



St Aidan's Church Newsletter

July
2025

News from the Parish of St Aidan Sudden Rochdale and All Souls Heywood

www.staidan.org.uk

From the Vicar

What a busy month of June we had, filled with many important feasts and festivals in our Church calendar, starting with the Pentecost, the Holy Trinity, Corpus Christi, and the feast of St Peter and St Paul. But for me, the biggest highlight of all was the service of Confirmation, where I, proudly, presented no less than seven candidates to be confirmed by Bishop Mark.

When I was 12, I too was prepared for confirmation, following a very strict course that was running for six weeks without any interruptions. At the end of the course, we were taken through oral exams where it was the basic requirement to be able to say all the creeds and the Lord's prayer without referral to any script. Need I say that confirmation was the only entry to receiving Communion then.

However, the more I know about confirmation, the more confusing I find it to be. These days we admit children to Holy Communion from the age of about ten subject to the approval of the PCC and the parents. We tell the candidates that, at their baptism, they became full members of the Church. In this case, confirmation is not a ticket to the feast.

Why then, are we asking them to come forward to be confirmed? My answer to that question is this: to those of us who were baptised as babies, it is important to reaffirm those baptismal vows that our parents and Godparents undertook on our behalf. Not only that, an extra dose of the Holy Spirit is invoked when the Bishop lays his hands upon each candidate and says to them these profound words; "Confirm O Lord, your servant, receive the fresh anointing of the Holy Spirit."

I, therefore, affirm unequivocally, that Confirmation is by all means, a bold step of faith to be undertaken by everyone who takes their faith seriously, irrespective of age or ability to articulate the words as required by those who are preparing the candidates for confirmation. Last but not least, congratulations to Leighton, Sienna, Shaun, Noah, Pippa, Joshua and Fraser, our candidates for this year 2025.

From: Reverend Sydwell Isaac

Your Vicar



Weekly mid-week Communion

Wednesdays 9.30am

Services will re-commence on

Wednesday 3rd September.

Please come along then if you can.



Congratulations to the members of St Aidan's Church who were confirmed by Bishop Mark at St John Hopwood. They are invited to celebrate their first communion with the congregation on Sunday 6th July

We & Believe

2025 marks the 1700th anniversary of the original development of the Nicene Creed.

You can learn more about the Nicene Creed on the Church of England website cofe.io/NiceneCreed

#MoreThanSunday

A meeting was held at St Aidan's to discuss Faith at Home led by Rev Kirsty Screeton, our Mission Community Leader.

There were interesting discussions and exchange of ideas. If you would like to know more, please speak to Rev Sydwell.

Further meetings are as follows:

Saturday 26th July 10am at St Margaret's Heywood

Tuesday 9th September 7pm at St George's Oakenrod

Wednesday 1st October 7pm at St Martin's Castleton

News from St George's

A colorful poster for a Summer Gala. It features floral and leaf patterns in pink, orange, and green. The text is centered and reads: "Everyone is welcome at our SUMMER GALA on Saturday 5th July 2025 2pm until 4pm in St George's Church Hall Oakenrod Hill, Burg Road, Rochdale, OL11 4ED". Below this, it lists "Stalls" and "Childrens' activities". At the bottom, it says "Food and drink £1.00 entry Children go FREE" and "Family friendly". The footer mentions "Proceeds will go to St George's Church and Hall, Oakenrod" and provides a website link: "www.churchnearyou.com/church/15948".

Everyone is welcome at our **SUMMER GALA** on Saturday 5th July 2025 2pm until 4pm in St George's Church Hall Oakenrod Hill, Burg Road, Rochdale, OL11 4ED

Stalls Childrens' activities

Food and drink £1.00 entry Children go FREE

Family friendly

Proceeds will go to St George's Church and Hall, Oakenrod
www.churchnearyou.com/church/15948

In Memoriam

**The flowers in church on 6th July
are for the anniversary of Jeffrey Leonard Rothwell.
Always in our thoughts. Marie & his sister Maureen**

Please contact Elizabeth Milne to donate to the Flower Fund or to arrange for flowers on a specific date Telephone 01706 633179 or email newsletter@staidan.org.uk
Dedications to a Loved One can be placed in a hymn book or the Parish Book of Remembrance. Please contact Elaine Fowler for more details.

Intercessory Prayers during the morning service: please speak to a Churchwarden or Sidesperson when you arrive on a Sunday morning if you would like a name to be included in the prayers for the week.
Please make use of the Prayer Tree in the Chapel for those you know who are long-term sick. You are welcome to use the Chapel for private prayers and to light a candle.

From the Treasurer

St Aidan's Church is dependent on your generous giving to support its mission and ministry. Thank you for your continued contributions by weekly pledged giving through the envelope scheme; recurring standing orders; gift aid donations or cash donations.

You can also donate by contactless giving, using the contactless payment device in church with your bank card, or by scanning this QR code with your phone or mobile device at any time.



It currently costs the church around £1,000 each week to continue in its work and unfortunately our fundraising efforts are not helping to make ends meet. Any ideas for raising funds are most welcome – please speak to any member of the PCC.

A reminder

Sheila Whitworth is still collecting jars of small change for the Organ Fund. Foreign currency is welcome. Many thanks to all who are helping with this appeal. Every penny (or cent) helps!



Children and Families at St Aidan's Church: the Children's Groups (3-14 yrs) meet on Sunday mornings at 10am during school term-time. The children go out to the Hall with the Children's Leaders during the second (Gradual) hymn and return for Communion. We organise the service this way so that families can experience the church service together and children can help out before and/or after the service.

The last session before the summer break will be on July 20th and we will recommence in September.

A message for parents and carers

Please speak to Ami Liow or send a message to newsletter@staidan.org.uk if you would like to join the Children's Ministry Whatsapp group to keep in touch with the Children's Leaders.



The **Monthly Music List** is available on request or can be accessed by clicking [here](#)

Weekly Services

Sunday 10am Holy Communion
 Wednesday 9.30am Holy Communion (said)
 Refreshments are served after the morning services
 Evensong usually 4th Sundays 6.30pm - next in September

Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals by arrangement with the Vicar

July 2025

Saturday 5th	Summer Gala at St George's 2-4pm
Tuesday 15th	PCC Meeting 7.30pm
Tuesday 22nd	Licensing Service for Revd Mike Read Briercliffe St James Blackburn Diocese 7.30pm All are welcome. Speak to Malcolm for further details
Saturday 26th	#MoreThanSunday Session 4 at St Margaret's Heywood 10am
August 2025	
Sunday 31st	St Aidan's Festival

Contacts

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

Reverend Sydwell Isaac Vicar of St Aidan's, St George's and St Martin's
 St Martin's Vicarage, Vicarage Road North, Castleton, Rochdale OL11 2TE
 Tel: 01706 632353 Mobile: 07404 265463 revsydwellisaac@myyahoo.com

Churchwarden Malcolm Bywater Mobile: 07980 606175 malcolm.bywater@sky.com	Churchwarden Christine Richardson 01706 416997 Mobile: 07774 970322 christineroserichardson@gmail.com	Treasurer Debra Buckley 01706 647703 debralbuckley@btinternet.com	PCC Secretary & Parish Safeguarding Officer 01706 359869 Ann Montgomery ann@staidan.org.uk
		Verger Harry Hilton	Publicity Vacancy

Please send items for publication to newsletter@staidan.org.uk and contact us if you would like to be added to or removed from the mailing list.



St Aidan's C of E Parish Church
 Manchester Road,
 Rochdale, OL11 3EL
 Vehicular Access OL11 3NH



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 is an
 Inclusive Church

a church
 NEAR YOU

THE CHURCH
 OF ENGLAND
 Diocese of Manchester

CHURCH
 FOR A
 DIFFERENT
 WORLD



St Aidan's
 Church
 Rochdale