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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 Consent may be withdrawn at any time.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 George, Gravesend**  **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 1st JUNE 2025 – 7th SUNDAY OF EASTER** | | | | | | | | | |
| **10.00am** | | | **All Age Parish Eucharist**  *Gospel:* **John 17**: 20-end (NT page 107) | | | | | | |
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| **THIS WEEK’S EVENTS** | | | | | | | | | |
| **Wed 4th** | **9.30am** | | | | | **Eucharist (said)**  *NT Reading:* **Acts** **20**: 28-end (NT page134)  Gospel: **John 17**: 11-19 (NT page 107) | | | |
| **10.15am** | | | | | | (approx) **Coffee Morning** - :Lounge | | | |
| **1.00pm** | | | | | | (to 3.00pm) **Little Rainbows – Hall (for toddlers & their carers)** | | | |
| **Fri 6th** | **9.30am** | | | | | **Holy Rosary at Aylesford Priory (meet at Aylesford car park)** | | | |
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| **SUNDAY 8th JUNE 2025 – PENTECOST** | | | | | | | | | |
| **10.00am** | | | **Parish Eucharist with Sunday School**  *OT Reading* **Genesis 11**: 1-9 (OT page 114)  *Psalm:*  **104, verses 26-end**   *NT Reading*: **Acts 2**: 1-21 (NT page 113)*Gospel:* **John 14**: 8-17, 25-27 (NT page 104) | | | | | | |
| **MCj04351210000[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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| **WHAT’S ON IN JUNE 2025 other than regular events for which please see above & on page 1** | | | | | | | | | MCj04124640000[1] |
| ***SILVER ECO CHURCH – THEMES FOR THIS MONTH***  ***Clean air; protecting endangered rain forests*** | | | | | | | | | |
| **Wed 11th** | | | **2.00pm** | | | | **Aidan Ladies Meeting** – Lounge & West Room | | |
| **Sat 14th** | | | **4.00pm** | | | | **(to 6.30pm)** **Family Games Event** – Church Hall | | |
| **Sun 15th** | | | **10.00am** | | | | **The open collection at this Service will be donated to the RNLI** | | |
| **Wed 18th** | | | **2.00pm** | | | | **Craft & Chat** – West Room | | |
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| **WHAT’S ON IN JULY 2025 other than regular events for which please see above & on page 1** | | | | | | | | | Image result for Black Line Art Designs |
| ***SILVER ECO CHURCH – THEME FOR THIS MONTH***  ***Big Butterfly Count*** | | | | | | | | | |
| **Wed 2nd** | | | **10.15am** | | | | (approx) **Coffee Morning** - Lounge | | |
| **Fri 4th** | | | **9.00am** | | | | **The Holy Rosary** - Ladychapel | | |
| **Sat 5th** | | | **7.00pm** | | | | **Quiz Evening** – Church Hall | | |
| **Wed 9th** | | | **2.00pm** | | | | **Aidan Ladies Meeting** – Lounge & West Room | | |
| **Sun 13th** | | | **10.00am** | | | | **The open collection at this service will be donated to** **The Samaritans** | | |
| **Wed 16th** | | | **2.00pm** | | | | **Craft & Chat** – West Room | | |
| **Thur 17th** | | | **7.30pm** | | | | **P C C Meeting** | | |
| **Sun 27th** | | | **10.00pm** | | | | **This Service will be from the Book of Common Prayer** | | |
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| **RECYCLING**  A reminder that we are **still** collecting **stamps** for charity and are now recycling batteries, ink cartridges, bread wrappers, crisp packets and there are receptacles for these at the back of the church | | | | | | | | | |

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| **From The Vicar**  Welcome to our worship today.  ***‘...the world does not know you…’***  John’s gospel has a few instances in which Jesus talks about the world ‘not knowing’ God. It is obviously a theme that John wanted to highlight in his story about Jesus’ life and teachings.  John-sometimes called the Fourth Evangelist (and not to be confused with John the Baptist), was writing in around 100AD, so some seventy years after the Resurrection, and he was writing possibly in an outpost of the Roman Empire, on the edges of the Mediterranean lands. John seems to have a keen awareness of the danger to the Christian faith posed by the Roman authorities and this may lay at the heart of what he means by ‘the world’ not knowing Jesus-after all, the Roman occupation of much of the Mediterranean lands would have meant that most of the places people could reasonably get to were under Roman control; in other words, their world was Roman. John also lived in a place and a time when lots of different religions were circulating. Some of them were sympathetic to the Roman religion and others, like Christianity, not so much. We know that persecution of Christians took place in the Roman world pretty much from the beginnings of the first Christian communities right up until the mid 300s when the emperor officially tolerated Christianity, even declaring it the empire’s official religion. But this was still 200 years away from the time of John, when to be Christian was risky.  Into this atmosphere of ignorance about Jesus, John’s gospel seeks to be a guiding light, offering to bring people to find him. Once arriving in this light, people discover a Jesus intimately connected to God the Father, and it becomes clear that it is by faith in Christ that we draw close to God. Indeed, Jesus says elsewhere in that gospel, *‘No one comes to the Father except through me’.*  What of *our* world- do people ‘know’ God? Certainly there are churches and cathedrals all over the place and in our country the Church of England is involved in the very life of the nation through the House of Lords, schools, and the parish system in which churches become places of outreach into communities. Fair enough, but from the recent increase of people turning to church across the country suggests that they are coming from a place of ‘not knowing’-often with very limited awareness and knowledge of what Christianity is or what it involves, yet drawn to explore and find out. In this way, not knowing God becomes an opportunity to discover, so perhaps it is not all bad!  In the end, what matters is the message from John that Christ is the light which brings us to God whether we know him or not- all are called, all are chosen. May Jesus indeed be your own way to finding God in our troubled world.  *Blessings,*  *Fr Michael* |