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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 Consent may be withdrawn at any time.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****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 OCTOBER 2024 – 20th SUNDAY after TRINITY** |
| **10.00am**  | **Sung Parish Eucharist with Sunday School**  |
|  |  *OT Reading:* **Amos 5**: 6,7,10-15(OT page 782) *Psalm***: 90, verses 12-end** *NT Reading:***Hebrews 4**: 12-end (NT page 209) *Gospel:* **Mark 10**: 17-31 (NT page 44) |
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| **THIS WEEK’S ACTIVITIES** |
| **Wed 16th**  | **NICHOLAS RIDLEY & HUGH LATIMER (Reformation Martyrs)** |
|  | **8.30am** | **Morning Prayer** |
|  | **9.30am** | **Eucharist** Readings:*NT Lesson:* **Galatians 5**: 18-end (NT page 181) *Gospel:* **Luke 11**: 42-46(NT page 70) |
|  | **12.15pm** | (to 1.45pm) **Christian Aid Soupa Meal at St George's Church Hall.** **Varieties of homemade soup, with French bread and tea/coffee Home-made stall and religious Christmas cards  £3 at the door - all welcome!** |
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| **SUNDAY 20th OCTOBER 2024 – 21st SUNDAY after TRINITY** |
| **10.00am**  | **Sung Parish Eucharist with Sunday School**  |
|  |  *OT Reading:* **Isaiah 53**: 4-end *(*OT page 626) *Psalm***: 91, verses 9-end** *NT Reading:***Hebrews 5**: 1-10(NT page 209) *Gospel:* **Mark 10:** 35-45 (NT page 45) |
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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)**  **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 OCTOBER 2024(other than the usual services for which please see above)**  | **MCNA00110_0000[1]** |
| **Sat 26th**  | **← See the source image** | **BST ends** – ***before retiring to bed, clocks should be put back 1 hour***  |
| **Wed 30th**  | **3.00pm** | **Black History Association Annual Thanksgiving service** **at St George's Church.** |
| **Thu 31st**  | **5.00pm** | (to 7.00pm)  **Light Café** in the Lounge/West Room for All Hallows’ Eve (see below) |
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| *Tea, coffee (or squash) and a biscuit are available after Sunday morning’s service.* | MCj02508040000[1] |
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| **CAROL SINGING IN THE ST GEORGE'S SHOPPING CENTRE: 14TH DECEMBER.** Local churches will be singing for half an hour each between 10am and 3.30pm for the benefit of **Christian Aid.** Our slot is between 11.00 and 11.30am - all welcome.  Please give generously. |
| MCj03825580000[1] | **LIGHT CAFÉ for All Hallows’ Eve** This will be held in the Lounge/West Room area of the Church from 5.00-7.00pm on Thursday 31st October for families with young children. There will be crafts & refreshments as an alternative to the commercialism of modern “Hallowe’en”.**ALSO WANTED:** Craft helpers (please see the Vicar or Amy), and empty clean jam/pickle jars which will be made into lanterns – please leave these at the back of the church. |
| **From the Vicar**From the VicarWelcome to our worship today.Give to Caesar what is Caesar’s… In our recent gospel readings we have been travelling through a few parables in which Jesus speaks out against the religious authorities of his own day and indeed anyone from inside his own religious group who ‘should know better’, to coin a phrase. Jesus is rather fed up with the chief priests, temple elders and such like because he keeps seeing time and again a kind of religious arrogance mixed with apathy. It’s as if they think they don’t need to do anything outside of what tradition dictates because they are God’s ‘chosen ones’. Jesus is very clear that the scriptures he knew (what we call the Old Testament) record clearly the ways in which God’s chosen people Israel had repeatedly failed to make good on their side of the covenant God made with them in the desert. Jesus is astounded and angry that in his own day, centuries after the events of the time of Moses, the heirs of this covenant still ‘don’t get it’. His parables are a way to teach his hearers about how to live by giving examples of what not to do-once the elders realise that he is using them as an example of wrongness they respond not with humility but with plots and plans to have Jesus destroyed; it is a profoundly depressing response by these men and alas we see this kind of response still alive and well in our own time: the desire of the powerful to hang on to that power and privilege at almost any cost.The elders try to trick Jesus into worshipping the Roman Emperor, which would be blasphemy (only God should be worshipped). They do this by trying to get him to encourage people to pay their taxes (thus helping the hated Roman occupiers) but Jesus as ever is ahead of the game. ‘Give to Caesar what is Caesar’s and to God what is God’s’ is his reply. In other words, do what you have to do in this world to get by and obey the worldly laws, but remember where your duty really lies; i.e with God. His enemies have no reply to this, but a steady determination to finish Jesus burns brighter within them.For us, we too must do what we have to do in our own society, but be sure to give the best of our efforts over to the worship of God, and the living out of that worship in the things we know we should do.Blessings,Fr MFrom the VicarWelcome to our worship today.Give to Caesar what is Caesar’s… In our recent gospel readings we have been travelling through a few parables in which Jesus speaks out against the religious authorities of his own day and indeed anyone from inside his own religious group who ‘should know better’, to coin a phrase. Jesus is rather fed up with the chief priests, temple elders and such like because he keeps seeing time and again a kind of religious arrogance mixed with apathy. 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His enemies have no reply to this, but a steady determination to finish Jesus burns brighter within them.For us, we too must do what we have to do in our own society, but be sure to give the best of our efforts over to the worship of God, and the living out of that worship in the things we know we should do.Blessings,Welcome to our worship today which includes Sunday School.***Harvest Thanks***Last week’s Harvest service was a great occasion with a full church and generous donations of food fro the congregation and also the parish Nursery-many thanks indeed!***Light Cafe***Our popular Light Cafe takes place on Hallowe’en (31st October) between 5-7pm in church and is a good alternative to the mock horror and nastiness that sometimes characterises modern day Hallowe’en celebrations (See the next note below).If you can help, we need volunteers to help children at the craft tables. The activities are fun but simple and you do not need to be a craft whizz to do it! Everything will be explained on the night. Please let me know if you can help-my details are in Who’s Who elsewhere on this sheet.Secondly, we are in need of glass jars for the lanterns children make. These can be jars for jam, pasta sauce, anything really. Please remove the labels.***What’s wrong with Hallowe’en?***Here at St Aidan’s we open the Light Cafe to anyone with families-including those who may be out Trick or Treat-ing (there are some amazing costumes each year!) so we are not ‘anti-hallowe’en’, however, in more recent years, the nature of non-religious Hallowe’en celebrations have taken an increasingly dark turn: a quick look in the costumes section in shops will show you how the traditional ‘mock horror’ skeletons, bats and witches are being pushed aside by ‘serial killer’ gory outfits with blood stained knives, chainsaws and other horrible things which seek to either genuinely scare folk, or revel in horror film violence. This is obviously something which Christians should be vigilant against (there is nothing wrong with watching and enjoying horror films by the way, as films and stories, but the celebration of violence and malice is something to resist). Secondly, there has been a recent upsurge in costumes and decorations with psychopathic dimensions, such as ‘lunatic’ asylum ‘break out’ scenarios which link mental illness with chaos, murder and the grotesque. Whilst on the surface this may seem ‘ a bit of fun’ it is badly prejudiced against people in society who experience acute mental health challenges and those who work in mental health. What may seem at first glance harmless high jinks is, when considered more carefully, a damaging mindset which can take root more deeply and cause a more judgmental and less compassionate society to develop-and we are already seeing such a society unfold around us.Obviously I hope everyone who is out and about this Hallowe’en has fun, but we should always be aware of what is being said through the choices we as a society make. As Christians we are called towards the light, towards compassion and love. *Blessings, Fr Michael* |