



St Aidan's Church Newsletter

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

**August
2025**

www.staidan.org.uk



Autumn Dates for your diaries

Sunday 31st Aug St Aidan Festival

Licensing Service 3pm

Tuesday 9th Sept More than Sunday Meeting at St George's 7pm

Sunday 28th September St Aidan's Church Harvest Festival

Saturday 4th October Rochdale Phoenix Opera Society Concert 7.30pm

Saturday 1st November St Aidan's Church Autumn Fair 11am-1pm

Licensing Service for the Rochdale Area Dean

**at St Aidan's Church
31st August 3pm**

Reverend Anne Gilbert will be licensed as Area Dean
and Curate of St Aidan's by Bishop Mark
Please come along to celebrate with Anne who grew up in the
Parish when her father was Vicar.
Refreshments will be served after the service.

Congratulations to Cherry Vann

The Church in Wales has announced
that Cherry Vann, Bishop of Monmouth,
is to be the next Archbishop of Wales.

Cherry served in the Diocese of
Manchester for many years, including
over a decade as Archdeacon of
Rochdale

Car Parking

With apologies for all the disruption over the
summer weeks.

Work to create parking spaces around the
church is due to commence from week
commencing 15th September.

Meanwhile we have permission to use
parking spaces at Sudden Health Centre.



Do you have a pet?

Join this summer's CofE
social media campaign

Find out more at
cofe.io/GreatandSmall
Send a photo of your pet
at church
to the Vicar or to
ann@staidan.org.uk

From the Vicar

"What makes people not come to Church?"

You may have read in the news that Father Pat Brennan, a Catholic priest in Coventry published a rather challenging poem in his church magazine as he confirmed that he was stepping down from his post. He suggested that the declining numbers in the pews had resulted from actions of "the righteous, the clique and the worthy".

The poem "Not I Surely" describes disdainful looks given by some parishioners when they find someone else sitting in their seat on the church pews. Father Pat also mentions that gossip can have a negative impact on how we welcome parishioners. He writes how words of love were "ignored" and suggests some people's "first instinct" at the sentiment "go in peace" was instead "time for war". We preach the gospel of Love and not hatred; a gospel of life and not death. Each person who steps inside our churches is welcomed, accepted, loved, forgiven as that is the mark of God's own seal upon our lives.

God is alive still in our Churches and He welcomes us all just as we are!

Reverend Sydwell Isaac
Your Vicar

Please remember to contact the Vicar if you, or anyone you know, would like to organise a **home visit**.

The Vicar makes regular visits to local **Care Homes** and a list is available on the church noticeboard.

#MoreThanSunday

A series of meetings in our Mission Community to discuss aspects of the Diocese of Manchester's approach to inspiring discipleship, the living out of what it means to follow Jesus Christ day by day.

If you would like to know more, please speak to Rev Sydwell.

Further meetings are as follows:

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

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



St Martin . St George. St Aidan
1st Wednesday in the month

Meetings will recommence in
September

More details from the Vicar and in
the next newsletter

Weekly mid-week Communion

Wednesdays 9.30am

**Services will re-commence on
Wednesday 3rd September.**

Please come along if you can.



In Memoriam

The flowers in church from 27th July are in loving memory of Ken Davies for his anniversary on 1st August and from 10th August in loving memory of Clarissa Street for her 1st anniversary on 14th August.



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 Your paragraph text

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 weekly collections and 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.

We are now on a summer break and we will recommence in September.

Activity sheets are available in church - please ask a Sidesperson.



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

Contacts

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

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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 church mailing list.



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

a church
 NEAR YOU



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

THE CHURCH
 OF ENGLAND
 Diocese of Manchester

CHURCH
 FOR A
 DIFFERENT
 WORLD



St Aidan's
 Church
 Rochdale