

NEWSLETTER

St Aidan's Catholic Church - Coulsdon



Parish Priest: Fr. Peter Mansfield, Deacon: Rev. Tony Flavin
Parish House: 1 Portnalls Road, Coulsdon, Surrey. CR5 3DD
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Parish Website: www.st-aidans-parish.org.uk
Support in times of loss: listeningtoyou.staidans@gmail.com
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St Aidan's School: 01737 556036

Year A

31st Sunday of Ordinary Time

5th November 2023

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

Saturday Vigil 6pm Deceased loved ones - Nov Bk

Sunday 9am Michelle Gent RIP.

Sunday 11am Michael Crowe RIP.

Monday 10am Frances and Mary Winifred Bede-Cox

Tuesday No Mass *The Dedication of the Cathedral Church of St George*

Wednesday No mass

Thursday 10am Deceased members of the McManus family. *The Dedication of the Lateran Basilica*

Friday 10am Exposition 10am - 10.30am *St Leo the Great*

Saturday Vigil 6pm Canon Francis Roe

REMEMBERANCE SUNDAY

Sunday 9am Deceased loved ones - Nov Bk

Sunday 11am Dead of Two World Wars

Life breakfast after 9am Mass.

Bar open after 11am Mass.

There are some spaces for Mass intentions, - requests may be emailed to coulsdon@rcaos.org.uk or by a note through the Parish House.

SVP MEETING

The next meeting of the parish SVP group will take place on the evening of Monday 6th November at 8:15pm in the Marian Room

Sacrament of Confirmation at St Aidan's 2024. - Enrolment forms available next weekend.

We can now resume inviting Year 9 pupils or older to enrol for the preparation sessions for the sacrament of Confirmation. A new date for the Confirmation Mass will be fixed soon.

I would therefore like to invite our young people who are currently in year 9 or older to apply. The Confirmation preparation programme will begin in the church hall on Sunday evenings beginning in December. **The enrolment forms will be available after Masses over the next two weekends.** Current Mass attendance is an essential requirement for any prospective applicant.

THE YOUNG PERSON APPLYING WILL NEED TO REQUEST AND RETURN THE FORM PERSONALLY, NOT A PARENT. Our parish programme is not open to people from other parishes. On the application form the applicants are asked to write a short piece in their own words saying why they wish to be confirmed.

FR Peter

Priest's references for Catholic Primary school applications.

Fr Peter asks parents to hand in their forms by giving them to Deacon Tony or posting it through the letterbox of the Parish House. Signed forms can be collected from the servers' sacristy on the following weekend.

Parents are asked to place the form in an envelope marked 'Reference' with the child's name.

All forms must be submitted to Fr Peter in the month of November, not later.

FAIRTRADE STALL on Sunday 12 November in the hall after the 9am and 11am Masses selling Transform Trade and CAFOD Christmas cards and other beautiful items.

If you are free to help on the stall please contact Rosa Shea. rosashea@outlook.com

Day of Recollection for Readers and Special Ministers of Holy Communion.

Canon Gerald Bradley is inviting readers and Eucharistic Ministers to a Day of Recollection for prayer, renewal and practical guidance for your ministry. It will be from 10-3pm Saturday 2nd December 2023 at St Boniface Hall, 185 Mitcham Road, Tooting, SW17 9PG. Lunch is included. Please email coulsdon@rcaos.org.uk if you would like to attend. By train: Coulsdon South to Tooting, change at Blackfriars

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, 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.

If you know of anyone who should be on our parish sick list or needs Holy Communion at home please let Fr Peter know.

The Purley Food Hub 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.

NEXT WEEKEND Second Collection Archbishop's Appeal

Sat 11th / Sun 12th November.

Special envelopes are available on the tables at the back of the Church (optional).

The Archbishop's Appeal is a diocesan second collection that funds key areas of ministry: Youth and Evangelisation, Our Faith in Action (Caritas) and Clergy Care and Formation.

Your support will enable the Archdiocese of Southwark to support innovative projects taking place within Catholic parishes and Schools throughout South London and Kent that seek to invest Faith, Hope and Love into the communities they serve. Please be generous to the Archbishop's Appeal 2023. Every gift is welcome. Find out more, or donate online: www.rcaos.org.uk/archbishops-appeal.

For Cash / Cheque – you may also use the Archbishop's Appeal envelopes at the back of church. Thank you for your generosity of heart.

Saying Goodby Service

Saying Goodbye, (part of the Mariposa Trust) are coming to London in November with a very special Baby loss remembrance and support service (part of a UK and Ireland chain of events). On the 26th November at 3.30pm in Central Hall, Westminster, we will be hosting one of our Saying Goodbye Services.

The service is for anyone who has either personally lost a baby at any stage of pregnancy, at birth, or in early years, or who has been affected by family members' or friends' loss. Whether the loss was recent or 80 years ago, everyone is welcome to attend. We have also extended the services, and gladly welcome anyone who is grieving the fact that they haven't had children. This may be due to circumstance, infertility, or for other reasons - but all are welcome. Babies and children are also invited to come with their families, as the Saying Goodbye service is truly a family event for all. The Mariposa Trust's core objective is to support people who have lost babies at any stage of pregnancy, at birth, or in infancy. It was founded in 2012, by Zoe and Andy Clark-Coates, who saw a critical lack of support for people like them, who had gone through baby loss. With over 258,000 babies being lost yearly in the UK alone, the charity needed to be able to offer not only a comprehensive package of befriending and support but also national baby loss remembrance services (called Saying Goodbye Services), for people to join together and remember the children they had lost. 5 years on, over 150 services have taken place at Cathedrals and Minsters across the UK, US, and France, and 2023 will see 21 services across England, Wales, Scotland and Ireland. To read more on the charity, please see the Saying Goodbye website, which you can find at: www.sayinggoodbye.org

THE ST AIDAN'S SOCIAL COMMITTEE ARE DELIGHTED
TO INVITE YOU TO JOIN US FOR THE ANNUAL
WINTER BALL

2ND DECEMBER 2023

ARRIVAL 7PM

• TICKETS ARE ON SALE
AFTER

• WEEKEND MASSES

• £25
PER PERSON



4 COURSE MEAL

DANCING TO THE
FABULOUS
PHOENIX

CASH BAR
(PRE ORDER FOR
OUR TABLE ALSO
AVAILABLE)

OUR OFFERTORY INCOME

Cash £622

Standing Orders £540,

Card reader: £226

Total income: £1,388

of which £715 was

gift-aided

THANK YOU.

Please consider making a
standing order for your
offertory contributions.

Contact our treasurer

Martin Puckett to get the

details.

couldsdontreasurer@

rcaos.org.uk

Church heating.

A message from the parish premises team.

Mid winter last year was particularly cold and our heating system in church struggled to cope with it,

We worked with our regular engineer throughout the Winter to improve the system with additional maintenance and general refurbishment of the boiler. It is not yet possible to say exactly how successful that has been because some of the work was done in the milder weather of Spring, It can only be fully tested when the colder weather arrives this Winter.

We are going to monitor the system in the coming months. If it remains unsatisfactory we will look at a more radical intervention for the future. That would mean investigating the installation a new boiler.

Underfloor heating is particularly difficult to deal with due to the fact that the pipe system is not easily accessible under a large marble floor.

If you work in the commercial heating business we would love to hear from you and have your opinion. Contact email: couldsdon@rcaos.org.uk

*Warm good wishes from:
The parish premises team.*

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.

Parish support in times of bereavement and other forms of loss.

A new pastoral group is being launched in our parish.

The St Aidan's Listening Group has been set up to support those who have experienced loss including bereavement but not exclusively as loss occurs in many areas of life. We will be offering a monthly opportunity for anyone who feels that they would benefit from a quiet, confidential space to talk and be listened to. Your loss is personal to you and may come in the form of; the loss of a relative or close friend; through separation or divorce; or experiencing miscarriage. This informal and welcoming group is open to anyone, including those who have experienced bereavement or loss both recently and in the past. All are very welcome to join us for tea/coffee and biscuits. **We will meet on the second Friday of each month in the Hall Marian Room from 10:30 – 11:30. Our first meeting will be on Friday 10th November.**

Experiencing loss is very individual to each person. Many find group sessions helpful while others may prefer to talk in a more private setting, please email the Listening Group if you would like to explore this: listeningtoyou.staidans@gmail.com

Please note that the group are all members of the parish and are offering a listening ear, we are not offering professional counselling.

If you do not have transport to come to the sessions, let us know and we will work something out to be in touch with you. You can email listeningtoyou.staidans@gmail.com or phone the parish office 020 8660 2452.

Sara Waite - Group leader.

Prayer for all the people of the Holy Land at this time of war. (From Worth Abbey parish website.)

God of light and salvation, our refuge and our strength,
We pray for the people of Israel and Palestine amid the escalating violence.
We pray for those killed and injured by rockets from Gaza in southern Israel.
May your rod and staff comfort them.

We pray for those who are grieving. May they know your ever-present help.
We pray for the protection of those who have been taken hostage by Hamas. As they walk through this dark valley, may they fear no evil.

We pray for the civilians of Gaza. May they know that their help comes from the Maker of heaven and earth. We especially remember all of those who have been killed and wounded in Gaza recently – may you comfort and heal those who are in pain and those who have lost loved ones.

And we pray for all the people of the Holy Land. May you guide them along the right paths.
We ask all this in union with Christ and trusting in the power of your Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Today's readings.

First Reading MALACHI 1:14-2:2,8-10

I am a great king, says the Lord of Hosts, and my name is feared throughout the nations. And now, priests, this warning is for you. If you do not listen, if you do not find it in your heart to glorify my name, says the Lord of Hosts, I will send the curse on you and curse your very blessing. But you, you have strayed from the way; you have caused many to stumble by your teaching. You have destroyed the covenant of Levi, says the Lord of Hosts. And so I in my turn have made you contemptible and vile in the eyes of the whole people in repayment for the way you have not kept to my paths but have shown partiality in your administration. Have we not all one Father? Did not one God create us? Why, then, do we break faith with one another, profaning the covenant of our ancestors?

PSALM 130(131)

Keep my soul in peace before you, O Lord.

O Lord, my heart is not proud
nor haughty my eyes.
I have not gone after things too great
nor marvels beyond me.

Truly I have set my soul in silence and peace.
A weaned child on its mother's breast,
even so is my soul.

O Israel, hope in the Lord
both now and forever.

Second Reading

1 THESSALONIANS 2:7-9,13

Like a mother feeding and looking after her own children, we felt so devoted and protective towards you, and had come to love you so much, that we were eager to hand over to you not only the Good News but our whole lives as well. Let me remind you, brothers, how hard we used to work, slaving night and day so as not to be a burden on any one of you while we were proclaiming God's Good News to you. Another reason why we constantly thank God for you is that as soon as you heard the message that we brought you as God's message, you accepted it for what it really is, God's message and not some human thinking; and it is still a living power among you who believe it.

Gospel MATTHEW 23:1-12

Addressing the people and his disciples Jesus said, 'The scribes and the Pharisees occupy the chair of Moses. You must therefore do what they tell you and listen to what they say; but do not be guided by what they do: since they do not practise what they preach. They tie up heavy burdens and lay them on men's shoulders, but will they lift a finger to move them? Not they! Everything they do is done to attract attention, like wearing broader phylacteries and longer tassels, like wanting to take the place of honour at banquets and the front seats in the synagogues, being greeted obsequiously in the market squares and having people call them Rabbi. 'You, however, must not allow yourselves to be called Rabbi, since you have only one master, and you are all brothers. You must call no one on earth your father, since you have only one Father, and he is in heaven. Nor must you allow yourselves to be called teachers, for you have only one Teacher, the Christ. The greatest among you must be your servant. Anyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and anyone who humbles himself will be exalted.'