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| **PLEASE NOTE** **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>.**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. There are no restrictions on where to sit – but you may maintain some social distancing if you feel happier doing this.****2. You may exchange the Peace with those in your immediate vicinity by saying ‘Peace be with you’ but not by handshake or touch.****3. 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). Return to your seat via the one way system using the side aisle.**  |
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| **WHO’s WHO AT ST AIDAN’S** [Area code (if required) for Gravesend is **01474**]**Vicar -** The Revd Michael Payne352500 or e-mail: **vicar.staidans@gmail.com****Churchwardens** – Dennis Ashurst 567300 - Robert Hollands 07970 208403 or e-mail: **rholljan@aol.com****Anna Chaplain (ministry with the elderly, also community links)**  **-** Sylvia Munns 356941**Lay Reader (Preaching, Study and Faith)** - Dr Peter Harris  **pjharris7869@hotmail.com****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**  |
| **StAidansLogo-slogan** |
| **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 |
| See the source image | WELCOME TO OUR WORSHIP TODAY | See the source image |
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| **SUNDAY 5th NOVEMBER 2023 – ALL SAINTS’ DAY**  | **Image result for clip art all saints day** |
| **10.00am**  | **All Age Parish Communion for All Saints’ Day** |
|  | *Gospel:* | **1 Corinthians 12**: 14-27 (NT page 165) |
| **4.00pm**  | **Service of Thanksgiving & Remembrance followed by refreshments (Preacher: Rev’d Tony Green)***1st Reading*: **Job 19**: 23-37 (OT page 440)*Gospel:* **Luke 8**: 4-56 (NT page 64) | **Image result for clip art all saints day** |
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| **ACTIVITIES THIS WEEK** |
| **Wed 8th**  | **MARTYRS OF ENGLAND** |
|  | **8.30am** | **Morning Prayer** |
|  | **9.30am** | **Eucharist (said)** *Reading****:* Isaiah 61**: 4-9(OT page 633 )*Gospel:***John 17**: 18-23 (NT page 107) |
|  | **`12.30pm** | **Aidan Ladies’ Bring & Share Meal** – West Room |
|  | **1.00pm** | **Little Rainbows** – Hall (for pre-schoolers & carers) |
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| **SUNDAY 12th NOVEMBER 2023 – REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY** **10.00am Sung Parish Communion with Sunday School and**   **an Act of Remembrance  (Preacher: Dr Peter Harris)** | **MCj03705100000[1]** |
| *NT Reading**Gospel* | **1 Thessalonians 4**: 13-end (NT page 194)**Matthew 25:** 1-13 (NT page 27) |
| **SOUPA MEAL**The Soupa Meal held last week raised £246.75 for the Christian Aid Middle East Emergency Fund.  Thank you to those who supported. - *Mavis* |
| **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 NOVEMBER 2023(other than the usual services for which please see above)**  | **Clipart of a Sketched Doodle of a Black and White Rocket Firework - Royalty Free Vector Illustration by Prawny** |
| **Thu 16th**  | **7.30pm** | **P C C Meeting** |
| **Sat 25th** | **10.00am** | **Image result for clipart christmas fair**  | **in the Church Hall** |
| **Sun 26th**  | **10.00am** | **The open collection will benefit Hope Gardens** |
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| **EASYFUNDING** Collect free donations for St Aidan’s every time you shop on line at **easyfundraising.org.uk/St Aidan’s Church, Gravesend** |
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| **OTHER WAYS TO DONATE** There is an almsdish for donations as you leave plus a card reader for those who carry little cash. Regular payments may also be made through the Freewill Offering Envelope scheme (cash or cheques) or through a bank standing order. Gift Aid forms may be completed by those who pay income tax to enable St Aidan’s to reclaim tax on donations, costing you, yes, nothing! Please see our Treasurer, Barbara Potter for details. Many thanks.**SHOEBOXES** We are sending 37 shoeboxes to Romania this year. Thank you to everyone who donated gifts or money. Also, many thanks to the ladies who helped to assemble & wrap the Family Shoe Boxes – *Jenny, on behalf of the Amen Team.***Space for notes on the sermon or any questions you may wish to ask afterwards****↓ (Pencils are available at the back of the church) ↓** |
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| **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.***All Saints and All Souls***Today we mark two important days in one: All Saints and All Souls.This morning at our all age Eucharist we celebrate the saints-those holy men and women who have served Christ faithfully in many and various ways; some of the earliest saints of the Church, such as St Cecilia, died as martyrs to their faith whilst others, such as St Gregory, set down important writings which helped shape the Christian faith as we know it today. In between the lives of the ‘great’ saints there are innumerable other holy people who have gone about their lives quietly and humbly, using their Christian faith to try to build a better world. Many of these people were not made saints in any official way, but the Church of England has been sure to remember them. These include people like the prison reformer Elizabeth Fry, the WW1 nurse Edith Cavell and hymn writers like Charles Wesley. It’s important to realise that each of us has access to holiness- it is not something reserved for the chosen few: St Francis, one of the best-loved saints, lived a life of swagger and bravado before he changed his life around, Titus Brandsma, a prisoner in a WW2 concentration camp, where there had been some rule-breaking, quietly offered to be executed in the place of another prisoner who had a family. Whatever sacrifices you are able to make for Christ, even if it is daily choices in the mess and muddle of daily life, if you do this with love for Christ and your fellow men and women, you are on the path to sainthood. So, as we remember the saints we reflect on our own lives as an offering to God.This afternoon at 4pm we hold our All Souls service in which we remember those whom we love but see no longer because of death. Anyone is welcome to come and light in memory of your loved ones. Our preacher this afternoon will be the senior chaplain at Darent Valley Hospital, Rev’d Tony Green. A time of fellowship over refreshments follows.***Thank you***Thank you to everyone who helped make Bishop Jonathan’s visit last Sunday a success. He felt warmly welcomed and enjoyed being with us; and was impressed that we have bibles for everyone to use-if you want to read along, the page numbers are printed on the front of this news sheet.*Blessings,* *Fr Michael* |
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