



Words for Wondering

An Advent to Epiphany Course from the
Diocese of Aberdeen and Orkney

Monday 26th January
Conversion



*The Conversion of Saint Paul (1600/01) by Caravaggio (Oil on Cypress
Wood, Odescalchi Balbi Collection, Rome)*

*Scripture: **Galatians 1: 11-14***

For I want you to know, brothers and sisters, that the gospel that was proclaimed by me is not of human origin; for I did not receive it from a human source, nor was I taught it, but I received it through a revelation of Jesus Christ. You have heard, no doubt, of my earlier life in Judaism. I was violently persecuting the church of God and was trying to destroy it. I advanced in Judaism beyond many among my people of the same age, for I was far more zealous for the traditions of my ancestors.

Reflection

Today is the day (moved from Sunday) that the church marks the conversation of St Paul from Saul to Paul. From one persecuting those followers of the way of Jesus to one who founded churches, spread the good news of Christ and continues to influence Christians today. Paul himself described his experience as “turning to God from idols, to serve a living and true God” (1 Thessalonians 1:9). In Acts conversion refers to people turning their lives to God and committing to live the Christian life. What is your story of choosing to follow the Christian life – whether it happened gradually or suddenly.

To Listen

Ye watchers and ye holy ones and We sing the glorious conquest (John Ellerton)