



**Team Parish of Christ the King
St Aidan's Brunton Park
Sunday 9th February 2025
Fourth Sunday before Lent**

Today's readings offer two pictures of a call to follow God. And as we read these two passages together we might notice a pattern that emerges. First there is an experience of the wonder of God. Isaiah sees God's glory and holiness in the Temple, for Peter James and John, it's God's abundance in a miraculous catch of fish. Our call too starts with the knowledge of God's goodness and grace towards us.

But as we see God's glory we also recognise our own frailty and flaws. Isaiah says 'Woe is me!...I am a man of unclean lips.' Peter says: 'Go away from me, Lord, for I am a sinful man.' Who are we that God would call us to act for him in the world?

Despite that, comes the call. An angel touches Isaiah's lips and his 'sin is blotted out'. Jesus says to Peter 'Do not be afraid, from now on you will be catching people.' Each is called as they are, in all their flaws and failures. Each is asked only to follow. The work of God in them is enough. And just the same the work of God in us is enough. All we are asked to do, uncertain, unworthy, unwilling as we may feel, is trust in God and say with Isaiah, 'Here I am; send me!

Isaiah 6.1-8

In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lofty; and the hem of his robe filled the temple. Seraphs were in attendance above him; each had six wings: with two they covered their faces, and with two they covered their feet, and with two they flew. And one called to another and said:

'Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of hosts;
the whole earth is full of his glory.'

The pivots on the thresholds shook at the voices of those who called, and the house filled with smoke. And I said: 'Woe is me! I am lost, for I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips; yet my eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts!'

Then one of the seraphs flew to me, holding a live coal that had been taken from the altar with a pair of tongs. The seraph touched my mouth with it and said: 'Now that this has touched your lips, your guilt has departed and your sin is blotted out.' Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, 'Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?' And I said, 'Here am I; send me!'

Luke 5.1-11

While Jesus was standing beside the lake of Gennesaret, and the crowd was pressing in on him to hear the word of God, he saw two boats there at the shore of the lake; the fishermen had gone out of them and were washing their nets. He got into one of the boats, the one belonging to Simon, and asked him to put out a little way from the shore. Then he sat down and taught the crowds from the boat. When he had finished speaking, he said to Simon, 'Put out into the deep water and let down your nets for a catch.' Simon answered, 'Master, we have worked all night long but have caught nothing. Yet if you say so, I will let down the nets.' When they had done this, they caught so many fish that their nets were beginning to break. So they signalled their partners in the other boat to come and help them. And they came and filled both boats, so that they began to sink. But when Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus' knees, saying, 'Go away from me, Lord, for I am a sinful man!' For he and all who were with him were amazed at the catch of fish that they had taken; and so also were James and John, sons of Zebedee, who were partners with Simon. Then Jesus said to Simon, 'Do not be afraid; from now on you will be catching people.' When they had brought their boats to shore, they left everything and followed Jesus.

TODAY 9.30am: **4 Before Lent** 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 2.00pm, Community Room: **Film Club: The Secret - Dare to Dream**
Sat 10.00am, Community Room: **Saturday Cafe**
10.30am, Church: **Kids Zone (not 4th Saturday of the month)**
Sun 9.30am: **3 Before Lent** Rev'd Gerard Rundell presides and Rev'd Lee Kirkby preaches with readings from Jeremiah 17.5-10; 1 Corinthians 15.12-20 & Luke 6.17-26

DATES FOR THE DIARY

Wed 19 th Feb	11am: Funeral for Rev'd Graham Keyes , St Hilda's Jesmond
Thurs 20 th Feb	2.00pm: Friends Having Fun , Community Room
Thurs 20 th Feb	7.45pm: Alpha , Community Room
Thurs 27 th Feb	2.00pm: Chat and Craft , Community Room
Tues 4 th Mar	3.30pm: Family Pancake Party , Church
Wed 5 th Mar	10.00am: Ash Wednesday Service , Church
	7.30pm: Ash Wednesday Service , Church

NOTICES - today's service link is <https://bit.ly/StAidan4BeforeLent>

REV'D GRAHAM KEYES FUNERAL – We've sadly had news that Rev'd Graham Keyes, vicar at St Aidan's, 1994-1999, died on 27th January. His funeral will be at St Hilda's, Jesmond on Wednesday 19th Feb, 11am. Please do pray for Cynthia and the rest of the family.

FAMILY PANCAKE PARTY – we will be holding a family event on Tuesday 4th March between 3.30pm and 5pm. Along with games, crafts and story, we'll be adding to the fun with pancake games and of course hot pancakes. Spread the word that this is going to be a great family event, not to be missed.

ASH WEDNESDAY – we will be holding two services on Ash Wednesday. Both our 10am service and an evening service at 7.30pm will include the Imposition of Ashes. Please come and join us as we mark the beginning of Lent.

LENT COURSE – this year our Lent course will be held on Monday evening's via Zoom. We have special guest speakers to talk us through difficult, thought provoking passages in the Bible. This will be a very interesting series, to be enjoyed from the comfort of your own home. More details will follow soon.

LENT LUNCHESES – we are finalising details for the Lent Lunches but they will be held on Wednesday 12, 19 and 26 March, and 2 and 4 April. Please put the dates in your diary and we will give more information for locations soon.

FRIENDS HAVING FUN – we had a lovely catch up last month, with lots of laughs and good chat. You are very welcome to come along and join us, as we play simple games and listen to great music from the 50's – 70's all over a great cuppa and cake. Come along and enjoy some time with your friends.

DENTAL PRODUCT RECYCLING - sadly, we have been informed that the dental product recycling scheme is coming to a close in a few weeks. If you have any toothbrushes, electric brush heads, interdental brushes, floss containers, etc. which you would like to recycle, please drop them off in the box under the book table by 13th February.

WALK THROUGH THE BIBLE: Old Testament - if you want to learn more about the Old Testament in a memorable and fun way then this Walk through the Old Testament is for you! On Saturday, 22nd March, 10:00am - 4:30pm at St Thomas' Church, Haymarket, NE1 7PF. Follow this link to find out more and book a space <https://stthomas.churchsuite.com/events/glgmpzvs>

Living on God's Good Earth

February 2025: Feed the Birds

Sharing our gardens with birds, hedgehogs, and other animals is a joy. But winter and early spring is a tough time. Like us, other animals need to use lots of energy (or sleep) to survive in the cold, but unlike us, they don't have supermarkets or heaters to rely on. You can help birds and other wildlife get through these tricky months by leaving areas of leaves or branches undisturbed, planting shrubs and trees with wintering berries and fruit, putting out fresh water on frozen days, and putting up bird feeders. If you use permanent feeders, remember to wash them every week or so to prevent disease from spreading.

For Our Prayers: St Aidan's Cycle of Prayer

For the church – Archdeacon Rachel Wood and Area Dean Paul Baker.

Churchwardens: Catherine, Susan, and Dorothy

For the community – People's Kitchen foodbank and Children NE charity

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 – Graham Keyes, Edith Roberts, and on their anniversaries: Alan Gregg, Jennifer Wright, Geoffrey Henderson, Keith Bainbridge, Jessie McGray, Joan Pendlebury

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