|  |
| --- |
| **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 Consent may be withdrawn at any time.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 **Christ Church.****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.’ |
|  |
| **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).**  |
|  |
| **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 |
|  |
| **SUNDAY 7th SEPTEMBER 2025 – TRINITY 12** |
| **10.00am** | ***[The open collection will be donated to Hope Gardens, S.India]* All Age Parish Eucharist** *Gospel:* **Luke 14**: 25-33 (NT page 74) |
|  |
| ***THIS WEEK’TH*THIS WEEK’S EVENTS**  |
| **Wed 10th**  | **9.30am** | **Eucharist (said)**  *NT Reading:* **Colossians 3**: 1-11 (NT page 191) *Gospel:* **Luke 6**: 20-26 (NT page 61) |
|  | **1.00pm** | **Little Rainbows** – Church Hall |
|  | **2.00pm** | **Aidan Ladies Meeting** - West Room |
|  |
| **SUNDAY 14th SEPTEMBER 2025 – HOLY CROSS** |
| **10.00am** | **Parish Eucharist with Sunday School (Book of Common Prayer)** *OT Reading* **Numbers 21**: 4-9: (OT page 133) *Psalm:* **22, verses 23-28** *NT Reading:*  **Philippians 2**: 6-11 (NT page 187)*Gospel:* **John 3**: 13-17 (NT page 89) |
| **4.00pm** | **Confirmation Service – Celebrant Bishop Simon** *NT Reading:* **Philippians 2**: 6-11 (NT page 187)  *Gospel:* **John 3**: 13-17 (NT page 89) | MC900230890[1] |
|  |
| **† 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) – Also on Facebook** |
| **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** |
|  |
| **WHAT’S ON IN THE REST OF SEPTEMBER 2025other than regular events for which please see above & on page 1** | Image result for Free Clip Art Black and White Flowers |
| **SUNDAY SCHOOL is on SUNDAY21st SEPTEMBER at 10.00am** |
| **Wed 17th**  | **2.00pm** | **Craft & Chat Meeting -** Lounge |
|  |
| **WHAT’S ON IN OCTOBER 2025other than regular events for which please see above & on page 1** | MCj04418480000[1] |
| ***SILVER ECO CHURCH – THEME FOR THIS MONTH:******Recycling*** |
| **SUNDAY SCHOOL is on SUNDAYS 12th & 19th at 10.00am** |
| **Wed 1st**  | **10.15om** | (approx) **Coffee Morning – West Room (after the 9.30am Service)** |
| **Fri 3rd**  | **9,00am** | **The Holy Rosary** - Ladychapel |
| **Sun 5th** | **10.00pm** | **Parish Eucharist & Harvest Thanksgiving** |
| **Wed 8th**  | **2.00pm** | **Aidan Ladies Meeting** |
| **Wed 15th**  | **2.00pm** | **Craft & Chat Meeting -** Lounge |
| **Sat 25th**  | **4.00pm** | (to 6.30pm) **Board Games Afternoon** – Church Hall |
| **Sun 26th** | **10.00am** | **At this Service the open collection will be donated to the Diocese of Bo, Sierra Leone** |
| **CONFIRMATION SERVICE – 4.00pm NEXT SUNDAY (14th SEPT)**If you are able to provide sandwiches, quiches and other savoury & sweet treats for after this event, please sign your name on the list at the back of the church. Thank you.**SHOEBOXES FOR ROMANIA** – Yes, it’s that time again! We are starting to collect items for the shoeboxes of gifts we send to Romania each year There will be a box at the back of the church to receive your gifts, suitable for all family members, such as: small toys, screwdrivers etc for Dad, gloves, and other small items of clothing, toothbrushes and other toiletries etc. A fuller list will be available shortly. - Many thanks, Jenny Rawlinson.**From The Vicar**Welcome to our worship today.Well, now it is September, do you consider that we are now in autumn? Certainly there are signs of the season’s change but there is the phenomenon of ‘false autumn’; those days in late August and early September when we see some yellowing leaves and rosehips, detect a new coolness in the air and rush to get out our favourite jumper. No sooner have we started looking forward to the misty, cosy delights of autumn, when the sun comes out, blue skies abound and we wilt in the heat! I think this phenomenon happens because we anticipate the change and in so doing bring it about in our minds-we decide when the season has changed and are wrong-footed when we discover we had jumped too soon! The key, of course, is to wait and let nature do its thing, it is for us to respond to the rhythm of nature rather than impose our rhythms on nature. If it is true that human activity has interfered with the seasons (and all the science seems to point in that direction) then we have all the more reason to observe and follow nature’s patterns as we try to reverse some of the damage that has been done.Today’s gospel from Luke is all about giving up our possessions: perhaps we need to include in that our obsessions; these become like possessions in that we carry them in our heart and allow them to dictate our view of the world. Jesus asks us to lay all of that down and see the world through his eyes.In 1984 the pop group Queen released a thoughtful ballad, *Is This the World We Created?* and the final verse encapsulates the theme quite well:*Is this the world we created?**We made it on our own.**Is this the world we devastated, right to the bone?**If there's a God in the sky, looking down**What can he think of what we've done**To the world that He created?*In the teaching of Jesus today, we see that God does more than ‘look down’-yes, he may be scandalised by the way we have treated the planet but he is always calling us back to follow him, to let go of our ‘possessions’. When this finally happens, we see the world anew and our former desires to dictate and control evaporate like autumn mist.*Blessings,**Fr Michael* |