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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 Consent may be withdrawn at any time.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 **Christ Church.**  **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 DECEMBER 2024 – ADVENT SUNDAY** | | | | | | | | | | | **religious%20advent%20clipart** | | | |
| **10.00am** | | | | **Advent Readings & Carols with Eucharist  *For details of readings etc, please refer to the Service sheet*** | | | | | | |
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| **THIS WEEK’S ACTIVITIES** | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| **Wed 4th** | **JOHN OF DAMASCUS, Monk** | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|  | **8.30am** | | | | | | **Morning Prayer** | | | | | | | |
|  | **9.30am** | | | | | | **Eucharist** Readings:*OT Lesson:* **Isaiah 25**: 6-10 (OT page 598) *Gospel:* **Matthew 15**: 29-37 (NT page 16) | | | | | | | |
|  | **10.15am** | | | | | | (approx) **Coffee Morning** - Lounge | | | | | | | |
| **Fri 6th** | **9.00am** | | | | | | **The Holy Rosary** - Ladychapel | | | | | | | |
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| **SUNDAY 8th DECEMBER 2024 – 2nd SUNDAY of ADVENT** | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| **10.00am** | | | | **Sung Parish Eucharist with Sunday School** | | | | | | | | | | |
|  | | | | *OT Reading:* **Malachi 3**: 1-4 (OT page 815)   *Canticle:* **Benedictus**  *NT Reading:***Philippians 3**: 1-11 (NT page 188)   *Gospel:***Luke 3**: 1-6(NT page 5) | | | | | | | | | | |
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| See the source image | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| **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)**  **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 DECEMBER 2024 (other than the usual services for which please see above)** | | | | | | | | | | | | | See the source image |
| **Wed 11th** | |  | | | | | | **Aidan Ladies Christmas Lunch** (advance booking essential) | | | | | |
| **Sat 14th** | | **11.00am** | | | | | | (to 11.30am) **Carol Singing for Christian Aid** – St George’s Centre | | | | | |
| **Sun 22nd** | | **10.00am** | | | | | | **Nine Lessons with Carols & Eucharist** | | | | | |
| **Tue 24th** | | **2.00pm 4.00pm 11.30pm** | | | | | | **Carol Singing outside Tesco, Valley Drive Crib & Christingle Service Midnight Mass** | | | | **MCj04126980000[1]** | |
| **Wed 25th** | | **10.00am** | | | | | | **Eucharist for Christmas Day** | | | | | |
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| **FOOD BANK**  There is a collecting box at the back of the church for any donations of food/toiletries which will be passed to a local Food Bank. A list of what is accepted by the Food Bank is posted nearby. | | | | | | | | |  | | | | | |



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| **From the Vicar**  Welcome to our worship today, for Advent Sunday.  Today begins our very special journey to the stable at Bethlehem; together, we will pause on the way each week in our Sunday services. Each of the four weeks picks up a theme from the Bible and we will light a candle each week as a way to ‘mark’ these steps on the way. This week, the theme is ‘The Patriarchs’ - these are the ‘fathers’ of the Biblical story from times long past: Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. These three people were related: Abraham the father of Isaac and he the father of Jacob. In one way, then, this time of year introduces us to two holy families; yes, the well known family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph but here in Advent we think of Abraham’s family. Abraham was a herdsman from what is now Iraq.  In around 2000BC God called him from that life and set him on the way to Canaan (modern day Israel-Palestine) which was to be the Promised Land.  So, Advent begins with journeying, both Abraham’s but also ours. Our prayer is that we will hear God’s call on our lives and make our own journey to him, in Christ.  The service today is special also in the liturgy-we will hear and sing carefully chosen carols, not for Christmas, but for Advent. It is quite hard nowadays to find churches which sing Advent carols, so this is a special event indeed. We will hear readings from scripture which tell the story of God’s action from ancient times to the coming of the Messiah.  We will share Holy Communion in a traditional-language service from the Book of Common Prayer.  Traditionally, Advent is a season of expectation and preparation: expectation for the coming of Christ both at Bethlehem and at the end of time, and our preparations for that.  May you be blessed richly this Advent on your own journey to Christ.  ***Christmas Fair Thanks***  My thanks to all who helped with our popular fair, held last Saturday.  *Blessings,*  *Fr Michael* |
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