|  |
| --- |
| **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 Consent may be withdrawn at any time.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 **St Margaret, Ifield.****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.’ |
|  |
| **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).**  |
|  |
| **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) ↓** |
|  |
| **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 |
|  |
| **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) |
|  |
| **THIS WEEK’S ACTIVITIES** |
| **MAY** | **ST PHILIP & ST JAMES** |
| **Wed 1st**  | **8.30am** | **Morning Prayer** |
|  | **9.30am** | **Eucharist (said)** *OT Lesson:* **Isaiah 30**: 15-21 (OT page 604) *Gospel:* **John 14**: 1-14 (NT page 104) |
|  | **10.15am** | (approx) **Coffee Morning** - Lounge |
|  | **1.00pm** | **Little Rainbows** – Hall (for pre-schoolers & carers) |
|  |  | **Funeral of the Late Glennys Scott (See Fr Michael’s letter on page 3 for details)** |
| **Fri 3rd**  |  | **The Holy Rosary** **[POSTPONED UNTIL 10th MAY]** |
|  |
| **SUNDAY 5th MAY 2024 – EASTER 6**  |
| **10.00am**  | **Sung All Age Parish Eucharist**  |
|  | *Gospel:***John 15**: 9-17 (NT page 105) |
|  |
| **See the source image** |
|  |
|  |
| **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** |
|  |
| **WHAT’S ON IN MAY****other than regular events for which please see above** | Simple Black Vector Floral |
| **Wed 8th**  |  **2.00pm** | **Aidan Ladies Meeting** – West Room |
| **Fri 10th**  |  **9.00am** | **The Holy Rosary** – Ladychapel **[PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF DATE]** |
| **12th - 18th May** | **Christian Aid Week** |
| **Sat 25th**  | **10.00am****to****12.00noon** | **Cake, Coffee, Plant SaleCoffee** **Morning & Plant Sale** **with Bring & Buy** | **MC900112314[1]** |
|  |
| **CHRISTIAN AID QUIZ**Christ Church are holding a Quiz Night for Christian Aid on Saturday 18th May at 7pm: £5  per person:  bring your own snacks/refreshments.  Please speak to Jenny if you would like to join a team from St Aidan's. |
|  |
| MCj04109350000[1] |
| **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. 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,Welcome to our worship today.***Away Giving***Today is the first of our ‘away-giving’ Sundays, in which any monies collected are sent to a charitable organisation as part of our mission and outreach. Today we are collecting for ‘Bloodrunners’ which is an organisation which transports urgently needed blood for transfusions via a series of motorbike couriers. They are known to have saved lives by getting the blood where it was needed most, quickly. Please consider giving as generously as you can. Thank you.***Rosary***This month’s Rosary will take place on the 10th (it’s usually the first Friday of the month. We meet in the Lady Chapel at 9am and it takes about 20-25 minutes. There is a short guide to the Rosary available in church and there are spare sets of beads if you would like to try it. It is a form of contemplative prayer using repeated prayers which still the mind and open the heart to contemplate events in the life of Jesus. It is not only prayed by Roman Catholics but has been much loved by Anglicans, too.***Glennys Scott RIP***The funeral of Glennys is to take place at 12noon on 1st May at Thamesview Crematorium and then later at 2pm there will be a memorial service in St Aidan’s with refreshments afterwards. Folk are warmly invited to both, or either, service. Please keep David and the family in your prayers.*Blessings,* *Fr Michael* |