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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 Consent may be withdrawn at any time.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 **Holy Family**  **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 9th FEBRUARY 2025 – 4th SUNDAY BEFORE LENT** | | | | | | | | | | |
| **10.00am** | | | **Parish Eucharist with Sunday School**  *O.T.**Reading:* **Isaiah 6**: 1- end (OT page 583)  *Psalm:* **138**  *N.T Reading:* **1 Corinthians 15**: 1-11 (NT page 167) *Gospel:* **Luke 5**: 1-11 (NT page 59) | | | | | | | |
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| **THIS WEEK’S EVENTS** | | | | | | | | |  | |
| **Wed 12th** | **9.30am** | | | | | **Eucharist (said)**  *Reading:* **Genesis 2**: 18-end (OT page 2)  *Gospel:* **Mark 7**: 24-30 (NT page 40) | | | | |
|  | **1.00pm** | | | | | (to 3.00pm) **Little Rainbows** - Hall (for pre-schoolers and parents/carers) | | | | |
|  | **2.00pm** | | | | | **Aidan Ladies Meeting (Quiz afternoon)**  – West Room | | | | |
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| **SUNDAY 16th FEBRUARY 2025 – 3rd SUNDAY BEFORE LENT (Septuagesima)** | | | | | | | | | | |
| **10.00am** | | | **Parish Eucharist with Sunday School**  *O.T.**Reading:* **Jeremiah 17**: 5-10 (OT page 657)  *Psalm:* **1**  *N.T Reading:* **1 Corinthians 15**: 12-20(NT page 167) *Gospel:* **Luke 6**: 17-26 (NT page 61) | | | | | | | |
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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 2025 other than regular events for which please see above & on page 1** | | | | | | | | | | MCj04404360000[1] |
| **Thu 20th** | **7.30pm** | | | | | **P C C Meeting** | | | | |
|   **A VERY IMPORTANT NOTICE!**  This year, the church’s Electoral Roll has to be completely revised. Now is the time to complete a new form (available in the vestibule). Full details of who may be on the Roll are on the forms themselves but briefly you may apply to be on the Roll if you a) are baptised and aged 16 by 6th April 2025; and b) live within the parish or live outside the parish but habitually worship at St Aidan’s. Please hand the completed form to Doreen McIntosh, the Electoral Roll Officer. Don’t delay – do it today!  If you have any queries, please speak to, Doreen or the PCC Secretary, Mike Welch.   | | | | | | | | | | |
| ***MCj02508040000[1]*** | | | | | | | *Please stay for refreshments available after Sunday morning’s service.* | | | |
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| **From the Vicar**  Welcome to our worship today, which includes Sunday School.  ***‘...from now on you will be catching people’***  It is amazing how the calendar of readings in church (called a Lectionary, from the Latin *Lectio* - ’to read’) takes great leaps through the life of Jesus. The ‘hop’ from the birth of Jesus at Christmas and the visit of the Wise men at Epiphany is one of the most logical and shortest movements forward. Next, as at last week’s Candlemas service, we heard about Jesus being ‘presented’ at the Temple as a very young child; again, fair enough. But today’s reading takes a cosmic leap ahead to the thirty year-old Jesus, who is on the shore of Lake Galilee, calling the first of his disciples. These leaps may be something of a jolt, but it’s important to remember that the readings in church across the year don’t seek to tell the chronological story of Jesus, but instead to pick up themes for us to contemplate, pray about and live by.  In this week’s well-known scene, Jesus encourages Peter and the others to row their fishing boat further out. Grumbling, they agree and are astonished at the catch of fish which is so great, the nets are tearing. Jesus then tells them, ‘from now on, you will be catching people.’ It’s a bit of an odd phrase really. I think we know what Jesus means here-people will be gathered by the disciples to become followers of Jesus, but the imagery of ‘catching’ strikes a somewhat discordant note; a sense of being unwittingly trapped in a net! The key thing about the Christian life, though, is that it always rests on choice-nobody should be compelled, trapped or tricked into becoming Christian. The disaster of the mediaeval Crusades, in which European armies sought to ‘win back’ the Holy Land from Islam resulted in much blood letting on all sides and was a decidedly cynical and ill-conceived idea. Instead, we should contemplate how, in our own culture and wider world, we can gather God’s people. Like Peter, we can often toil away at this and nothing seems to work (he complains to Jesus that they have been fishing ‘all night’ and have caught nothing), but this is usually because we have tried to do it on our own strength: if we get out of the way of the Holy Spirit, and instead work with it, we do then seem to see things happening. So I pray that as the year unfolds we will do our best to enable the Spirit to do its thing so that more people can know Jesus.  ***Contact details for Rev’d Richard Martin***  Some of you will fondly remember one of our former curates, Richard. St Aidan’s is close to his heart and he is now retired and soon to be resident in Bromley. For those who may wish to contact him, his details are: Flat 29, Bromley College, London Road, Bromley BR1 1PE. Landline is not sorted yet but his mobile is 07748 445804 and email [revramartin@btinternet.com](mailto:revramartin@btinternet.com)  *Blessings, Fr Michael* |