



St Aidan's Church Newsletter

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

**October
2025**

www.staidan.org.uk

From the Vicar



*The buzz words for this month are **Harvest Festivals** and **generosity**. The earliest I can remember is when the harvest was celebrated by the whole village, more especially the farming communities. Children were expected to do their bit during half term, and October was the month to gather fruit and vegetables. In those days, there were lots of stories about children falling asleep at their desks in school because they were so tired. There is no doubt that the act of worship for harvest was deeply felt by the whole community. In church: there were displays of wheat, corn, fruit and vegetables and even bread.*

Traditionally, this meant everything to Church communities and although the way we celebrate harvest has changed a lot lately, harvest still has a powerful meaning in our local areas. Some of the schools that I often visit donate tins of food, packets, fruit and vegetables and flowers.

Nowadays the emphasis at harvest is on bringing tins, packets, and other nonperishable goods which is then distributed to the local Foodbanks. The Church is still beautifully decorated in some places, and harvest is celebrated as it used to be in villages in the past. However, I think a service of thanksgiving would also be appropriate where pictures could be taken and displayed around the Church and the local area to illustrate the joy that flows around the communities on such occasions. This was the original idea with hope for the future that we may be able to grow more of our own food and not rely on expensive imports from all over the world.

Reverend Sydwell Isaac
Your Vicar

With grateful thanks for the generous gifts at St Aidan's on our annual Harvest Festival (September 28th) - these have all been donated to the Rochdale Foodbank.



Weekly mid-week Communion
Wednesdays 9.30am in the Chapel

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.



AUTUMN FAIR



Saturday 1st November

11am - 1pm

St Aidan's Church Hall

Refreshments

Books Toys & Games

Chocolate Tombola Raffle

Homemade Goods

... and much more



Admission £1
Children Free



Autumn Dates

Saturday 4th October Rochdale Phoenix Opera Society Concert 7.30pm
Saturday 1st November St Aidan's Church Autumn Fair 11am-1pm
Sunday 9th November Remembrance Sunday

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.



Celebrate Fair Trade Fortnight
by shopping at **Fair For All on The Walk**
in Rochdale

**Gifts & cards are available all year round and
Advent Calendars will be available in October.**

**Volunteers are also required
to help in the shop
-contact Monica
on 07980 467228**

*Are you looking for more ways to get involved
with your church and explore your faith this Autumn?
All are welcome at these meetings.*

#MoreThanSunday

Continuing 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.

Wednesday 1st October
St Margaret's Heywood
7pm

Saturday 1st November
St John's Hopwood
10am



St Martin . St George. St Aidan

Next meeting
Wednesday
8th October 2025
St George's Church
Oakenrod
7pm

In Memoriam

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 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.



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 younger church members go out to the Hall with the Children's Leaders during the second (Gradual) hymn and return for Communion.

The service is organised in this way so that families can experience the church service together and children can help out if they wish before and/or after the service.

For information about our Children's Ministry please speak to the Vicar or email children@staidan.org.uk



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

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
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Our Mission is to be a strong church family, promoting and maintaining the Good News about Jesus to the Parish and the wider community.

a church
NEAR YOU



St Aidan's
Church
Rochdale



St Aidan's is an
Inclusive Church

THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND
Diocese of Manchester

CHURCH
FOR A
DIFFERENT
WORLD