

# NEWSLETTER

## St Aidan's Catholic Church - Coulsdon



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Year A

28th Sunday of Ordinary Time

15th October 2023

All Masses are streamed for housebound on the parish YouTube channel: **St Aidans Coulsdon**

**Saturday Vigil 6pm** People of the parish

**Sunday 9am** Michael and Muriel O'Callaghan (Diamond Wedding Anniversary)

**Sunday 11am** Kate Twomey RIP

**Monday 10am** John Cook RIP

**Tuesday No Mass**

*St Ignatius of Antioch*

**Wednesday No Mass**

*St Luke*

**Thursday 10am** Audrey Wright RIP (Followed by Burial of Ashes in the Memorial Garden)

**Friday 10am Exposition 10am - 10.30am**

**Saturday Vigil 6pm** Fr Cyril Hastings RIP

**Sunday 9am** Celebrant's intention. **Sunday 11am** Shelia Phillips RIP

Life breakfast after 9am Mass.

Bar open after 11am Mass.

**Next weekend 2nd Collection. World Mission Sunday.** Foreign missions. See P2 for details.

**Weekday Masses.** While Fr Peter is on sick leave there will generally be two weekday Masses on Mondays and Thursdays at 10am. There are some spaces for Mass intentions, requests may be emailed to [coulsdon@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:coulsdon@rcaos.org.uk) or by a note through the Parish House. There will be Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament on Fridays 10-10.30am.

**Opportunity to pray for peace.**

There will be Rosary, Exposition and Benediction on Sundays 15th & 22nd October at 4pm.

**During the month of November there will be a book placed on the sanctuary with the names of our departed loved ones.** Please place your list in the box provided in the church. Throughout November Masses will be offered for all the names in the book.

**Fr Peter** is recovering but is restricted to doing admin work for the time being. He says Mass daily at home. We are grateful to the priests who continue to help with Masses in our parish while Fr Peter is on sick leave.

**Please pray for the sick and housebound.**

Fr Peter, Kevin Leavey, Anne Walker, Eileen & Jack Darville, Caroline Garvey, Pat Kelly, Truda Hobbs, Rhona Devine, Marion McCluskey, Jean Hunt, Mary Crehan, Winn Jordan, Charlie Hooke, Allen Reilly, David Gibson, Sarah Bell, Veronica Lydon-McCluskey, Juliette Hinds, Sammy McCarroll, Rosie Longworth, Anthony Grimshaw, Eileen Brockhurst, Czeslaw Sajadak, Trudy Kiely, John Cooksey, Geoff Wood, Joseph Darville, Bernard Leonard, Margaret Long, Norma Cordell, Christopher Thomas, Coral Hind, Jean Turner, Freda Blade, David Morling. And all who are sick.

**Congratulations to Muriel and Michael O’Callaghan who are celebrating their 60th wedding Anniversary.** They have lived in the parish for over fifty years and brought up their family. We give thanks for their great contribution to St Aidan’s parish and school. We ask God’s blessing on them on the occasion of their diamond wedding celebration.

FR Peter

#### **Next weekd 2nd Collection.**

**World Mission Sunday.** Missio is the Church’s official organ for the support of the Foreign Missions. The collection taken on World Mission Sunday goes in its entirety, to support churches, hospitals, schools and vocations in countries where the Church is new, young or poor. Mission works through local bishops, churches and missionary congregations to ensure that resources are distributed equitably and justly – on the basis of need. The money goes directly from England and Wales to the bishops in the mission territories – local church directly helping local church!

#### **200 Club – October 2023 Draw Winner**

The October draw for the 200 Club took place last Sunday during the LIFE Breakfast after the 9.00am Mass. The winning number was No.119 belonging to Graham Evans, and he receives £200.

If you are not a member of the 200 Club and wish to join, or would like more information before you decide, please contact Erica Thurbon – email: [eathurbon@btinternet.com](mailto:eathurbon@btinternet.com)

#### **Violence in the Holy Land .....**

**In a statement released on 13 October, Cardinal Vincent Nichols said:**

“A week into the terrible conflict in Israel and Gaza, I urge Catholics to sustain their prayers for peace. The horrific atrocities committed by Hamas in Israel warrant every condemnation.

“We continue to hold in our prayers those who were killed, the injured, those held hostage, their families and communities.

“The situation facing the millions of civilians in Gaza also calls for effective humanitarian relief. We pray too for those killed, injured and displaced there. “At home I appeal for restraint and the total avoidance of hateful language and action, as the impact of this conflict is felt in communities here.”

#### **Day of Prayer and Fasting**

The Latin Patriarch of Jerusalem, Cardinal Pierbattista Pizzaballa, as President of the Assembly of the Catholic Ordinaries of the Holy Land (ACOHL), is calling for a day of fasting, abstinence, and prayer for peace and reconciliation. Inviting all parishes and religious communities to pray on **Tuesday, 17 October**, Cardinal Pizzaballa encouraged prayer times to be organised with Eucharistic adoration and the recitation of the Rosary to Our Blessed Virgin Mary.

**Primary school priest’s references will be dealt with in November.**

#### **Climate change and the environment. Pope Francis’ latest appeal on this urgent matter.**

Many of you will already have heard the Holy Father's Apostolic Exhortation, *Laudate Deum*.

As you know, his previous encyclical *Laudato Si* set out the principles regarding our duty of care for our common home, and stressed the urgent need to address the issue of global warming.

*Laudate Deum* is in effect an update, making clear how much more urgent the situation is, given the very limited progress achieved over the years since *Laudato Si*.

- The text itself is available on the Bishops’ Conference web site - CBCEW <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/sites/3/2023/10/laudate-deum-exhortation-041023.pdf> as well as on our Southwark website.
- The Bishops’ Conference has the following short introduction to the document: <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/pope-francis-releases-apostolic-exhortation-laudate-deum/>
- There is also good introductory material on the CAFOD web site. <https://cafod.org.uk/news/campaigning-news/pope-francis-laudate-deum-new-call-for-action-on-climate-crisis>
- One of the most immediate questions is, what can we do ourselves? The Laudato Si Centre has a range of useful resources, with practical suggestions. <https://laudatosicentre.org.uk/>
- On a more technical level, the Guardians of Creation project, based at St Mary’s University in Twickenham, is developing resources for dioceses and parishes. <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/environment-case-study-2/>

**SYNOD 21 - 24.** - *Cardinal Vincent's reflection continued from last week.*



**In 2021 The synod process throughout the world began at parish level. We had meetings where we discussed Church life under three headings:**

**COMMUNITY - PARTICIPATION - MISSION.**

**Below is part 3 of a reflection by Cardinal Vincent which helps to focus our minds on the current phase taking place in Rome.**

It is not difficult to see that the agenda of the Synod is an agenda for us all: for each of us individually, for families, for every church association and group, for parishes, for the Diocese. The Synod is a journey we share. For this reason, I invite you today to be part of this historic process, in the thoughts and resolutions of your own hearts. How can we be more attentive to each other? How can we listen with our hearts to the distress and the joy of those around us? How can we make our community more welcoming? How can we find ways of enabling the talents and abilities of everyone to become part of our outreach, of that invitation to come to know the Lord?

*Continued next week.*

### **SUPPORT FOR THE HOMELESS**

Although the Floating Shelter can no longer provide accommodation to the homeless it has been asked once again to help out with providing sandwiches for Nightwatch to distribute to rough sleepers in Queens Gardens, Croydon. We, in St Aidan's, have taken on Thursday nights in November and December. Volunteers are needed to cover the following jobs:

1) To make about 15 rounds of simple sandwiches and deliver them to a Coulsdon address any time up to 7.30pm on Thursdays in November and December (collection can be arranged if you are not able to deliver). About seven volunteers are needed for each week.

2) To collect all the batches of sandwiches from a Coulsdon address at 8pm on Thursdays in November and December and deliver them by car to Nightwatch in central Croydon. The round trip takes about one hour. One volunteer is needed each week.

Detailed instructions will be available for both jobs when a rota is circulated. Many parishioners have volunteered for this over the last few years but new faces are always welcome. If we have enough volunteers you should only be asked to be on the rota a couple of times.

Nightwatch have been enormously grateful for our support with sandwiches over the last few years. Their service of food distribution has become increasingly busy and the situation is not likely to improve in the foreseeable future. They see upwards of 50 clients on an average weekday evening, sometimes 70 or 80 and even more at the weekend. A lot of food is needed so do please respond to this if you can.

If you are able to help out please contact Maureen Lee - [maureenannelee213@gmail.com](mailto:maureenannelee213@gmail.com) - by Monday 23rd October saying which job you would like to do and which dates you are available.

### **Advent Retreat 2023 – Prepare Your Heart**

By Redemptorist Publications.

Starting 29<sup>th</sup> November 2023. Journey this Advent and prepare yourself to enter into the story of Christ's birth through prayer and reflection. Only £20. What's included: *Prepare Your Heart* Book, St Joseph Icon Christmas Cards, four weekly emails throughout Advent, each containing access to a thought-provoking video to accompany the *Prepare Your Heart* book, donation to charitable missions and postage & packaging. If you are interested, then go to this link and fill out the form by the 27<sup>th</sup> October <https://mailchi.mp/e3b04f480a6f/rp-advent-retreat-2023>.

### **OUR OFFERTORY INCOME**

Cash £622 Standing Orders £540,  
Card reader: £241

**Total income: £1,403**

of which £632 was gift-aided

**2nd Collection: CAFOD £839. THANK YOU.**

Please consider making a standing order for your offertory contributions. Contact our treasurer Martin Puckett to get the details.

[coulsdontreasurer@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:coulsdontreasurer@rcaos.org.uk)

## **WEST CROYDON REFUGEE CENTRE.**

Croydon Refugee Centre are always grateful for our donations. Current needs: New underwear and socks for men, women and children particularly girls' socks. Size 1 nappies and baby clothes. Trainers. There is also a great need for toothpaste, toothbrushes, shampoo, washing up liquid, pasta and rice.

## **The Purley Food Hub [purleyfoodhub@gmail.com](mailto:purleyfoodhub@gmail.com)**

The Purley Food Hub are grateful for all your generous donations over many months.

Current priorities: Packs of cereal, Tinned meat meals (not hot dogs) Packet and tinned potatoes, Tins of tuna, Jars of pasta sauce, Small bottles squash, Hot chocolate drink needing only water, tinned and packet custard, Deodorant, Shampoo.

### **Today's readings.**

#### **First Reading**

#### **Isaiah 25:6-10**

On this mountain, the Lord of hosts will prepare for all peoples a banquet of rich food, a banquet of fine wines, of food rich and juicy, of fine strained wines. On this mountain he will remove the mourning veil covering all peoples, and the shroud enwrapping all nations, he will destroy Death for ever. The Lord will wipe away the tears from every cheek; he will take away his people's shame everywhere on earth, for the Lord has said so. That day, it will be said: See, this is our God in whom we hoped for salvation; the Lord is the one in whom we hoped. We exult and we rejoice that he has saved us; for the hand of the Lord rests on this mountain.

#### **Psalm 22(23)**

*In the Lord's own house shall I dwell for ever and ever.*

The Lord is my shepherd;  
there is nothing I shall want.  
Fresh and green are the pastures  
where he gives me repose.  
Near restful waters he leads me, to  
revive my drooping spirit.

He guides me along the right path;  
he is true to his name.  
If I should walk in the valley of darkness  
no evil would I fear.  
You are there with your crook and your staff;  
with these you give me comfort.

You have prepared a banquet for me  
in the sight of my foes.  
My head you have anointed with oil;  
my cup is overflowing.

Surely goodness and kindness shall follow me  
all the days of my life.  
In the Lord's own house shall I dwell  
for ever and ever.

#### **Second Reading**

#### **Philippians 4:12-14,19-20**

I know how to be poor and I know how to be rich too. I have been through my initiation and now I am ready for anything anywhere: full stomach or empty stomach, poverty or plenty. There is nothing I cannot master with the help of the One who gives me strength. All the same, it was good of you to share with me in my hardships. In return my God will fulfil all your needs, in Christ Jesus, as lavishly as only God can. Glory to God, our Father, for ever and ever. Amen.

#### **Gospel**

#### **Matthew 22:1-14**

Jesus began to speak to the chief priests and elders of the people in parables: 'The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a feast for his son's wedding. He sent his servants to call those who had been invited, but they would not come. Next he sent some more servants. "Tell those who have been invited" he said "that I have my banquet all prepared, my oxen and fattened cattle have been slaughtered, everything is ready. Come to the wedding." But they were not interested: one went off to his farm, another to his business, and the rest seized his servants, maltreated them and killed them. The king was furious. He despatched his troops, destroyed those murderers and burnt their town. Then he said to his servants, "The wedding is ready; but as those who were invited proved to be unworthy, go to the crossroads in the town and invite everyone you can find to the wedding." So these servants went out on to the roads and collected together everyone they could find, bad and good alike; and the wedding hall was filled with guests.

*Below is optional \**

When the king came in to look at the guests he noticed one man who was not wearing a wedding garment, and said to him, "How did you get in here, my friend, without a wedding garment?" And the man was silent. Then the king said to the attendants, "Bind him hand and foot and throw him out into the dark, where there will be weeping and grinding of teeth." For many are called, but few are chosen.'

*\* possibly the ending to another parable.*