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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 Consent may be withdrawn at any time.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**](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 6th APRIL 2025 – PASSION SUNDAY** | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| **10.00am** | | | **All Age Parish Eucharist**  *Gospel:* **John 12**: 1-8(NT page 101 ) | | | | | | | |  | |
| **11.15am** | | | **Annual Parochial Church Meeting  [followed by short meeting of the PCC]** | | | | | | | | | |
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| **THIS WEEK’S EVENTS** | | | | | | | | | |  | | |
| **Wed 9th** | **9.30am** | | | | | | **Eucharist (said)**  *Reading:*  **Daniel 3**: 14-20,24,25 (OT page 754)  *Gospel:* **John 8**: 31-42(NT page 97) | | | | | |
|  | **2.00pm** | | | | | (to 3.00pm) **Little Rainbows** - Hall (for pre-schoolers and parents/carers) | | | | | | |
|  | **2.00pm** | | | | | **Aidan Ladies Meeting** – West Room  **(Guest Speaker from the Amen Trust [Romanian Shoeboxes] – all welcome)** | | | | | | |
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| **SUNDAY 6th APRIL 2025 – PALM SUNDAY** | | | | | | | | **MCj03354980000[1]** | | | | |
| **9.50am 10.00am** | | | **Meet in the Hall for the Proession to Church**  **Parish Eucharist with Sunday School**  *Gospel:* **Mark, chapters 14 & 15** (NT page 49) | | | | |
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| **AGAPÉ MEAL – Wednesday 16th April at 7.00pm If you will be attending this event please  sign the form at the back of the Church** | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| **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) – temporarily suspended***  **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 APRIL 2025 other than regular events for which please see above & on page 1** | | | | | | | | | | | | MCj04242160000[1] |
| **Wed 16th** | **2.00pm** | | | | | **Craft & Chat event – West Room** | | | | | | |
|  | **7.00pm** | | | | | **Agapé Meal – West Room (please sign the list at the back of the Church–(suggested donation £4)** | | | | | | |
| **Thu 17th** | **8.00pm** | | | | | **MAUNDY THURSDAY – Liturgy of the Last Supper & Passion** | | | | | | |
| **Fri 18th** | **3.00pm** | | | | | **GOOD FRIDAY – Liturgy for Good Friday** | | | | | | |
| **Sun 20th** | **5.30am** | | | | | **EASTER DAY – Mass of the Dawn (also, 10.00am Eucharist)** | | | | | | |
| **Wed 23rd** |  | | | | | **There is no 9.30am Eucharist** | | | | | | |
| **Sun 27th** | **10.00am** | | | | | **Open collection at this Service is for for *Friends of the Holy* Land** | | | | | | |
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| **EASTER MORNING – MASS OF THE DAWN – 5.30am** If you intend coming to this Service & staying for Breakfast, please sign the list at the back of the Church. | | | | | | | | | | | | |
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| **ECO CHURCH – THEMES FOR APRIL** Reducing food waste; promoting Community Gardens | | | | | | | | | | | | |
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| **LENT SMARTIE TUBE APPEAL FOR DEMELZA HOUSE CHILDREN’S HOSPICE**  Please return your (filled!) Smartie Tube on or befiore Easter Sunday. | | | | | | | | | | | | |
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| **SUNDAYS IN LENT**  Instead of the Taizé Gloria, we sing ‘Lord Have Mercy, Christ Have Mercy,  Lord Have Mercy’ but in Greek, as follows:  **Kyrie Eleison (x3), Christe Eleison (x3), Kyrie Eleison (x3)** | | | | | | | | | | | | |
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| **From the Vicar**  Welcome to our worship today for Passion Sunday.  This is the final Sunday before Palm Sunday and marks the beginning of Jesus’ ‘Passion’, which is perhaps an unhelpful term in the modern usage of the term which is all about deep excitement and energy. However, its older meaning is one of suffering, and it is that which is to the fore here.  ***‘…and the fragrance filled the house…’***  The sense of smell is used throughout the Bible as a powerful symbol for things which are good and pleasing and on the other hand, totally horrid! In today’s reading from John’s gospel, a woman opens a jar of costly perfumed ointment and applies it to Jesus’ feet. We are told that ‘the fragrance filled the house’. It is a nice descriptive moment that enables us to feel like we are suddenly there in the room. This is because the sense of smell is such an immediate sense, and one which conjures up sensations, memories and emotions. If you have walked past perfume shops in places like Bluewater you will know how overwhelming an assault on the senses the experience can be-too much perfume of different types-in the bible scene it is one scent, which must have been delightful as it slowly spread through the house.  Beyond the immediacy of the powerful aroma, I think something symbolic is happening in that moment-the anointing of Jesus-which he says is in preparation for his burial, a moment which must have shocked and confused his hearers-signals to us his impending death. Remember that after his death, women go to the tomb with perfumed oils with which to apply to his body to lessen the smell of decay. They could not know that Jesus would not be there in the tomb, having already defeated death. So this perfume, filling the house, is a smell of glorious life, not death. It tells us something about the victory that comes after the suffering, and the fact it fills a house means that this is a message for us in our everyday, domestic lives. Whatever sufferings or challenges we face, Christ won a wonderful victory for us, spreading its joy through our lives, like perfume filling a home.  ***Annual Meeting***  Our Annual Meeting takes place after the service. You are welcome to stay and it should take about half an hour. It is an important meeting which elects our church council (rather like a school governing body) and looks at the last year. I am very grateful to all those who give of their time and their faith to help in various ways here at St Aidan’s. I think that we are in a generally ‘good place’ at the moment, but ‘behind the scenes’ we need to be very careful with finances and need to look at increasing our income-it costs over £600 a week to keep St Aidan’s functioning. In the immediate term, if you are a tax payer and donate to us, please complete a Gift Aid form and we can claim tax back on these donations.  *Blessings, Fr Michael* |