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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 Consent may be withdrawn at any time.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 Peter & St Paul, Shorne.**  **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>.  **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’ but not by handshake or touch.**  **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352500 or e-mail: **vicar.staidans@gmail.com**  **Churchwardens** – Dennis Ashurst 567300  - Robert Hollands 07970 208403 or e-mail: **rholljan@aol.com**  **Anna Chaplain (ministry with the elderly, also community links) -** Sylvia Munns 356941  **Lay Reader (Preaching, Study and Faith)** - Dr Peter Harris  [**pjharris7869@hotmail.com**](mailto:pjharris7869@hotmail.com)  **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) ↓** | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| **StAidansLogo-slogan** | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| **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 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| See the source image | | | | | WELCOME TO OUR WORSHIP TODAY | | | | | | | | | See the source image | | | | |
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| **SUNDAY 10th MARCH 2024 – LENT 4, MOTHERING SUNDAY** | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| **10.00am Sung Parish Eucharist with Sunday School** | | | | | | | | | | | | | **Image result for clip art mothering sunday** | | | | | |
| *OT Reading*  *Psalm*  *NT Reading*  *Gospel* | | | | | | **Exodus 2**: 1-10 (OT page 47)  **34, verses 11-20**  **2 Corinthians 1**: 3-7(NT page 169)  **Luke 2**: 33-35 (NT page 58) | | | | | | |
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| **ACTIVITIES THIS WEEK** | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| **Wed 13th** | | | **8.30am** | | | | | | **Morning Prayer** | | | | | | | | | |  |
|  | | | **9.30am** | | | | | | **Eucharist (said)**  *Reading****:* Isaiah 49**: 8-15 (OT page 622)  *Gospel:***John 5**: 17-30 (NT page 92) | | | | | | | | | |
|  | | | **1.00pm** | | | | | | **Little Rainbows** – Hall (for pre-schoolers & carers) | | | | | | | | | |
|  | | | **2.00pm** | | | | | | **Aidan Ladies Meeting** – West Room | | | | | | | | | |
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| **SUNDAY 17th MARCH 2024 – LENT 5, PASSION SUNDAY** | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| **10.00am Sung Parish Eucharist with Sunday School** | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| *OT Reading*  *Psalm*  *NT Reading*  *Gospel* | | | | | | **Jeremiah 31**: 13-34 (OT page 672)  **51, verses 1-13**  **Hebrews 5**: 5-10 (NT page 209)  **John 12**: 20-33 (NT page 102) | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| **11.15am** | | | | | | **Annual Parochial Church Meeting** - in Church | | | | | | | | | | | | |
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| **SUNDAYS IN LENT**  Instead of the Gloria, we sing Lord Have Mercy, Christ Have Mercy, Lord Have Mercy but in Greek, as follows:  **Kyrie Eleison (x3), Christe Eleison (x3), Kyrie Eleison (x3)** | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
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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 (see note **#)**  ([www.facebook.com/StAidansChurchGravesend](http://www.facebook.com/StAidansChurchGravesend))  ***(Note # - Apologies - live-streaming has been temporarily halted pending acquisition of equipment which will provide a better quality of streaming)***  (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)**  **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 THE REST OF MARCH 2024 (other than the usual services for which please see above)** | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | **See the source image** | |
| **Thu 21st** | | **7.30pm** | | | | | | **P C C Meeting** – West Room | | | | | | | | | |
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| **Sun 24th** | | **9.50am 10.00am** | | | | | | **Meet in the Church Hall for the Palm Sunday procession to Church** | | | | **African american palm sunday clipart kid** | | | | | |
| **Wed 27th** | | **7.00pm** | | | | | | **Agapé Meal** – Lounge[This will be a 'help yourself' cold buffet .  To assist with catering, please add your name to the list at the back of the church if you are hoping to come - a donation of £4 per head would be appreciated] | | | | | | | | | MC900391118[1] |
| **Thu 28th** | | **8.00pm** | | | | | | **Maundy Thursday Clipart #1** | | **Liturgy of Last Supper & Vigil** | | | | | | | |
| **Fri 29th** | | **3.00pm** | | | | | | **Good Friday Liturgy** | | | **MPj04074850000[1]** | | | | | | |
| **Sun 31st** | | **10.00am** | | | | | | **Easter Day Eucharist with Anointing**  (also start of British Summer Time) | | | | | | | | | |
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| **From the Vicar**  From the Vicar  Welcome to our worship today.  Give to Caesar what is Caesar’s…  In our recent gospel readings we have been travelling through a few parables in  which Jesus speaks out against the religious authorities of his own day and indeed  anyone from inside his own religious group who ‘should know better’, to coin a  phrase. Jesus is rather fed up with the chief priests, temple elders and such like  because he keeps seeing time and again a kind of religious arrogance mixed with  apathy. It’s as if they think they don’t need to do anything outside of what tradition  dictates because they are God’s ‘chosen ones’. Jesus is very clear that the  scriptures he knew (what we call the Old Testament) record clearly the ways in  which God’s chosen people Israel had repeatedly failed to make good on their side  of the covenant God made with them in the desert. Jesus is astounded and angry  that in his own day, centuries after the events of the time of Moses, the heirs of this  covenant still ‘don’t get it’. His parables are a way to teach his hearers about how to  live by giving examples of what not to do-once the elders realise that he is using  them as an example of wrongness they respond not with humility but with plots and  plans to have Jesus destroyed; it is a profoundly depressing response by these men  and alas we see this kind of response still alive and well in our own time: the desire  of the powerful to hang on to that power and privilege at almost any cost.  The elders try to trick Jesus into worshipping the Roman Emperor, which would be  blasphemy (only God should be worshipped). They do this by trying to get him to  encourage people to pay their taxes (thus helping the hated Roman occupiers) but  Jesus as ever is ahead of the game. ‘Give to Caesar what is Caesar’s and to God  what is God’s’ is his reply. In other words, do what you have to do in this world to get  by and obey the worldly laws, but remember where your duty really lies; i.e with God.  His enemies have no reply to this, but a steady determination to finish Jesus burns  brighter within them.  For us, we too must do what we have to do in our own society, but be sure to give  the best of our efforts over to the worship of God, and the living out of that worship in  the things we know we should do.  Blessings,  Fr M  From the Vicar  Welcome to our worship today.  Give to Caesar what is Caesar’s…  In our recent gospel readings we have been travelling through a few parables in  which Jesus speaks out against the religious authorities of his own day and indeed  anyone from inside his own religious group who ‘should know better’, to coin a  phrase. Jesus is rather fed up with the chief priests, temple elders and such like  because he keeps seeing time and again a kind of religious arrogance mixed with  apathy. 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We also have Sunday School today.  ***The mothering of Mary***  Whilst devotion to St Mary, the mother of Jesus, has been a source of disagreement in the Western Church for many years to varying degrees, there is no escaping the extraordinary fact that God chose to make himself known in the world through a natural birth. That meant that a woman needed to be chosen to nurture the Christ Child in her womb, and in due time to give birth. It is a wonderful sign of God’s patience and his mastery over time and of course his willingness to really become at one with us, that he was willing to wait nine months to appear!  In choosing to shape the incarnation in this way, God sanctified motherhood, the womb of every woman becomes a chapel to the Child Jesus, even wombs which have not carried a child.  In the 5th century, the Eastern Church declared Mary to be ‘Mother of God’, a title which is widely used across the apostolic churches of today (Roman Catholics, Anglicans and Eastern Orthodox); there is something invigorating and daring about focussing on the mothering of Mary which brings into focus God’s choice to appear in the world in this way- as is always the reply to any accusation that devotion to Mary is idolatry, or goddess-worship or some such, the truth about Mary is that she always points to God; Mary holds the Child Jesus out to us, facing the world, not cuddling him into herself as a prized possession but rather saying to us ‘Look, here he is!’  Our annual celebration of Mothering Sunday is, then, above all, about God. Of course we make the most of the chance to celebrate our own mothers and mother-figures, but the focus is on the care God showed to us by arriving in this way, and in choosing a human birth, God shows us that motherly care-’mothering’ is something which we should all do, whether we are mothers or not.  I pray that you will feel the motherly care of God today, and be ready to show it to others.  Blessings,  *Fr Michael* | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
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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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