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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 Consent may be withdrawn at any time.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 **Christ 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>.**GLUTEN-FREE WAFERS** are available – please speak to one of the Welcomers.**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’ and also, if you wish, by a handshake.****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 SCP352500 or e-mail: **vicar.staidans@gmail.com****Churchwarden** - 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) ↓** |
| **St Aidan’s Church****Gravesend****Compassion, Community, Confidence****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** |
|  | **Welcome To Our Worship Today** |  |
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| **SUNDAY 14th SEPTEMBER 2025 – HOLY CROSS** |
| **10.00am** | **Parish Eucharist with Sunday School** *OT Reading* **Numbers 21**: 4-9: (OT page 133) *Psalm:* **22, verses 23-28** *NT Reading:*  **Philippians 2**: 6-11 (NT page 187)*Gospel:* **John 3**: 13-17 (NT page 89) |
| **4.00pm** | **Confirmation Service – President & Preacher The Right Reverend Simon Burton-Jones, Bishop of Tonbridge**  *NT Reading:* **Philippians 2**: 6-11 (NT page 187)  *Gospel:* **John 3**: 13-17 (NT page 89)**Refreshments will be served in the Hall after this Service** |  |
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| ***THIS WEEK’TH*THIS WEEK’S EVENTS**  |
| **Wed 17th**  | **St HILDEGARD of BINGEN, Abbess** |
|  | **9.30am** | **Eucharist (said)**  *NT Reading:* **1 Corinthians 2**: 9-13 (NT page 158) *Gospel:* **Luke 10**: 21-24 (NT page 68) |
|  | **1.00pm** | **Little Rainbows** – Church Hall |
|  | **2.00pm** | **Craft & Chat Meeting** - West Room |
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| **SUNDAY 21st SEPTEMBER 2025 – St MATTHEW, Apostle**  |
| **10.00am** | **Parish Eucharist with Sunday School** *OT Reading* **Proverbs 3**: 13-18: (OT page 542) *Psalm:* **119, verses 65-72** *NT Reading:*  **2 Corinthians 4**: 1-6 (NT page 171)*Gospel:* **Matthew 9**: 9-13 (NT page 8) |
| **† 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** |  **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) – Also on Facebook** |
| **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 OCTOBER 2025other than regular events for which please see above & on page 1** |  |
| ***SILVER ECO CHURCH – THEME FOR THIS MONTH:******Recycling*** |
| **SUNDAY SCHOOL is on SUNDAYS 12th & 19th at 10.00am** |
| **Wed 1st**  | **10.15om** | (approx) **Coffee Morning – West Room (after the 9.30am Service)** |
| **Fri 3rd**  | **9,00am** | **The Holy Rosary** - Ladychapel |
| **Sun 5th** | **10.00pm** | **Parish Eucharist & Harvest Thanksgiving** |
| **Wed 8th**  | **2.00pm** | **Aidan Ladies Meeting** |
| **Wed 15th**  | **2.00pm** | **Craft & Chat Meeting -** Lounge |
| **Sat 25th**  | **4.00pm** | (to 6.30pm) **Board Games Afternoon** – Church Hall |
| **Sun 26th** | **10.00am** | **At this Service the open collection will be donated to the Diocese of Bo, Sierra Leone** |
| **SHOEBOXES FOR ROMANIA** –There is a box at the back of the church for your gifts, - Many thanks, Jenny Rawlinson. |
| **THANKS . . .** from Michael & Pauline Butler for the bouquet from St Aidan’s on their 60th Wedding Anniversary. |
| **CHRISTMAS IS A COMIN’** – There is also anotherbox at the back of the church for donations of chocolate items for the Chocolate Tombola at the Christmas Fair (on 29th November). |
| **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.** |  |
| **From The Vicar**Welcome to our worship today, which includes Sunday School.***Holy Cross Day***Today is Holy Cross Day, a chance to give thanks to God for the wonderful transformation of a horrible instrument of humiliation and execution in to the gate of life and symbol of hope.Let’s never lose sight of God’s extraordinary ability to change things, to do the impossible, to bathe us in love and grace when we most need and least deserve it.*O Crux Ave! Spes Unica*- O Cross, Hail! The only hope. Amen!***Confirmation***Today at 4pm Bishop Simon will come to St Aidan’s to lead the service of confirmation-this is an annual service which takes place in a church in our deanery and brings people from several churches together, to be confirmed. There are five candidates from St Aidan’s: Amanda, Connor, Theo, Caleb and Tyrese. We are also joined by Cassie, a pupil from St Botolph’s primary. On top of that we have several people from local churches coming to be confirmed, and a few being baptised as well so it will be a joyful service.Confirmation sets the seal on the ‘rites of initiation’ in the Church. Firstly there is baptism which often takes place when one is quite young. Confirmation takes place when a person is ready to make promises to God from their own free will, to order their lives according to the pattern laid down by Christ and to enter the life of the Church in a more committed way. For some of the newly confirmed it will be their first experience of receiving Holy Communion and in so doing will participate in the sacramental life of the Church and all that this gives them and demands of them, so please pray for those being confirmed, and for Bishop Simon.Next year’s service will probably be in late September. If you are interested in being confirmed, or for your child, please speak to me.*Blessings,**Fr Michael* |