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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 Consent may be withdrawn at any time.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 6th OCTOBER 2024 – HARVEST THANKSGIVING** |
| **10.00am** | **All Age Sung Parish Eucharist** *Gospel:* **John 7**: 37-39(NT page 96)Gifts of packet and tinned food will be welcome and will be donated to local food banks and The Hub.  We will be supporting the Poverty & Hope Appeal. | **Image result for clip art harvest time** |  |
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| **THIS WEEK’S ACTIVITIES** |
| **Wed 9th**  | **8.30am** | **Morning Prayer** |
|  | **9.30am** | **Eucharist** Readings:*NT Lesson:* **Galatians 2**: 1-2, 7-14 (NT page 178) *Gospel:* **Luke 11**: 1-4 (NT page 69 ) |
|  | **2.00pm** | **Aidan Ladies Meeting** – West Room  |
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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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| **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]** |
| **Wed 16th**  | **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!** |
| **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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| **SHOEBOXES FOR ROMANIA** If you have any small items (see contents list in the leaflets on the table in the entrance vestibule) suitable for inclusion in this year’s shoeboxes please place them in the box at the back of the church. Also wanted are normal-sized shoeboxes. Thank you – *Jenny Rawlinson* |
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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”. |
| **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 is our Harvest celebration.If you have brought some food as a Harvest gift, there is a table where these may be left - thank you. Donations will go to the local foodbank and the Gravesend Hub in town, a drop in centre for people needing on-the-spot advice and help.Up and down the country churches will be celebrating Harvest around this time-some in country parishes, others in inner cities; what Harvest looks like will vary from place to place. Here at St Aidan’s we are in an interesting place: if you take a short walk from the church, you can see the Thames, the estuary flowing out to sea, the county of Essex, and on our side of the river, the town laid out; a mass of roofs, cranes from the port and the domes of the Gurdwara. A short drive or walk from Riverview Park brings you to the village of Thong - suddenly you are in rolling countryside with farmland, woods and hills. A further trip along the A2 towards London brings you to Bluewater, that great cathedral of commerce! We are very fortunate in Gravesend to be so well connected to so many different types of places and with the motorway network and high speed rail nearby, easy access is available to the rest of the country.In other parts of the country, the landscape rarely changes. My summer break to Northumberland revealed miles and miles of countryside which is probably unchanged since time out of mind; many of the resources we have on hand, such as hospitals, shopping centres and the rest are much further away, and yet wherever we find ourselves we harvest the same fruits from God-principally his Grace and his favour towards us. Let’s each thank God today for all we receive from his hand and be wary of taking for granted the everyday luxuries so many millions in other countries have no access to.*Blessings,**Fr Michael* |