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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 Consent may be withdrawn at any time.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 **All Saints, Perry Street.**  **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 20th JULY 2025 – 5th SUNDAY after TRINITY** | | | | | | | | | |
| **10.00am** | | | **Parish Eucharist (Book of Common Prayer) with Sunday School**  *OT Reading* **Amos 8**: 1-12 (OT page 784)  *Psalm:*  **52**   *NT Reading*: **Colossians 1**: 15-28 (NT page 190)*Gospel:* **Luke 10**: 38-end (NT page 68) | | | | | | |
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| **THIS WEEK’S EVENTS** | | | | | | | | | |
| **Wed 23rd** | **MARY MAGDALENE (transferred from 22nd July)** | | | | | | | | |
|  | **9.30am** | | | | | **Eucharist (said)**  *Psalm*  **42, verses 1-10** (OT page 481)  *NT Reading:* **2 Corinthians 5**: 14-17 (NT page 172)  *Gospel:* **John 20**: 1-2, 11-18(NT page 110) | | | |
| **1.00pm** | | | | | | (to 3.00pm) **Little Rainbows – Hall (for toddlers & their carers)** | | | |
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| **SUNDAY 27th JULY 2025 – 6th SUNDAY after TRINITY** | | | | | | | | | |
| **10.00am** | | | **Parish Eucharist**  *OT Reading* **Hosea 1**; 2-10 (OT page 766)  *Psalm:*  **85, verses 1-7**   *NT Reading*: **Colossians 2**: 6-19(NT page 187)*Gospel:* **Luke 11**: 1-13 (NT page 69) | | | | | | |
| http://bouquetidea.net/wp-content/uploads/2015/05/bouquet-of-flowers-in-a-vase-drawing-a-vase-stock-vector-illustration-and-royalty-free-a-vase-clipart-image.jpg | | | | | | | | | |
| **† 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 AUGUST 2025 other than regular events for which please see above & on page 1** | | | | | | | | | MC900340376[1] |
| ***SILVER ECO CHURCH – THEME FOR THIS MONTH:***  ***Bats & Allotments*** | | | | | | | | | |
| **Fri 1st** | | |  | | | | **No Holy Rosary** | | |
| **Wed 6th** | | | **10.15am** | | | | (approx) **Coffee Morning** - Lounge | | |
| **Wed 13th** | | | **2.00pm** | | | | **Aidan Ladies Meeting** – Lounge & West Room | | |
| **Wed 20th** | | | **2.00pm** | | | | **Craft & Chat** – West Room | | |
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| **CHRISTIAN AID WEEK**  The final figure for this year's Christian Aid week in the Gravesend & District area is now known and is £4,330.94. Fourteen churches took part and each church has been individually thanked for their donation.  St Aidan's raised £939.11. The three day bucket collection at Morrison’s Supermarket raised a further £858.68. A huge thankyou to everyone who helped in any way - the help given by Janet and Michael Munson from St Mary Chalk at our Tea/Coffee/Cake/Plant Sale must also be acknowledged. |

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| *Tea, coffee (or squash) and a biscuit are available after Sunday morning’s service.* | **MCj02508040000[1]** | |
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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] |
| **From The Vicar**  Welcome to our worship today, which includes Sunday School.  We are using the Book of Common Prayer (BCP) for our liturgy today. This is in a ‘traditional language’ format (first written in 1549) so parts may feel different from modern-day church worship but it is always useful to have a ‘re-set’ and engage with different words. Whilst some people may find some of the language challenging, it does at the least flow very well-it was composed to be read aloud in church-so even if all of the meaning does not come to you straight away, the flow of the language helps to communicate the essential message: our God is merciful and we have every reason to give him thanks.  ***Paul and the Colossians***  Even after all these centuries, I still don’t think the Church has really got a handle on Paul- He had one of the most dramatic and helter-skelter lives of the saints and left us an absolute treasury of Christian wisdom and theology that we could not be without.  He was a complicated, demanding person possessed of great reserves of energy yet suffered from bouts of ill-health which must have driven him to distraction. He was impatient, brilliant, difficult: Peter and Barnabas both worked closely with him at different times and both could stand it no longer; a major falling-out caused these partnerships to collapse and as far as we know, were never restored.  Yet Paul is capable of sensitivity and clearly loved Christian communities very deeply; his heart seems to leap with joy at the thought of joining a church for an extended period- we know he was with the community at Ephesus for two years (I wonder if they were glad when he was gone?!!)  The Colossian church received a letter from him (some scholars debate whether this letter was Paul’s or a follower of his), probably written from prison. It is a letter filled with energetic encouragement: Colossae had once been an important, rich trading city but competition from other, newer cities and a couple of earthquakes had weakened the city’s status. However, the church was growing there and it was full of non-Jewish converts to Christianity so there was much teaching to be done to support this lively church in a dying city (by 400AD Colossae ceased to exist).  It was probably deliberate that Paul chose to write about the absolute supremacy of Christ to the Colossians. He wants them to believe and know just who Christ is, how they can live in the example of Jesus and what benefits this faith will bring.  As you read the extract today (or listen to it as it is read), try to imagine Paul speaking to *you*- whatever dramas Paul went through, he did not go through all of that in history alone; he did it for you and me, too.  *Blessings,*  *Fr Michael* | | |