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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 Consent may be withdrawn at any time.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**](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 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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| ***THIS WEEK’TH*THIS WEEK’S EVENTS** | | | | | | | | | |
| **Mon 25th** | **See the source image** | | | | | | | | |
| **Wed 27th** | **MONICA, Mother of Augustine of Hippo** | | | | | | | | |
|  | **9.30am** | | | | | **Eucharist (said)**  *OT Reading:* **Genesis 12**: 1-4 (OT page 9)  *Gospel:* **Matthew 19**: 16-21 (NT page 20) | | | |
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| **SUNDAY 31st AUGUST 2025 – ST AIDAN of LINDISFARNE** | | | | | | | | | |
| **10.00am** | | | **Parish Eucharist** *OT Reading:* **Isaiah 45**: 22-end: (OT page 619)  *Psalm:* **47**  *NT Reading:*  **1 Corinthians 9:** 16-19 (NT page 162 )  *Gospel:* **John 13**: 16-20 (NT page 103) | | | | | | |
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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 2025 other 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 (1-5 September); 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** | | |
| **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 | | |
|   **Board Games Afternoon**  As our recent board games afternoon proved so popular we are planning another for Saturday 25th October in the Church Hall between 4.00 - 6.30pm.  As previously, there will be games for all ages - more detail to follow. | | | | | | | | | |
| **PATRONAL FESTIVAL**  **This will be celebrated NEXT SUNDAY,**  **St Aidan’s Day, 31st August at 10.00am**  We are planning a church family picnic after the Morning Service on Sunday 31st August - making our way over to the field next to  St Gregory's Court soon after 11.30am. Bring a picnic and enjoy games for all ages, so we are hoping that children who usually come to our Sunday School and their families will join us. | | | | | | | | | |

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| **From The Vicar**  Welcome to our worship today, on the Feast of St Bartholomew the Apostle.  ***St Bartholomew***  This saint was one of the original twelve apostles of Jesus. He is mentioned in Matthew, Mark and Luke. Traditions around him are sketchy: some say he left as a missionary to India, whilst other traditions place him around modern day Turkey. He appears to have been martyred, possibly in Armenia; so his traditions at least are well travelled!  Further to these hints and legends is the idea that he is the Nathaniel which we meet in John’s gospel (1:45-46). This is because in the other gospels he is mentioned alongside Phllip and in the John record, he is travelling alongside Philip. His name, Bartholomew means ‘son of Talmai’ (‘bar’ means son of); this suggests that part of his name is missing: after all, Jesus’ name was ‘Jesus bar Joseph’, so perhaps he was Nathaniel bar Talmai. We will never know, but these traces, shadows and suggestions point to the way in which so many saints’ lives unfolded away from the glare of history, detailed records and even definite fact. Why celebrate saints’ lives if they cannot be trusted as reliable?  The Book of Common Prayer tells us that all the saints have been ‘knit together’ in ‘one communion and fellowship’. This fellowship takes place ‘in the mystical body of Christ Our Lord’- in other words, the saints become part of the resurrected Christ’s body. It is this Body which we receive spiritually and together in the Holy Communion,and it is this Body which we understand the Church to be, so, to take this thought onwards, we are dealing with something deeply mysterious and spiritual here, clearly beyond the reach of earthly things like history, biography and evidence.  To be Christian involves many things; in no small degree this includes entering into mystery with deep trust in and knowledge of God. Indeed, it was this deep trust and faith that led people like Bartholomew through their deaths, it accompanied them through many trials and agonies at the last; for ourselves let us ever pray for the grace to follow the example the saints have given us in our own lives.  St Bartholomew, pray for us. Amen.  *Blessings,*  *Fr Michael* |