



St Aidan's Church

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

www.staidan.org.uk

Monthly Newsletter August 2020

Weekly Services

Sunday 10am
Holy Communion

*Weddings, Baptisms and Funerals
by arrangement with the Vicar.*



Readings for this month

2 nd August	Trinity 8	Romans 9. 1-5	Matthew 14. 13-21
9 th August	Trinity 9	Romans 10. 5-15	Matthew 14. 22-33
16 th August	Trinity 10	Romans 11. 1-2a, 29-32	Matthew 15. [10-20], 21-28
23 rd August	Trinity 11	Romans 12, 1-8	Matthew 16. 13-20
30 th August	Trinity 12	Romans 12. 9-end	Matthew 16. 21-end

To find the Collect for each week click [here](#)

Worship at St Aidan's

Church of England advice on Holy Communion



Detailed instructions on 'consumables' suggest that services of Holy Communion can be held if specific guidance is followed, including the continued suspension of the Common Cup. At present, Communion should be administered **in one kind only** with no sharing of the common cup. The president alone should always take the wine, consuming all that has been consecrated; other communicants should receive the bread only, in the hand. As the Liturgical and Faith and Order Commissions have made clear, this is still 'complete communion'. See the full CofE guidance [here](#)

Face Coverings: In line with the advice of the Church of England, the Diocese of Manchester strongly advises that face coverings should be worn by all those attending a place of worship, including ministers, worshippers, staff, volunteers, contractors and visitors, where there may be other people present; remembering that they are mainly intended to protect other people, not the wearer, from coronavirus (COVID-19) and that they are not a replacement for social distancing and regular hand washing. [Advice document available here](#)

Test and Trace: Government guidance includes a request for names of attendees to be recorded and kept for 21 days to assist 'track and trace' if required.

From Revd Ian Taylor

Great Plague of 1665-1666

How did London respond to it?

This was the worst outbreak of plague in England since the Black Death of 1348. London lost roughly 15% of its population. While 68,596 deaths were recorded in the city, the true number was probably over 100,000. Other parts of the country also suffered.

The earliest cases of disease occurred in the spring of 1665 in a parish outside the city walls called St Giles-in-the-Fields. The death rate began to rise during the hot summer months and peaked in September when 7,165 Londoners died in one week.

Rats carried the fleas that caused the plague. They were attracted by city streets filled with rubbish and waste, especially in the poorest areas.

Those who could, including most doctors, lawyers and merchants, fled the city. Charles II and his courtiers left in July for Hampton Court and then Oxford. Parliament was postponed and had to sit in October at Oxford, the increase of the plague being so dreadful. Court cases were also moved from Westminster to Oxford.

The Lord Mayor and aldermen (town councillors) remained to enforce the King's orders to try and stop the spread of the disease. The poorest people remained in London with the rats and those people who had the plague. Watchmen locked and kept guard over infected houses. Parish officials provided food. Searchers looked for dead bodies and took them at night to plague pits for burial.

All trade with London and other plague towns was stopped. The Council of Scotland declared that the border with England would be closed. There were to be no fairs or trade with other countries. This meant many people lost their jobs – from servants to shoemakers to those who worked on the River Thames.

Does this all sound familiar? The Covid virus is not the first time the World has seen a pandemic. In public health terms today we are probably better placed to deal with it than were our ancestors but never the less it has still taken its toll in various ways particularly amongst the poorest and most vulnerable!

Great natural disasters have sometimes been attributed to God as a form of punishment – we perhaps only need to think of the devastating flood in Genesis or the Ten Plagues of Egypt in Exodus. These days we are perhaps more scientific in our approach as we look upon such disasters as the result of, for example, insanitary conditions. The insanitary conditions in London and outbreaks of cholera in the Nineteenth Century led to the development of the sewerage system and the introduction of clean water which brought about a long awaited improvement in public health.

Today's pandemic is perhaps more complex, never before experienced, it has provided something of a learning curve as scientists battle to learn more about it and how to best defeat it whilst politicians in the meantime struggle to contain it as best they can as the world continues to suffer great social upheaval whilst some countries fare better than others!

For the human race it is a salutary lesson in humility, that we are not invincible however technologically and scientifically advanced we think we are, that Creation is bigger than we are and as we continue to abuse it, it is still capable of delivering devastating punches!

I would not go so far as to say that we are at this time on the receiving end of God's punishment for our sins in relation to the world and how we conduct ourselves within it but rather it provides the world with an opportunity to stop, take stock, review the situation and consider how we might emerge from our present situation into a better and fairer world!

Best wishes from

*Revd Ian Taylor
Assistant Priest*



Virtual Worship Resources

Find live streamed church services [here](#) and audio prayer resources [here](#).

Find national prayers and services from the Church of England on the [CofE website](#), [Facebook page](#) or [YouTube](#).

This week's online service comes from the Shrine of Our Lady of Walsingham (Anglican).

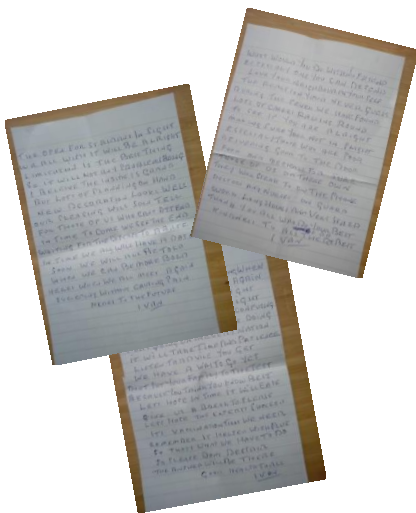
Led by Fr Kevin Smith, Bishop of Burnley Philip North will preach on how Jesus feeds us to feed a hungry world. Watch online on Facebook or You Tube from 9am and then available all week.



In normal circumstances a short session of contemplative prayer is led by Revd Michael in the Chapel on the first Saturday in the month from 11.15am. We are unable to hold these meetings at present but if you would like to find out more about the principles on which these sessions are based, you can read more at <http://www.contemplative-prayer.org.uk/about/>

[Click here](#) for Cathedral choristers from across UK record lockdown charity track

From Ivan – our very own resident poet at St Aidan's has been busy during lockdown and you can see his poems on the website. Here are two of his latest submissions (with a little bit of help from the editor). Thanks to Kelli and Pam for sending these in. More can be found [here](#)



*What would we do without a friend
On whom we can always depend?
During the virus we have found
Lots of kind carers calling round
To make sure that we're alright
And not in any kind of plight
Delivering goods to our door
Food and medicines and more
Those of us all on our own
Will have chats on the phone
Doctors and nurses on guard
Work long hours and very hard
Thank you all who do your best
Offering help to all the rest*

Love your neighbour as yourself

Ivan

*We are all wondering when
Things will be normal again.
Although we do what's right
It won't go overnight
This terrible virus is confusing
Despite the work we're doing
Tests going on in every nation
It will take time and patience
Listen to the advice you get
We have a way to go yet
Don't put your family to the test
Because you think you know
best
Let's hope in time it'll ease
Give us all a break please
It's vaccination that we need -
Let's hope the experts succeed
Remember it helps with the flu
So that's what we'll have to do
Please don't despair
The answer will be there.*

Good health to all

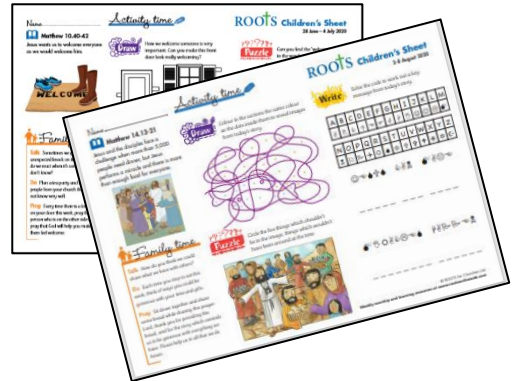
Ivan

Junior Church & All Age Worship

We really hope to be able to restart our meetings in September subject to advice from the Diocese and the necessary health and safety measures.

The Children's Groups usually meet in the Hall during the Sunday Morning Service (after the second hymn): Kindergarten (ages 3-6) and Adventurers (ages 7-14). For further information about our work with Children & Young People, please speak to the Vicar or email children@staidan.org.uk

Resources for adults and children based on the lectionary and themed resources for families can be found [here](#)



Bandaid Craft Fun - a craft idea for a rainy day



Thanks to Phill Connell of H. Bell & Sons for sending the photographs taken in church to document the amazing re-plastering work, including this panorama.

More photos of the refurbishment are available on the [website](#). See a video [here](#).



Thank you to everyone involved in the Church Refurbishment Project

Contractors

H. Bell and Sons (Rochdale) Ltd

E.R. Williams (painting contractors) Ltd

Heywood Scaffolding Services

Outside Church and Hall painting Noel Bywater Decorating Services

Winton Flooring Ltd

Aluminium and Glass Systems Ltd (Fastglaze)

Church members

Malcolm as Project Manager, Foreman and general powerhouse!

Organ Grills paint and refurbishment by Barbara and Barry Whitehead

Choir lamps sourced and purchased by Barbara Whitehead & Card Group

Cleaning of outside windows organised and paid by Dorothy Thorneycroft

Electrical Work (and fitments supplied at trade price) by Harry Hilton

Choir Music sorting Elizabeth & Roger Milne

Cleaning of all Church Silver by Dorothy Standing

Manchester Rd Gates painting by Alan Clarke

Vestry door hinges alteration Geoff & Karen

General labour Barry Whitehead, Alan Clarke

Cleaning Teams: Sheila Tolley, Christine Richardson, Ann Montgomery, Rodney Porter, Jaques family, Julie and Andrew Huxley, Joanne Elcock, Deborah Whitham, Keith and Marilyn,

Sheila Whitworth, Irene Lowe, Geoff, Karen & Helena, Buckley family, Barbara, Anne Parry,

Dorothy T, Jane Lloyd, Elaine F., Alan Johnson, Joy & Ian Butterworth (& anyone we have missed!).

Thanks to Revd Mike and Revd Ian T. for your support.



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Church Notices

In Memoriam



2nd August In memory of family and friends. Joan & Ken Davies

18th August In memory of my dear wife Lilian for her 90th birthday. Dearly missed. Tom Rawnsley

A candle will be placed in front of the choir stalls if it is not possible to provide a flower arrangement.

Church Flowers: Please speak to Elizabeth Milne if you wish to donate or arrange flowers on a specific date. Donations to the Flower Fund are always welcome. Please contact Elizabeth on 01706 633179 or email newsletter@staidan.org.uk

Dedications to a Loved One: Dedications can be placed in hymn books; the St Aidan Church Memorial Book or the Parish Book of Remembrance. Please contact Elaine Fowler if you would like to find out more.

Church Diary		
August 2020		
Sun	30th	Feast of St Aidan
September 2020		
Sat	5th	St Aidan's Dustbusters 9–11am tbc Contemplative Prayer 11.15am tbc
Tues	8th	PCC Meeting 7.30pm tbc
Sat	12th	Heritage Open Day 10am-Noon tbc
October 2020		
Sun	4th	Harvest Festival tbc
		Annual Church Meetings will be held before 31 st October 2020



Giving to St Aidan's Church

Your ongoing financial support is crucial to the upkeep of St Aidan's Church. Giving by the envelope scheme and standing order are vital ways of supporting our church. If you wish to join the scheme, to submit or amend a Gift Aid Declaration or change your method of giving, please see Debra Buckley (Treasurer) or Joanne Elcock (Gift Aid Secretary).

You can help to raise funds for church at no extra cost to yourself when you shop online. Sign up for free at <http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk> 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](#)



Sheila Whitworth is still collecting donations for the Organ Fund. Please carry on filling up your jars and bring them to church when you are able. Funds raised so far for the organ have contributed to extensive refurbishment work including the installation of the new blower motor in the Chapel.



Please continue to support Rochdale Foodbank <https://rochdale.foodbank.org.uk/> You can donate [here](#)

Contact Us

Please contact the Vicar, Churchwardens or a PCC Member if we can help you in any way

Vicar Revd Michael Read Tel: 01706 360693 vicar@staidan.org.uk	Assistant Priest Revd Ian Taylor Tel. 01706 355738 reviantaylor@gmail.com	Churchwarden Malcolm Bywater Tel: 01706 623546 malcolm@staidan.org.uk	Churchwarden Alan Clarke Tel: 01706 373809 alan@staidan.org.uk
	PCC Secretary Christine Richardson Tel: 01706 416997 christine@staidan.org.uk	Treasurer Debra Buckley Tel: 01706 647703 debra@staidan.org.uk	Safeguarding Officer Joanne Colclough or Ann Montgomery safeguarding@staidan.org.uk

Newsletter: please send items to newsletter@staidan.org.uk and contact us if you would like to be added to the church mailing list.

Past newsletters and notices are available on the church [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
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www.staidan.org.uk



St Aidan's
 Church
 Rochdale



easyfundraising
 .org.uk

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