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| **PLEASE NOTE** **CONSENT- Please sign a form at the back of the church to consent to a) live-streaming or recording of services [in which you/your children could be shown] &/or b) receiving communications about church activities etc. Consent may be withdrawn at any time. For further details, please see the form.MOBILE ‘PHONES** should be switched to **silent** during Services, please.**HEARING AIDS** should be switched to the ‘T’ setting to pick up from the ‘loop’.**EMERGENCY EVACUATION** – In the unlikely event that this becomes necessary listen for instructions. There are 3 exits – the main door (through which you came in); the Powerhouse exit door (at the rear of the building, accessible through the door near the kitchen serving hatch then through the double doors on the left) and the Vicar’s Vestry (in front and to the left of the pipe organ – there are some steps on this route). The assembly point is outside on the grass in front of the Hall. **MINISTRY TEAM** - If you would like a visit from one of the team, please contact **vicar.staidans@gmail.com** or telephone 352500.**SAFEGUARDING-** The safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults is very important to us. Any safeguarding matters may be shared with the Vicar or with the Parish Safeguarding Officer, Mrs Janet Trevor 01474 352230 janet.trevor@blueyonder.co.uk. Further contact details are on the blue poster in the entrance vestibule.**OUR PRAYERS** are asked this week for the people and parish of **Holy Family Church.****DONATIONS-**you can donate to us in church in cash, by using the card reader, or online at <https://www.staidangravesend.org.uk/donate-to-us>.**BIRTHDAYS / CELEBRATIONS** – To the usual tune, we sing -  ‘Happy Birthday/Celebration to you; to Jesus be true. May God’s richest blessings, be showered on you.’ |
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| **CURRENT INFECTION PRECAUTIONS****1. You may exchange the Peace with those in your immediate vicinity by saying ‘Peace be with you’ but not by handshake or touch.****2. If you do not wish to receive from the chalice during the distribution of Holy Communion, simply leave the altar rail after receiving the consecrated wafer. (Please do not dip your wafer into the chalice).**  |
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| **WHO’s WHO AT ST AIDAN’S** [Area code (if required) for Gravesend is **01474**]**Vicar -** The Revd Michael Payne352500 or e-mail: **vicar.staidans@gmail.com****Churchwardens** – Dennis Ashurst 567300 - Robert Hollands 07970 208403 or e-mail: **rholljan@aol.com****Anna Chaplain (ministry with the elderly, also community links) -** Sylvia Munns 356941**Reader** **Emeritus** – Mavis Prater 812330**Sunday School** - Ann Ashurst 567300; Amy Payne - **amychaili@hotmail.com****Parish Safeguarding** **Officer** – Janet Trevor 352230 – **Janet.trevor@blueyonder.co.uk****PCC Secretary &** **Powerhouse Manager** – Mike Welch 567722**Church Hall Lettings** – Barbara Potter 746702 (for regular bookings **only**)**Nursery School Manager** –  mobile 077 1533 7816 or e-mail: **gayle\_st\_aidans@yahoo.com**  |
| **Space for notes on the sermon or any questions you may wish to ask afterwards****↓ (Pencils are available at the back of the church) ↓** |
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| **C:\Users\Michael Welch\Downloads\At Aidan's Church logo (2).jpg****OUR CORE VALUES** - We are a **Committed**, **Compassionate**, **Respectful**, **Confident** Church.**Find us online:** [www.staidangravesend.org.uk](http://www.staidangravesend.org.uk) **Find us Facebook:** [www.facebook.com/StAidansChurchGravesend](http://www.facebook.com/StAidansChurchGravesend) **Follow us on Twitter:** @AidansGravesend **Charity No. 1130169** |
| See the source image | **Welcome To Our Worship Today** | See the source image |
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| **SUNDAY 21st APRIL 2024 – EASTER 4**  |
| **10.00am**  | **Sung Parish Eucharist with Sunday School** |
|  | *OT Reading:* **Genesis 7**:1-5,11-18 **8**:6-18 **9**:8-13 (OT pages 5,6,7)*Psalm***: 23***NT Reading:***Acts** 4: 5-12 (NT page 115)*Gospel:***John 10**: 11-18 (NT page 99) |
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| **THIS WEEK’S ACTIVITIES** |
| **Wed 24th**  | **ST GEORGE** (transferred from 23rd) |
|  | **8.30am** | **Morning Prayer** |
|  | **9.30am** | **Eucharist (said)** *NT Lesson:* **Revelation 12:** 7-12 (NT page 241) *Gospel:* **John 15**: 18-21 (NT page 105) |
|  | **1.00pm** | **Little Rainbows** – Hall (for pre-schoolers & carers) |
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| **SUNDAY 28th APRIL 2024 – EASTER 5**  |
| **10.00am**  | **Sung Parish Eucharist** **[The open collection will be donated to ‘BLOODRUNNERS’]** |
|  | *OT Reading:* **Genesis 22**: 1-18 (OT page 16)*Psalm***: 22, verses 25 to the end***NT Reading:***Acts 8**: 26-end (NT page 120)*Gospel:* **John 15**: 1-8 (NT page 105) |
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| **A Prayer as Children leave for Sunday School****May God guide each of us, whatever our age or experience, in the way of Christ. The love of God be with us all. Amen.** | **MC900128551[1]** |
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| **CURRENT PATTERN OF SERVICES****(for any variations to this, please see the front page or refer to ‘What’s On’, below)** |
| **Sunday** | **10.00 am Sung Parish Eucharist -** Live-streamed on Facebook  ([www.facebook.com/StAidansChurchGravesend](http://www.facebook.com/StAidansChurchGravesend)) (1st Sunday in the month – All Age format)(2nd & 3rd Sundays in the month - with Sunday School)(5th Sunday in the month – Healing & Wholeness (with laying on of hands & anointing) |
| **Wednesday** |  **8.30 am Morning Prayer (said)**  **9.30 am Eucharist (said)** (from BCP on last Wednesday in the month) |
| **Friday** |  **9.00 am Holy Rosary** (on the First Friday in the month) |
| **Sunday, Monday, Wednesday (on line)****8.00 pm** **Night Prayer** - on Facebook (address above)  |
| **Please complete a Consent Form (at the back of the church, or on-line) to indicate that you consent to the Service being filmed / live-streamed where you could be identified** |
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| **WHAT’S ON IN MAY****other than regular events for which please see above** | Simple Black Vector Floral |
| **Wed 1st**  | **10.15am** | (approx) **Coffee Morning** - Lounge |
| **Fri 3rd**  |  **9.00am** | **The Holy Rosary -** Ladychapel |
| **Wed 8th**  |  **2.00pm** | **Aidan Ladies Meeting** – West Room |
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| **WAYS TO DONATE** There is an almsdish for donations as you leave plus a card reader for those who carry little cash. Regular payments may also be made through the Freewill Offering Envelope scheme (cash or cheques) or through a bank standing order. Gift Aid forms may be completed by those who pay income tax to enable St Aidan’s to reclaim tax on donations, costing you, yes, nothing! And there’s always the gift of a Legacy . . . . . .Please see our Treasurer, Barbara Potter for details. Many thanks. |
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| **CHRISTIAN AID**Morrisons Supermarket have kindly given the Christian Aid committee approval to have a bucket collection on their premises on 9th, 10th and 11th May between 9am and 4pm.  Please look at the list at the back of the church and add your name and contact detail as appropriate if you are able to help.  Many thanks, MavisSee related image detail |
| **From the Vicar**From the VicarWelcome to our worship today.Give to Caesar what is Caesar’s… In our recent gospel readings we have been travelling through a few parables in which Jesus speaks out against the religious authorities of his own day and indeed anyone from inside his own religious group who ‘should know better’, to coin a phrase. Jesus is rather fed up with the chief priests, temple elders and such like because he keeps seeing time and again a kind of religious arrogance mixed with apathy. It’s as if they think they don’t need to do anything outside of what tradition dictates because they are God’s ‘chosen ones’. Jesus is very clear that the scriptures he knew (what we call the Old Testament) record clearly the ways in which God’s chosen people Israel had repeatedly failed to make good on their side of the covenant God made with them in the desert. Jesus is astounded and angry that in his own day, centuries after the events of the time of Moses, the heirs of this covenant still ‘don’t get it’. His parables are a way to teach his hearers about how to live by giving examples of what not to do-once the elders realise that he is using them as an example of wrongness they respond not with humility but with plots and plans to have Jesus destroyed; it is a profoundly depressing response by these men and alas we see this kind of response still alive and well in our own time: the desire of the powerful to hang on to that power and privilege at almost any cost.The elders try to trick Jesus into worshipping the Roman Emperor, which would be blasphemy (only God should be worshipped). They do this by trying to get him to encourage people to pay their taxes (thus helping the hated Roman occupiers) but Jesus as ever is ahead of the game. ‘Give to Caesar what is Caesar’s and to God what is God’s’ is his reply. In other words, do what you have to do in this world to get by and obey the worldly laws, but remember where your duty really lies; i.e with God. His enemies have no reply to this, but a steady determination to finish Jesus burns brighter within them.For us, we too must do what we have to do in our own society, but be sure to give the best of our efforts over to the worship of God, and the living out of that worship in the things we know we should do.Blessings,Fr MFrom the VicarWelcome to our worship today.Give to Caesar what is Caesar’s… In our recent gospel readings we have been travelling through a few parables in which Jesus speaks out against the religious authorities of his own day and indeed anyone from inside his own religious group who ‘should know better’, to coin a phrase. Jesus is rather fed up with the chief priests, temple elders and such like because he keeps seeing time and again a kind of religious arrogance mixed with apathy. 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His enemies have no reply to this, but a steady determination to finish Jesus burns brighter within them.For us, we too must do what we have to do in our own society, but be sure to give the best of our efforts over to the worship of God, and the living out of that worship in the things we know we should do.Blessings,Welcome to our worship, which includes Sunday School.*‘...there is no other name under heaven’**4*In today’s New Testament reading from the book of the Acts of the Apostles (which tells what happened after Jesus was Resurrected, we see Peter and his group in trouble with the authorities in Jerusalem: they have been going around telling people about Jesus and healing the sick. Rounded up and interrogated, Peter simply replies that there is salvation in ‘no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among mortals by which we must be saved’.Two things spring to mind here: one is that after three years or so of dashing into things in rather a headstrong way, Peter seems to have finally discovered who he is- an apostle and minister in Jesus’ name. It is as if he has finally found his voice and what the purpose of his existence is to be. Peter, as always, chimes so closely with our own hearts and minds in his weaknesses but also here in his strengths: we too can, in Jesus alone, discover who we are and what we are about.The second thing is that the words of the Angel to Mary all those years ago have come to pass: the angel told Mary that she must name the boy Jesus because he will ‘save his people from their sins’. The name Jesus (also Joshua, which is another version of the same name) means ‘the Lord Saves’. Peter has now finally and fully realised that this is completely true. Peter is quite radical here: he points out that it is the *name* of Jesus which saves-the man Jesus, the man they knew has now gone from their sight, so it is now his name which stands for him and possesses his power. Perhaps this investment in the name of Jesus by Peter comes from the fact that he himself was given a new name-Peter- by Jesus (Peter used to be known as Simon). In any case, these things have made their way into our own faith today. In church, we often say ‘In the *name* of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit’ (in fact, a baptism is not valid unless the person has been baptised using these words), and when we have healing ministries in church, the priest calls on the name of Jesus to bring about healing and wholeness.Taking all this into account we can hopefully see how important it is to respect the name of Jesus, to use it carefully and deliberately but most of all, to trust in it for our salvation.*Blessings, Fr Michael* |