St. Aidan’s Church September 2025

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| Hub Leader | Rev Sandra Jones | 07598 847391 | sandra.jones@churchwigan.org |
| Associate Hub Leader | Rev Sue Fulford | 01942 242369 | sue.fulford@churchwigan.org |
| Self-Supporting Minister | Rev Sue Thomas | 07877 704645 | sue.thomas@churchwigan.org |
| Reader | Helen Steele | 01744 894111 | [hrsteele@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:hrsteele@tiscali.co.uk) |
| Assistant Warden | Barbara Goulden | 01744 894694 | staidansverger@yahoo.com |
| Assistant Warden | Peter Hughes | 01744 732890 | pjh1950@hotmail.com |

Wigan South Bible passage for 2025:

*‘May the God of hope fill you with joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.’ Romans 15:13*

**St Aidan’s Mission Statement**

Our Mission is to:

Introduce people to Jesus

Become more like Jesus

Do what Jesus does

**Church Clean!** The cleaners do a wonderful job each month I the worship area, but with a busy month in September we would like to do an extra clean and tidy up on Saturday August 30th, and are looking for volunteers on that day. We start at 10am. If you are able to come along to help out we would be most grateful!

**Upcoming Services**:

Sept 7th 10am Holy Communion Celebrant Rev Sue Thomas, 12.45 Baptism Service

Sept 14 th 10.00am Sta’s4all at school 4pm Evening Prayer

Sept 21st 10am Morning Worship

Sept 28th Harvest Festival 10am Beacon Service, 4pm Holy Communion Celebrant Rev Sandra Jones

Wednesday Holy Communions:

Wed 3rd and 17th will be at St. Aidan’s. Wed 10th and 24th will be at Holy Trinity

Please note that our **Sta’s4all activity** will now commence at the new time of 10am, bringing it in line with other services. Sta’s4all is a shortened version of St Aidan’s for All. Anyone can attend whatever age they are, or whatever school they attend, though the opening activities are designed to introduce school age children to Bible stories that they may not know through crafts and puzzles. Anyone can participate in these activities and the worship that follows. The theme in September is the calling of the Disciples.

On September 28th we will be celebrating our **Harvest Festival** at both Beacon and our Holy Communion services. Please bring your gifts of non-perishable food such as cans and sachets which will be given to our Food Pantry to restock the shelves.

The difference between a food pantry and food bank is that the pantry is open to everyone and stocks food from supermarkets and factories, such as Heinz. This prevents food from being sent to land fill sites and helps families of all incomes, ages and sizes access food at a very low cost. We are able to use your contributions to support those who are struggling. Annual membership to use the pantry is £5 and you will be able to purchase a wide range of 15 items for £3 every week.

Prayer Retreat Morning – Saturday 6th September – for all congregations in Wigan South, to be help at Holy Trinity Church. The last one of these was a wonderful event, very uplifting. It starts at 10am and finishes with fellowship and a free lunch. Why not join in. Please let Helen know urgently if you wish to attend so that catering can be arranged. Free parking on Rectory School car park.

Monday Sept 8th we have our next Review meeting when we will be looking at how we approach the ministry of St Aidan’s. It starts at 7pm in church. This is an open meeting for all who are interested in ensuring that our church is fit for mission.

On September 20th Church will be open from 11am – 2pm for a **Parish Gift and Heritage Day.** We are asking our members and friends to support the costs of keeping the church running by giving a donation to church funds. In the past this was an annual event. We need extra support to maintain the building, pay the bills and keep paying our share towards our clergy salary and past clergy pensions etc. Alongside the gift day there will be an opportunity to see photos and video of events from past years, examine some documents, take a short tour of the church, have refreshments. If you are unable to attend on the day you may give a donation in an envelope to the Church Treasurer, Joan Roberts, marked Parish Gift Day. If you have any photos or video that you could lend to us for the occasion please contact Helen Steele. If you are able to help out on the day with tours or refreshments please contact Helen as soon as possible.

Church is hosting a musical concert for Helen Steele’s Granddaughter, Bethany, who is raising money to fund a trip to Kenya next summer to complete charity work in the country. The concert, starting at 1.30pm on Sunday September 14th, will feature gifted musicians with connections with the church, including Sophia and Jensen. Tickets cost £6 for adults and £3 for children, including light refreshments. Tickets are available from Helen.

The Friendship Group meet after their summer break on Thursday September 25th in church from 2pm. This is open to all comers.

Dates for your diary:

Saturday 4th October – An afternoon with Trinity Girl’s Band at St Andrews Church, Garswood.

A new monthly worship community is being launched in Rectory School on October 5th, starting at 12.30 including food, fun, worship and prayer. It is primarily intended for young families and people who do not normally come to church. Please pray for the team there.

The next ‘**Start’ course** is being held on Wednesdays at 7pm at St Aidan’s, starting on October 8th. Got questions about life and the Christian faith? ‘Start’ will help you discover more about God, Jesus and the journey of life. It lasts for 8 weeks. Contact Revd Sandra Jones of Revd Sue Fulford if you would like to know more.

**The Registers 2025**

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| Holy Baptism - ‘We welcome them  into the Lord’s family’ | |  | Funerals or Burial of Ashes –  ‘May they rest in peace’ | |
| Date | Name |  | Date | Name |
| July 6th | Margot Rosie Mousdel |  | July 6th | Alan Lowe |
|  |  |  | July 16th | Helen Margaret Mathers |
| August 3rd | Isaac William Taylor |  | August 7th | Frank Broughall |
|  |  |  | August 7th | Thomas Gordon Hardman |

**Donations and Remembrance**

We would like to give thanks for the following kind donations

**Clock Repairs**

In memory of dear friends and neighbours Ken, Gwen and Steven with all our love. Clifford and family

In loving memory of our Dear Mum a donation for Church clock.  Much loved and missed.  Lots of love Janet and Helen.

**General Fund**

Mrs. B Ratcliffe Mr and Mrs Horsfall

In loving memory of Betty Parkin

In memory of my beloved wife Elizabeth 25th August.  I miss you every day from your loving husband Clifford.

In loving memory of Mum and Dad Joan and Norman Heaton still very much missed Joan and Kevin Roberts

**Flowers:** In loving memory of my beloved wife Elizabeth, Clifford

**Pantry :** Roy Lawrence Marion Boardman

**St Aidan’s Web site**

[www.achurchnearyou.com](http://www.achurchnearyou.com/). Type in “St Aidan’s Billinge” in the location box - you can see St Aidan’s as one of the churches available in this area. Click on the title on the left to gain access to our page. Service details can be found in the relevant section. Current copies of our newsletters are included in the ‘news and notices’ section.

**St Aidan’s Facebook page** www.facebook.com/BillingeStAidansChurch

**Prayer for the Parish**

If anyone needs to be added to our prayer list please let Helen Steele or Margaret Stott know. The person or family must give permission for any name to be added to the list. Our ‘sick list’ has people listed by their first names so that some confidentiality is preserved. These people are known to God as we pray in this way.

For confidential prayer needs contact Jennifer Berry for the St Aidan’s Prayer Circle on 01942 389715 or Brenda Bridge on 01744 894528.



Please pray for all those you know who need God’s healing touch, those who are struggling in Body, Mind and Spirit, and from our parish we pray especially for Tracey-Ann, Jeanette, Roy, Linda, Young Olivia, Baby Ellie, Jack and Caroline. Remember the bereaved and all who are feeling the pain of separation from their loved ones, whether that is recent or a while ago. We pray for the family and friends of Brenda Smullen who died recently.

Please pray for us to continue to move forward with our Mission Plan, to develop various activities which enable us to reach out to our community and an improvement in our financial position.