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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 Consent may be withdrawn at any time.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 Botolph, Northfleet.**  **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**](mailto: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 18th MAY 2025 – 5th SUNDAY OF EASTER** | | | | | | | | | | |
| **10.00am** | | | **Parish Eucharist with Sunday School** (Book of Common Prayer)  *Psalm:*  **148, verses 1-6** *OT Reading* **Genesis 22**: 1-18 (OT page 16)   *NT Reading*: **Acts 11**: 1-18 (NT page 123)*Gospel:* **John 13**: 31-35 (NT page 103) | | | | | | | |
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| **THIS WEEK’S EVENTS** | | | | | | | | | | |
| **Wed 21st** | **ST HELENA (c250-330 AD)** | | | | | | | | | |
|  | **9.30am** | | | | | **Eucharist (said)**  *OT Reading****:* Psalm** 122: 1-5 (OT page 529)  *NT Reading:* **Acts 15**: 1-6 (NT page 127)  Gospel: **John 15**: 1-8 (NT page 105) | | | | |
| **1.00pm** | | | | | | (to 3.00pm) **Little Rainbows – Hall (for toddlers & their carers)** | | | | |
|  | **2.00pm** | | | | | **Craft & Chat –** Lounge & West Room | | | | |
| **Sat 24th** | **10.00am** | | | | | **Christian Aid Coffee Cake & Plant Sale (inside & outside the church)** | | | | |
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| **SUNDAY 25th MAY 2025 – 6th SUNDAY OF EASTER**  **The Open Collection at this Service will be donated to *The Gravesend Daytime Hub*** | | | | | | | | | | |
| **10.00am** | | | **Parish Eucharist with Sunday School** (Book of Common Prayer)  *OT Reading* **Ezekiel 37**: 1-14 (OT page 738)  *Psalm:*  **67**   *NT Reading*: **Acts 16**: 9-15 (NT page 129)*Gospel:* **John 14**: 23-29 (NT page 104) | | | | | | | |
| **† 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) – temporarily suspended***  **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 JUNE 2025 other than regular events for which please see above & on page 1** | | | | | | | | | | MCj04124640000[1] |
| ***ECO CHURCH – THEMES FOR THIS MONTH***  ***Clean air; protecting endangered rain forests*** | | | | | | | | | | |
| **Wed 4th** | | | **10.15am** | | | | (approx) **Coffee Morning** - Lounge | | | |
| **Fri 6th** | | | **9.30am** | | | | **Holy Rosary at Aylesford Priory (meet at Aylesford car park)** | | | |
| **Wed 11th** | | | **2.00pm** | | | | **Aidan Ladies Meeting** – Lounge & West Room | | | |
| **Sat 14th** | | | **4.00pm** | | | | (to 6.00pm) **Family Games Event** – Church Hall | | | |
| **Sun 15th** | | | **10.00am** | | | | **The open collection at this Service will be donated to the RNLI** | | | |
| **Wed 18th** | | | **2.00pm** | | | | **Craft & Chat** – West Room | | | |
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| **. . . & on 5th July there ia a** **Quiz Evening** in the Church Hall at 7.00pm    **RECYCLING**  **A reminder that we are still collecting stamps for charity and are now recycling batteries, ink cartridges, bread wrappers, crisp packets and there are receptacles for these at the back of the church.  PLEASE NOTE THAT WE ARE NO LONGER SAVING MILK BOTTLE TOPS AS WE NO LONGER HAVE A CONTACT TO PROCESS THEM.** | | | | | | | | | | |
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| **BUCKET COLLECTION** **The recent bucket collection held for three days at Morrisons Supermarket raised £858.68 for the benefit of Christian Aid.  Very grateful thanks to our volunteer collectors and to those who made donations.** | | | | | | | | | | |
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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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| **From The Vicar**  Welcome to our worship today which includes Sunday School  Our service this morning comes from the Book of Common Prayer (BCP), the central worship text of the Church of England. Published in 1662 it is a masterpiece of theology which retains some of the best aspects of Catholic teaching alongside the Reformation-era thinking which gave us the Anglican tradition we inherit today. The first version of the BCP was written in 1549 by Thomas Cranmer, who was then Archbishop of Canterbury and one of Henry VIII’s most trusted advisers. Cranmer somehow managed to give the prayer book a sparkling clarity which endures the ages and still comes up as fresh and vital as when it was first written. Yes, the language is ‘old’ and some words and phrases may be unfamiliar, but they are composed in such a way that the words flow very well and if you let them flow into you, comprehension comes.  At its most essential level, the BCP assures us that we worship a loving God who freely pours grace and mercy to us despite our wilful and defiant natures.  Cranmer read and knew the writings of what are called the ‘Desert Fathers’, early saints of the Church who left the cities of the Mediterranean to seek solitude in desert places. Folk sought them for their spiritual advice and their writings are a treasure of Christian spirituality insisting on the need to pray, to repent of sin, to be honest with ourselves and God. This frees us to see, feel and know the love of God and to be reconciled with him more fully in this life. This wisdom is found in the BCP, which, despite its great age, still shines with hope and faith in Christ crucified and risen.  ***Coming up…***  Please note some upcoming community events. **Next Saturday (24th)** we have our popular plant sale between 10am and 12 noon. Proceeds to Christian Aid.  On the **14th June** we are holding a games afternoon in the church hall, where you can come along and play board games and have snacks. We hope this will be a relaxing event for everyone including families to try.  *Blessings, Fr Michael* |