirkby preaches with readings from Malachi 3.1-5; Hebrews 2.14-18 and Luke 2.22-40

## DATES FOR THE DIARY

Wed 5 <sup>th</sup> Feb	12.00pm: <b>Lunch Group</b> , Rugby Club
Thurs 6 <sup>th</sup> Feb	2.00pm: <b>Prayer and Praise</b> , Community Room 8.00pm: <b>Mens Group:Members Talk</b> , Community Room
Sat 8 <sup>th</sup> Feb	7:30pm: <b>In Conversation with Bishop Helen-Ann</b> , Church
Thurs 20 <sup>th</sup> Feb	7.45pm: <b>Alpha</b> , Community Room

**NOTICES** - today's service link is <https://bit.ly/StAidan2025Epiphany3>

**ECO CHURCH AWARD** - congratulations and thank you to everyone at St Aidan's who has supported our eco church journey over the last few years. We have now achieved a silver award!

**BIBLE STUDY** – please note there will be no Bible Study on Monday.

**ALPHA** – we have another two sessions of Alpha planned before Lent. If you didn't manage to join us in Autumn you are still very welcome to come along to these.

**TEA ROTA** - the new rotas are at the back of church for volunteers for Sunday morning refreshments. Without the help of volunteers we aren't able to provide after service refreshments, your help would be very much appreciated.

**IN CONVERSATION WITH BISHOP HELEN-ANN** – for the second event in this series we are very pleased that Bishop Helen-Ann will be joining us. This will be another interesting evening of conversation so please join us if you can.

## Living on God's Good Earth: January

*New year, new you*

The new year is often a time when we feel pressure to make a new start, or try new things, but it can be hard to know where to begin. If you've never done a personal carbon footprint audit, this can be a great way to think about different areas of your life and see where simple changes can make a difference. The results can help you pick one area to focus on over the coming year. There are lots of carbon footprint audits available online, but a nice simple option is

<https://footprint.wwf.org.uk>. If you want one with more detail, go for <https://www.climatestewards.org/offset>.

### **For Our Prayers: St Aidan's Cycle of Prayer**

**For the church** – Mark Edwards and St Cuthbert's and St Matthew's. St Columba's church and their future incumbent. Safeguarding officer Catherine, that our church would be a safe place for all.

**For the community** – Refugees and recent arrivals in our community, for all who have come to our city in search of safety and peace.

For those in our community who are searching for God, that they would come to faith, those preparing for baptism.

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

**For those in need** – Esther Wooler, Martin Seaton, Sue Bates, Sheila Lonie, Christine Crompton.

**For those who have died** – Alan Vout, and on their anniversaries: Albert Surtees, Ian Jamieson, David Fraser Denmark, Albert Robottom, Baden Robson, Doreen Carrick, Kenneth Brown, John Allen, Colin Weatherall, Lew Edwards

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