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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 Consent may be withdrawn at any time.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 **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>.**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) ↓** |
| **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 17th AUGUST 2025 – 9th SUNDAY after TRINITY** |
| **10.00am** | **Parish Eucharist** *OT Reading:* **Isaiah 5**: 1-7 (OT page 582) *Psalm:* **80, verses 9 - end** *NT Reading:*  **Hebrews 11**:29 -**12**:2 (page 215)*Gospel:* **Luke 12**: 49-56 (NT page 72) |
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| ***THIS WEEK’TH*THIS WEEK’S EVENTS**  |
| **Wed 20th**  | **BERNARD, Abbot of Clairvaux**  |
|  | **9.30am** | **Eucharist (said)**  *NT Reading:* **Revelation 19**: 5-9 (NT page 246) *Gospel:* **Luke 12**: 32-37 (NT page 71) |
|  | **2.00pm** | **Craft & Chat Meeting** - Lounge |
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| **SUNDAY 24th AUGUST 2025 – BARTHOLOMEW, Apostle** |
| **10.00am** | **Parish Eucharist** *OT Reading:* **Isaiah 43**: 6-13: (OT page 616) *Psalm:* **145, verses 1-7** *NT Reading:*  **Acts 5**: 12-16 (NT page 115 )*Gospel:* **Luke 22**: 24-30 (NT page 83) |
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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** |  **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 SEPTEMBER 2025other than regular events for which please see above & on page 1** | Image result for Free Clip Art Black and White Flowers |
| ***SILVER ECO CHURCH – THEME FOR THIS MONTH:******Creation; Zero Waste Week; Cleanup Month*** |
| **SUNDAY SCHOOL is on SUNDAYS 14th & 21st SEPTEMBER at 10.00am** |
| **Wed 3rd**  | **10.15am** | (approx) **Coffee Morning** – Lounge (after the 9.30am Service) |
| **Fri 5th**  | **9.00am** | **The Holy Rosary** |
| **Sat 6th**  |  | **Parish Walk** (details to follow) |
| **Sun 7th**  | **10.00am** | **The open collection will be donated to Hope Gardens** |
| **Wed 10th**  | **2.00pm** | **Aidan Ladies Meeting -** Lounge |
| **Sun 14th**  | **10.00am****4.00pm** | **Eucharist (Book of Common Prayer)****Confirmation Service** |
| **Wed 17th**  | **2.00pm** | **Craft & Chat Meeting -** Lounge |
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| **PATRONAL FESTIVAL****This will be celebrated on** **St Aidan’s Day, Sunday 31st August at 10.00am****Antique Images: Free Flower Basket Clip Art: 2 Wicket Baskets Full**  |

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| **From The Vicar**Welcome to our worship today.My thanks to Rev’d David Scott for overseeing services whilst I was on leave. I always look forward to a break, but it is also good to return home! I used to go on retreats from time to time and they can be useful, but some people find returning home difficult after an extended time of prayer and quiet, often in a nice countryfied location; some people leave a lot of unanswered issues before they set off and so feel a sense of dread at having to ‘go back to it all’; others feel sad about returning to traffic jams, sirens and other indicators of busy life in a built up area after a time somewhere with lots of nature, space and peace.Yet I always say that to go on a pilgrimage, retreat or holiday is as much about the homecoming as it is the lovely feeling of setting out. What will you now do, having had time away? Can you bring anything from the precious break into your everyday life? For example, I was over in Wales earlier this year, on a clergy retreat at St David’s, a very beautiful part of coastal Wales. On travelling back we were talking about what we could do to keep some of the retreat ‘alive’ back home, and one person said that they need to get out into nature more. This can feel tricky in a built up place, but here in Gravesend we are a stone’s throw from ‘real’ countryside and have lots of places with wide skies and horizons, such as the estuary. We also have country parks and a nice stretch of canal with reedbeds and important nesting sites for all kinds of birds, so if you can, I do encourage you to discover what is on our ‘doorstep’.To that end, don’t forget our new walking group, which is meeting for its first walk on Saturday 6th September at Higham, near the Thames and Medway Canal. We will walk alongside the water, then turn towards the Napoleonic remains at Shorne Mead Fort, along the sea wall of the Thames before making our way back to our starting point. Fuller details on how to get there and timings will follow. Please let me know if you wish to join us!*Blessings, Fr Michael* |