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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 Consent may be withdrawn at any time.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, Milton.**  **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 5th JANUARY 2025 – THE EPIPHANY** | | | | | | | | **MCj04323650000[1]** | | | |
| **10.00am** | | | **All Age Eucharist** *Gospel:***Matthew 2**: 2-12 (NT page 1) | | | | |
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| **THIS WEEK’S EVENTS** | | | | | | | | | |  | |
| **Wed 8th** | **9.30am** | | | | | | **Eucharist (said)**  *Reading:* **1 John 4**: 7-10 (NT page 229)  *Gospel:* **Mark 6**: 34-44 (NT page 39) | | | | |
|  | **1.00pm** | | | | | | (to 3.00pm) **Little Rainbows** - Hall (for pre-schoolers and parents/carers) | | | | |
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| **SUNDAY 12th JANUARY 2025 – BAPTISM of CHRIST** | | | | | | | | | | | |
| **10.00am** | | | **Parish Eucharist with Sunday School**  *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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| **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 2025 other 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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| **WAYS TO DONATE** There is an almsdish for donations as you leave plus a card reader for those who carry little cash. Regular payments may also be made through the Freewill Offering Envelope scheme (cash or cheques) or through a bank standing order. Gift Aid forms may be completed by those who pay income tax to enable St Aidan’s to reclaim tax on donations, costing you, yes, nothing! And there’s always the gift of a Legacy . . . . . . Please contact our Treasurer, Barbara Potter, for details. Many thanks. | | | | | | | | | | | |
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| **WANTED** | | | | | | **more helpers for the Sunday morning refreshment rota – no experience needed – no washing up involved – we have a dish-washer! Interested? Please see Jenny Rawlinson for details.** | | | | | |
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| **STILL REQUIRED** – stamps, from those Christmas cards & parcels, for charity – there is a collecting box at the back of the church – Thank you. | | | | | | | | | | | |

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| **From the Vicar**  Happy New Year, and a warm welcome to our worship today, the first of 2025.  Today is the feast of the Epiphany, also called ‘The manifestation of Our Lord to the gentiles’, and marks the moment at which the ‘Three Wise Men’ arrived at Bethlehem having followed the star.  In our Christmas nativity traditions, the Wise Men offer a touch of mystery, coming from ‘the East’- you probably have at least a couple of Christmas cards which depict them as richly dressed in colourful robes, bringing their expensive gifts, but the key thing is that they are the first people we know about who met the Christ Child, who were not Jews (hence ‘manifestation to the gentiles’). In this context, the Wise Men represent the wider world. That they are sometimes called ‘Kings’ or ‘Magi’ (learned ones) suggests that they symbolise the powers of the wider world coming to God and kneeling before him. It is in any case a powerful image, and one we long to see: the world acknowledging Christ as Lord.  Let us then pray for our world as we enter a new year, a world so in need of grace and blessing, and peace.  And may you be guided by a star to Christ, to see him vulnerable and dependent. Let’s be moved to look for those in need in our society, particularly the persecuted and those with little to live on.  *Blessings,*  *Fr Michael* |
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