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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 Consent may be withdrawn at any time.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>.**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****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 12th JANUARY 2025 – BAPTISM of CHRIST**  |
| **10.00am**  | **Parish Eucharist with Sunday School*****Preacher & Celebrant: The Rev’d David Scott*** *O.T.**Reading:* **Isaiah 43**: 1-7 (OT page 616) *Psalm:* **29** *N.T Reading:* **Acts 8**: 14-17 (NT page 120) *Gospel:* **Luke 3**; 15-17, 21-22 (NT page 57) |
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| **THIS WEEK’S EVENTS**  |  |
| **Wed 15th** | **9.30am** | **Eucharist (said)***Reading:* **Hebrews 2**: 14-end (NT page 208) *Gospel:* **Mark 1**: 21-28 (NT page 34) |
|  | **1.00pm** | (to 3.00pm) **Little Rainbows** - Hall (for pre-schoolers and parents/carers) |
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| **SUNDAY 19th JANUARY 2025 – EPIPHANY 2**  |
| **10.00am**  | **Parish Eucharist with Sunday School** *O.T.**Reading:* **Isaiah 62**: 1-5 (OT page 634) *Psalm:* **36, verses 5 to 10** *N.T Reading:* **1 Corinthians 12**: 1-11 (NT page 164) *Gospel:* **John 2**: 1-11 (NT page 89 ) |
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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]** |
| **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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| **FEBRUARY 2025other than regular events for which please see above & on page 1** | MCj04404360000[1] |
| **Wed 5th**  | **10.15am** | (approx) **Coffee Morning -** Lounge(after the 9.30am Eucharist) |
| **Fri 7th**  | **9.00am** | **The Holy Rosary** - Ladychapel |
| **Thu 20th**  | **7.30pm** | **P C C Meeting** |
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| *Tea, coffee (or squash) and a biscuit are available after Sunday morning’s service.* | MCj02508040000[1] |

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| **From the Vicar**Welcome to our worship today, which is led by the Rev’d David Scott.Today the Church remembers the Baptism of Christ, so we have, in a few days, moved from considering the infancy of Jesus, to the beginning of his ministry: around thirty years!This is to serve as a reminder that we should keep in mind who Jesus is: the Messiah who was born to save the world from itself.Importantly, Jesus *submits* to baptism from the hands of John. Again, God surprises us by not behaving as we think a God would (or should?); why doesn’t he ride a golden stallion and scatter the world’s enemies? Why isn’t he a strongman like Samson from the Old Testament, tearing to pieces anything that gets in his way?The trouble is, because we sometimes think - or want - God to be like this we set up a false image of God, and we can reject or underestimate the God who comes ‘in glorious humility’. But this *is* what God does and we have to make the best of what that means: Christ receives baptism in humility but also as an act of solidarity with humankind and as a doorway through which he moves to begin his ministry. He also, in being baptised, elevates our own baptism to something truly special: we join with him in moving into a new life.So, at this time of year we can be thankful for the surprise and challenge God again gives to us, and pray for the newly baptised, and those considering it for themselves or their children.If you would like to explore baptism, please get in touch with me.Blessings*Fr Michael.* |
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