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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 Consent may be withdrawn at any time.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**](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 13th JULY 2025 – 4th SUNDAY after TRINITY**  ***[The open collection at this service will be donated to******The Samaritans]*** | | | | | | | | | | |
| **10.00am** | | | | **Parish Eucharist with Sunday School**  *OT Reading* **Amos 7**: 7-end (OT page 784)  *Psalm:*  **82**   *NT Reading*: **Colossians 1**: 1-14 (NT page 189)*Gospel:* **Luke 10**: 25-37 (NT page 68) | | | | | | |
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| **THIS WEEK’S EVENTS** | | | | | | | | | | |
| **Wed 16th** | | **9.30am** | | | | | **Eucharist (said)**  *OT Reading:* **Exodus 3**: 1-6, 9-12 (OT page 47)  *Gospel:* **Matthew 11**: 25-27 (NT page 11) | | | |
| **1.00pm** | | | | | | | (to 3.00pm) **Little Rainbows – Hall (for toddlers & their carers)** | | | |
|  | **2.00pm** | | | | | | **Craft & Chat Meeting** – West Room | | | |
| **Thur 17th** | **7.30pm** | | | | | | **P C C Meeting** | | | |
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| **SUNDAY 20th JULY 2025 – 5th SUNDAY after TRINITY** | | | | | | | | | | |
| **10.00am** | | | | **Parish Eucharist with Sunday School**  *OT Reading* **Amos 8**: 1-12 (OT page 784)  *Psalm:*  **52**   *NT Reading*: **Colossians 1**: 15-28 (NT page 190)*Gospel:* **Luke 10**: 38-end (NT page 68) | | | | | | |
| Image result for Black Floral Vector | | | | | | | | | | |
| **† 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) | | | | |
| **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 THE REST OF 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*** | | | | | | | | | | |
| **Sun 27th** | | | | **10.00pm** | | | | **This Service will be from the Book of Common Prayer** | | |
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| **WHAT’S ON IN AUGUST 2025 other than regular events for which please see above & on page 1** | | | | | | | | | | MC900340376[1] |
| ***SILVER ECO CHURCH – THEME FOR THIS MONTH:***  ***Bats & Allotments*** | | | | | | | | | | |
| **Fri 1st** | | | |  | | | | **No Holy Rosary** | | |
| **Wed 6th** | | | | **10.15am** | | | | (approx) **Coffee Morning** - Lounge | | |
| **Wed 13th** | | | | **2.00pm** | | | | **Aidan Ladies Meeting** – Lounge & West Room | | |
| **Wed 20th** | | | | **2.00pm** | | | | **Craft & Chat** – West Room | | |

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| **PARISH WALKING GROUP** Our first walk will be **Saturday 6th September**, along part of the Thames and Medway Canal, taking in Shorne Mead Fort. If you are interested, please let Fr Michael know. An email address would be good so that details of walks can be sent to you. Paper details available for those not online | |
| **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] |
| **From The Vicar**  Welcome to our worship today, which includes Sunday School.  ***The Shepherd-Prophet***  Today’s Old Testament reading comes from the book of Amos, one of the so-called ‘minor prophets’ which can be found towards the end of the Old Testament section of the bible (in our pew bibles Amos begins on p779). They are called ‘minor’ because the books are usually quite short and they do not contain the great sweeping depths of the likes of Isaiah and Jeremiah. However, it is a mistake to overlook these short prophetic books of the bible for they are definitely worth a look.  Amos was a shepherd from Judah, that’s the southern kingdom of the ancient land now known as Israel-Palestine. He was writing around the year 750 BC so we are quite a way back in time.  The Northern kingdom was called Israel and it is to this kingdom that God called Amos to speak. He does not mince his words!  The book of Amos is quite relentless in its warnings of the doom that is to come to the North. Unfortunately for him, the northern kingdom was doing rather well at the time; they were enjoying a period of prosperity, so the warnings of this shepherd from the south went largely unheeded. That was a mistake. Less than thirty years after Amos, the empire of Assyria swept into Israel like a pitiless whirlwind; the Assyrians were masters of warfare with a highly trained and well-motivated army. In contrast, Israel was militarily weak; they had become complacent during those years of prosperity-they thought they were strong when they were dangerously vulnerable.  The translation we use has the phrase ‘the Lord was standing by a wall built with a plumb-line’; some scholars think that an equally valid translation of the Hebrew is ‘tin’ in other words, God stands by a wall made of tin, a thin metal. The image is of a wall which from a distance would look intimidating and strong but in reality is weak and easily broken. With this in mind we cannot fail to connect this with the ‘empires’ of today; nations jostling for position on the world stage; heavily armed, rich and powerful, these nations snarl and growl at one another, each trying to convince the other that they are unbreakable. There is only one way this posturing will end, surely, in a demonstration of their collective weakness, not strength.  It is a wonderful thing that God chose a shepherd from another country to warn the powerful and the rich of a foreign land about the doom that was to come. We must never doubt who has the power in this world, and whose is the victory-it certainly ain’t us!  *Blessings,*  *Fr Michael* | |