



St Aidan's Church



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

www.staidan.org.uk



Newsletter April 2021

Daffodil bulbs were planted in memory of Sheila Wallace (donated by Gordon Wallace 2001)
Photo by Elaine Fowler 2021

Weekly Service Sunday 10am Holy Communion		Weddings, Baptisms and Funerals by arrangement with the Vicar				
		Readings & Music for this month				
	2 ND Good Friday	4th Easter Day	11 th Easter 2	18th Easter 3	25 th Easter 4	
Readings		Eya Resurrexit				
Introit	Heb 10.16– 25 John18 .1- 19 end	1Cor 15.1 -11 John 20. 1-18	Exod 14.10– end; 15;20 -21 1John1.1 -2;2	Acts 3.12 – 19 1John 3.;1-7 Luke 24.36b-48	Acts 4,5–12 1John 3.16– end John 10.11-18 end	
Singers	Choir 3	Choir 2	Choir 4	Choir1	Choir 3	
Offertory	499	267	324	181	484	
During Communion	Ah Holy Jesus The Mocking Of Christ	24 This Joyful Eastertide	At Eastertide Surrexit Christus	As We Walked Home Regina Caeli	117 The Lord Is My Shepherd	

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

From Reverend Michael

Dear All

Hallelujah, Christ is risen, he is risen indeed, Hallelujah.

It is just over a year since we started our first lockdown and living with Covid. Times have been hard and over and over again I have spoken about hope - hope for the future and hope for ourselves. The message of the Resurrection is that hope has arrived: Christ is risen, a new day has dawned. The Lord of Hope is with us, let us rejoice the future is in sight.

I want to also express my gratitude and thanks to my colleague, Revd Ian Taylor who retires from ministry here at St Aidan's and All Souls on the 25th April.

It has been a pleasure and a delight to work with Ian over these 10 years. Revd Ian served the people of All Souls before we became a united benefice 10 years ago.

Many of you won't know that we have met for prayers and a staff meeting every Tuesday morning and it was a pleasure to share those moments of prayer, chat and organising together. Ian has brought many fresh ideas to our parish and such a delight was the Christingle & Crib service which started in All Souls and then came to St Aidan's when All Souls closed. We thank you for this.

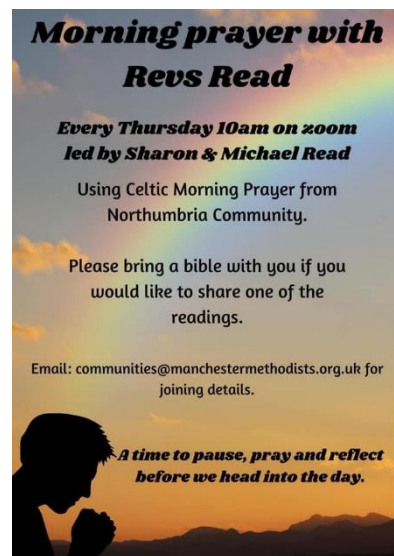
So, I would like to wish Ian well in his retirement as he becomes a greater member of the congregation and at St James Ashworth where occasionally he will help Revd Jason.

Revd Michael

Fellowship of Contemplative Prayer

Saying and reflection for April

"Return to me, for I have redeemed you" [Isaiah 44.22](#).



**Morning prayer with
Revs Read**

**Every Thursday 10am on zoom
led by Sharon & Michael Read**

Using Celtic Morning Prayer from
Northumbria Community.

Please bring a bible with you if you
would like to share one of the
readings.

Email: communities@manchestermethodists.org.uk for
joining details.

*A time to pause, pray and reflect
before we head into the day.*

Easter Message from Bishop David (Please click the link below)

<https://www.manchester.anglican.org/news/latest-news/bishop-davids-easter-message-2021.php>

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](#).



0800 804 8044
DailyHOPE

A free phone line of hymns,
reflections and prayers

Autobiography of a clergyman

Rev Ian Taylor



On the eve of my retirement I have been asked to pen a brief autobiography of how I came to be amongst the ranks of the clergy in Heywood and Sudden.



You may be familiar with the words of from Jeremiah when God called him:
“Before I formed you in the womb I knew you,
before you were born I set you apart;
I appointed you as a prophet to the nations.” (1:5)

Similarly, no doubt, God continues to have in mind all those he intends calling to a specific ministry before they are born! I first had an inkling of such a call in my teens, explored it a little, but it was suggested I first go to university. Unfortunately that did not happen as at that time I did not gain the necessary qualifications. I say unfortunately perhaps from my point of view but God tends to have his own agenda and time scale because it was another 30+ years before there were further developments.

In the intervening years I carried on attending church, choir, PCC, Church Warden, Lay Assistant and then in I think it was towards the end of the 1980's after one morning service the then vicar at St Luke's asked if I would agree to having my name put forward to train on the Manchester Local Ordained Ministry Scheme which became known as the Ordained Local Ministry (OLM).

Little did I know the hurdle I was about to have to negotiate because before I could begin training I had to be accepted following a gruelling weekend Selection Conference at Crawshawbooth, the Diocesan Conference House. It consisted of interviews, role play, being constantly observed the whole weekend, being given a situation to which we had to write a pastoral letter. Needless to say by the end of it I was convinced I hadn't got through but God's plan had stirred into action and there I was a candidate for training.

Training was a mixture of practical and academic. The practical revolved around the “job description” each parish had to supply for its candidate mine being the “Pastoral care of the bereaved, the sick and elderly.” The first year I had to form a team to develop a Parish Visiting scheme; the second year I had to do a three months placement at Springhill Hospice and the third year we all had to do a three months parish placement. Mine was at St Martin's. Once we were ordained (Deacon 1995, Priest 1996) we spent the time within our own parishes sharing the liturgy, and working our job descriptions with time we allocated to fit in with our secular jobs.

I must admit I began to feel under pressure as I began more and more to prefer my clerical work so that in the end I gave up my secular job and worked in the parish for a couple of years before taking on a part time job and then a part time degree course at Manchester Metropolitan University so you see God works in mysterious ways because I did eventually get to university and obtain my degree all be it in a round-about way!!.

It is now nearly 25 years since I was priested having spent that time ministering in the Benefice of St Luke's and All Souls, the Parish of Heywood, All Souls and latterly St Aidan's and All Souls. I have to say the happiest times of my life have been spent ministering over the last 25 years and I suppose one of the saddest was having to let All Souls go along with perhaps having to bring my retirement forward by a couple of years although with the Bishop's Permission to Officiate I shall be able to continue to minister in a more flexible way for some time to come with God's help!

Junior Church at St Aidan's



Unfortunately we are still unable to run sessions for our younger church members. We hope that families are managing to follow some of the Roots activities at home. Thanks to Tara for continuing to send these out every week from the Roots website. Please keep in touch and send your articles and photographs for our next newsletter.

The Children's Groups (3-6 yrs and 7-14yrs) usually meet in the Hall during the Sunday Morning Service.

We are (still) renewing the registers for the Children's Groups – please let us know if you have not received a registration form to complete for any church members under the age of 14.

For further information about our work with Children & Young People, please speak to the Vicar or email safeguarding@staidan.org.uk

Recent contributions from Junior Church members:



Thanks to Savannah and Athena for the photo the Palm Crosses and Easter card they made and the picture of the people whom Jesus welcomes.

Events coming up in May



Thy Kingdom Come is a global prayer movement that invites Christians around the world to pray for more people to come to know Jesus. What started in 2016 as an invitation from the Archbishops of Canterbury and York to the Church of England has grown into an international and ecumenical call to prayer.

There are lots of exciting new resources on the way for Thy Kingdom Come 2021 As well as the refreshed regulars, such as the Prayer Journal and Novena, there will also be some exciting new resources, including a Prayer Escape Room designed for young people, resources created in collaboration with the Cheeky Pandas, an updated Prayer Adventure Map,

and many more! 100,000 hard copies of our new Prayer Journal will be given away at www.cpo.org.uk/thykingdomcome Click to watch the introduction by the Archbishop of Canterbury to the Cheeky Pandas resources for children [here](#).



Christian Aid Week 2021
10 – 16th May

Church Notices

Covid-19:

The latest advice from the Diocese on Coronavirus can be found at <https://www.manchester.anglican.org/coronavirus/>

In Memoriam



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

Easter Flowers: thank you to all those who have given money to Elizabeth for flowers during the last few months. The Easter Cross in front of the pulpit has been funded from your donations'

Intercessions: please speak to a Churchwarden or Sidesperson when you arrive on a Sunday morning if you would like a name to be added to the prayers.

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



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](#)

The envelopes for 2021 are available for collection in church. Please let a PCC Member know if you would like your envelopes to be delivered (see contacts at the end of this newsletter)

Please contact the Treasurer to arrange to donate to church by bank transfer.



You can donate online to support Rochdale Foodbank [here](#) and donations of food are accepted at most local supermarkets. Recent donations at church were taken to Tesco (thanks Elaine)

<https://rochdale.foodbank.org.uk/>

Church Archives

We are always grateful to receive any church memorabilia and add such items to our ever-growing Archives to preserve such interesting insights into the history of St Aidan's. Many thanks to Jo-Anna Dobbs for donations of photographs which will bring back many memories of George's time as Vicar and especially the St Aidan's Banquets, If you would like to know more about St Aidan's Church Archives, please contact Ina Penneyston or Ann Montgomery newsletter@staidan.org.uk

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.bywater@sky.com	Churchwarden Alan Clarke Tel: 01706 373809 alanjuneclarke@gmail.com
	PCC Secretary Christine Richardson Tel: 01706 416997 christineroserichardson@gmail.com	Treasurer Debra Buckley Tel: 01706 647703 debralbuckley@btinternet.com	Safeguarding Officer Ann Montgomery (Acting) Tel; 01706 359869 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
 Manchester Road, Rochdale, OL11 3EL
 Vehicular Access OL11 3NH
www.staidan.org.uk



St Aidan's
 Church
 Rochdale

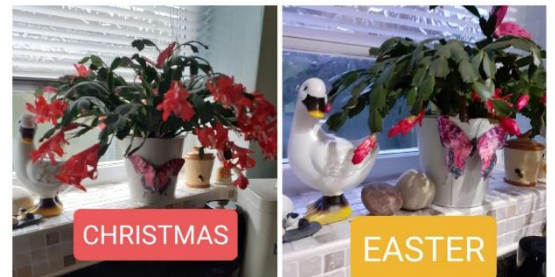


CHURCH FOR A DIFFERENT WORLD



easyfundraising
 .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.



Elaine's Cacti

Photography of church flowers by Karen