

St Aidan's Church

in the Parish of St Aidan Sudden Rochdale and All Souls Heywood

www.staidan.org.uk

Sunday 26th July 2020 Trinity 7 (Proper 12)

Holy Communion Service Sunday 10am

Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals by arrangement with the Vicar

Readings

Romans 8. 26-39

Matthew 13. 31-33, 44-52

Collect

Lord of all power and might,
the author and giver of all good things:
graft in our hearts the love of your name,
increase in us true religion,
nourish us with all goodness,
and of your great mercy keep us in the same;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

Hymns

New every morning

God is love let heaven adore him

An Upper Room did our Lord prepare

All for Jesus

From the Vicarage: a reflection for the Seventh Sunday after Trinity

The readings for today talk about the spirit of God working in us, and the parables as examples God working to build his kingdom, and that of the kingdom of heaven. So today we are given several ways to think about the kingdom of God. The mustard seeds the yeast and the pearl of great prize.

Those images would have been very familiar to their original audience drawing on ordinary things in their life. It may be a bit different for us? All together they build an unstinting view of God's kingdom: that of heaven and the one he builds on earth. I wonder what image we would have today?

A small twig of a buddleia that has grown into a massive bush in the vicarage Garden. The second yeast - well baking is back in fashion -with Bake Off etc, so we can use that. But pearl of great price? A lottery win??. You can think of your own.

How would you use a modern-day image to tell someone you know, friends and family, about the kingdom of heaven, of God's love for them?

We are simply reminded in this parable of God's spirit working within and without our world, ourselves as Christians and his creation to build the kingdom of God. But if we think we have got it easy. then no. We are called not to get caught up in the treasures of this world but to celebrate the glories of God's kingdom. I'm so proud that I've been the Vicar who has been able with treasures from earth to restore the treasures of God's church here in Sudden together with the Wardens and the team who have helped practically arrange and help with the restoration. Yes, Christian faith is not about buildings it's about our discipleship, our faith in God. But a restored building is a symbol, a sign, a message to the world of the glory of God and the wonderful building of his loving and peaceful kingdom, on earth as it is in heaven. So may each one of us treasure in our hearts the prize of knowing the love of God in our hearts minds and souls, and share that love: in the same way that the building and its bell are a beacon of God's love for this community.

Amen

Your Friend and Vicar

Revd Michael

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Sunday Holy Communion Service

St Aidan's Church is now open on Sundays at 10am for a short (said) service of Holy Communion.

Notes on what to expect when you come to church are available on the <u>website</u>. Church feels very different but we are planning carefully to ensure that we have an option to worship together safely in church. We have had two weeks to get used to the special measures and **from 26**th **July it will be possible to share in communion.**

Guidance for communicants.

Please remain in your seat.

The sacrament will be consecrated by the Vicar and collected from the altar by the Eucharistic Assistant.

The consecrated wafer will then be dropped into your hands by the Eucharistic Assistant at your seat.

Hand sanitizer will be used if there is any accidental contact and if you are wearing a mask please keep this on as the wafer is administered. Please eat the wafer after the Eucharistic Assistant has moved on to the next communicant.

Face Coverings: the latest advice is that face coverings should be worn by all those attending enclosed public spaces where there are people they do not normally meet, such as a place of worship. However, this is not compulsory. Full advice here

In line with government guidance, anyone with symptoms of Covid-19 or from a household where there is someone self-isolating or have been requested by NHS Test and Trace to self-isolate, should not enter the building. The church has been thoroughly cleaned and will be cleaned between openings.

The most current and detailed information from the Diocese is on the website: https://www.manchester.anglican.org/coronavirus/

Prayers for the Parish

Revd Michael and Revd Ian continue to say prayers for the Parish and our Congregation at 9am daily and hope that you may be able to join them at this time in your own homes.

Virtual Worship Resources

Find live streamed church services <u>here</u> and audio prayer resources <u>here</u>.

Find national prayers and services from the Church of England on the <u>CofE website</u>, <u>Facebook page</u> or <u>YouTube</u>.

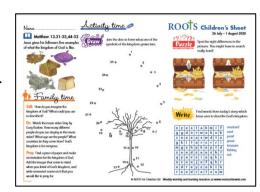


We are all really missing **Junior Church and our All Age Services** but it will not be possible to organise anything for our younger church members until September (at least). Please take a look at some of the digital resources that are available and remember to send photos of any craft projects or activities you are keeping busy with.



Resources for adults and children based on the lectionary can be found <u>here</u>

Click on the image for this week's activity sheet \rightarrow



A video to illustrate this week's gospel reading can be found here



Faith at Home is a national campaign supporting the faith development and pastoral care of children and young people. Find out more at: https://www.churchofengland.org/faith-action/faith-home

Home is both a place and feeling. It is where we eat, where we sleep, where we find ourselves at the start and end of our day. Home is where we can feel the strongest sense of belonging, where we can feel connected to 'our people', where we can feel part of 'our tribe'. It can also be a place of doubt, questions, loneliness and fear. While talking about being the vine, Jesus invites us to **be at home in him, as he is at home in us** (John 15:1-4 MSG). We are invited to imagine that we are sharing our everyday lives with each other and with God, intertwined by love as a community of growing faith.



From next week we are going to experiment with a monthly format for the church newsletter.

Individuals will be able to print this to be passed to friends and neighbours who do not have internet access and it will be available on the website and at https://www.achurchnearyou.com/

There will be church members who are unable to attend church for some time and we hope this will help us all to keep in touch.

Please send your contributions for the August issue by Wednesday 29th July to newsletter@staidan.org.uk.

The Vicar will continue to send his reflection on the Gospel by email and Facebook each week whilst there is no sermon during the Sunday service.





In loving memory of Hilary McGregor twin sister of Ina on her 2nd Anniversary sorely missed but not forgotten.

Ina & Family.

A candle has been placed in church for Hilary.

It is not possible to organise flower arrangements in church at present but if you would like a dedication in the newsletter please email newsletter@staidan.org.uk.

If you would like a candle to be placed in church to mark an occasion or to organise flowers for a future date, please contact Elizabeth Milne on 01706 633179

Church Notices

Giving to St Aidan's Church



Your ongoing financial support is crucial to the upkeep of St Aidan's Church. If you are able to do so, please carry on with your regular giving and contact the Vicar, Treasurer or any church officer if you would like to drop off your weekly envelopes, make a transfer by online banking or to set up a standing order.

Sign up at http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk to raise funds for church when you shop online and select your cause as 'St Aidan, Sudden, Rochdale'.

If you would like to make a direct online donation to church you can do this from the church website or A Church Near You



Please continue your support of Rochdale Foodbank if you can. Collection days are planned for Tesco August 20-22

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Newsletter: please send items to newsletter@staidan.org.uk

Past newsletters and notices are available on our website and at https://www.achurchnearyou.com/

Our Mission is to be a strong church family, promoting and maintaining the Good News about Jesus to the Parish and the wider community.





St Aidan's C of E Parish Church Manchester Road, Rochdale, OL11 3EL Vehicular Access OL11 3NH www.staidan.org.uk











You have received this email because you are on the St Aidan's Church mailing list. If you would like to change your details or to be removed from this list, please let us know.



Rochdale Council has issued the following updated advice for residents across the borough to avoid a local lockdown:

- Wear face coverings in shops.
- Wear face coverings in public, as much as possible.
- Limit visitors to your home to 2 people.
- Keep 2 metres apart at all times.
- Avoid physical contact with anyone outside your own household, including shaking hands or hugging.
- Get tested and isolate if you are told to do so.