

# NEWSLETTER

## *St Aidan's Catholic Church - Coulsdon*



**Parish Priest:** Fr Peter Mansfield,      **Deacon:** Rev. Tony Flavin  
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**St Aidan's School:** 01737 556036

**Year B**

**2nd Sunday of Ordinary Time**

**14th January 2024**

*11am Mass is streamed for housebound on the parish YouTube channel: St Aidans Coulsdon*

**Saturday Vigil 6pm** Hilary Devine RIP

**Sunday 9am** People of the parish

**Sunday 11am** Rosana Rodrigues RIP

**Monday 10am** Thanksgiving of Donor

**Tuesday** No Mass

**Wednesday 6.30pm** *St Anthony of the desert.*

**Thursday 10am** Angela Richards RIP.\*      [ \* Denotes no Mass requested at time of funeral.]

**Friday 10am** Ellen Catterall RIP.\*      **Exposition until 11am**

**Saturday Vigil 6pm** Welfare of Yvonne Lodrick

**Sunday 9am** Fred and Jim Du Casse RIP      **Sunday 11am** People of the parish

**Life breakfast after 9am Mass.**

**Bar open after 11am Mass.**

**Shop.**      Southwark diocesan 2024 directories £6.      Catholic diaries £3.

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

Eileen & Jack Darville, Stephen Dormer,  
Barbara Wood, Ewan Keppie, Kevin Leavey,  
Anne Walker, Caroline Garvey, Pat Kelly, Truda  
Hobbs, Marion McCluskey, Mary Crehan, Winn  
Jordan, Charlie Hooke, Allen Reilly, David Gibson,  
Sarah Bell, Juliette Hinds, Veronica Lydon-McCluskey,  
Sammy McCarroll, Rosie Longworth,  
Anthony Grimshaw, Eileen Brockhurst, Czeslaw  
Sajadak, Trudy Kiely, John Cooksey, Geoff Wood,  
Joseph Darville, Bernard Leonard, Margaret Long,  
Norma Cordell, Coral Hind, 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.**

### **Confirmation candidates meet today Sunday in the hall.**

5.30pm Social time.

6.15pm Preparation session until 7pm.

### **The Parish Pastoral Council (PPC) chairperson**

is Erica Thurbon. She will introduce herself at the  
end of all Masses today, The PPC members are  
keen that parishioners should recognise them and  
speak with them, - more will be done to promote  
that in the coming months.

**Peace Sunday takes place this Sunday,** with the theme – chosen by Pope Francis - *Artificial Intelligence and Peace*.

In his message for World Peace Day, Pope Francis writes:

“We rightly rejoice and give thanks for the impressive achievements of science and technology, as a result of which countless ills that formerly plagued human life and caused great suffering have been remedied. At the same time, techno-scientific advances, by making it possible to exercise hitherto unprecedented control over reality, are placing in human hands a vast array of options, including some that may pose a risk to our survival and endanger our common home.

“The remarkable advances in new information technologies, particularly in the digital sphere, thus offer exciting opportunities and grave risks, with serious implications for the pursuit of justice and harmony among peoples. Any number of urgent questions need to be asked. What will be the consequences, in the medium and long term, of these new digital technologies? And what impact will they have on individual lives and on societies, on international stability and peace?

“... The inherent dignity of each human being and the fraternity that binds us together as members of the one human family must undergird the development of new technologies and serve as indisputable criteria for evaluating them before they are employed, so that digital progress can occur with due respect for justice and contribute to the cause of peace. Technological developments that do not lead to an improvement in the quality of life of all humanity, but on the contrary aggravate inequalities and conflicts, can never count as true progress.”

#### **Hall cooker / oven....**

Those who use the hall kitchen need to be aware that the cooker is currently not in use. Although it is new and is now in perfect working order, there are health & safety issues that need to be rectified. It needs a hood / extractor and the adjacent cupboard is deemed to be too close. Its use has been forbidden until we have complied with current regulations for the surroundings of a commercial cooker. This could take a couple of months.

**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.**

#### **200 Club – January 2024 Draw Winner**

The January draw for the 200 Club took place last Sunday. The winning number was No.13, and the winner is Sarah Martin-Loat, she 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)

#### **WEST CROYDON REFUGEE CENTRE.**

Croydon Refugee Centre are always grateful for our donations. Current needs: Toothpaste, toothbrushes, shampoo, bin bags, washing up liquid, Dinner plates and bowls..New underwear and socks for men, women and children particularly girls' socks, trainers. All winter clothes, outer wear, winter shoes & boots.

#### **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.

### **Annual Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, 18th—25th January.**

**The annual Assembly of Churches Together in Coulsdon will take place next Saturday – 20th January, at Old Coulsdon Congregational Church, Coulsdon Road, CR5 1EH, starting at 10am with coffee. Worship service is at 10.30am and the Annual General Meeting at around 11.00am. As usual, this meeting is open to all members of the Churches of Coulsdon and Old Coulsdon.**

In Coulsdon and Old Coulsdon we are blessed with very good relationships between our Christian Churches. We have a Covenant of pastoral cooperation and prayer. There are regular meetings of clergy as well as the enabling group which is made up of members from all our Christian communities. The 'Floating Shelter' serving the homeless has been a big factor in bringing us together over the years. Although the pandemic brought a halt to that we now have the 'sandwich run' in November and December. Thank you to everyone who helped with that in 2023.

The annual service of prayer on Saturday is an excellent opportunity to celebrate our common discipleship in Christ. Please make every effort to come to coffee at 10am followed by a short service at 10.30am. People are free to leave or stay for the AGM which will begin at around 11am.

Prayer suitable for Peace Sunday and the week of prayer for Christian unity.

**Lord, make me an instrument of your peace: where there is hatred, let me sow love; where there is injury, pardon; where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light; where there is sadness, joy.**

**Our Father ....**

### **Thanks from the Manna Society**

Many thanks for St Aidan's **£845.54** donation to the Manna Society. The additional 25% gained from your Gift-Aid is very much-welcomed too. Your donation and ongoing support is greatly appreciated and essential to the continuation of the services we offer here to some of the most disadvantaged people in our society.

All of our service users are low-income individuals. Most are in receipt of Social Security benefits, but some have no income whatsoever. We ensure that all of our service-users receive a hot nutritious meal and have access to washing facilities, health care, clothing, housing & welfare advice and to the internet. On an average day we see about 120 people.

We offer a place of warmth and security where all of our service-users can access all of the services mentioned above. For some it will be the only hot meal they will have in the day. The showers & washing facilities perk people up after a night on the street, hopefully encouraging them to persevere. A change of clothing (especially clean underwear & socks which every user of our clothing store receives automatically) also helps people feel better about themselves. The medical personnel (Nurse Practitioners, Mental Health Workers & Podiatrist) help address any medical issues our service-users are facing.

Our Advice Service help in a number of ways. They are often the first step in helping people move from living on the street and into accommodation. This often involves helping the client obtain the necessary identification and benefits needed to access accommodation. For those in accommodation help is given to ensure that they maintain their tenancies i.e. help to ensure that they are in receipt of Housing Benefit and that they receive all of the benefits they are entitled to. We also help with debt management (rent arrears, energy arrears etc). In November, we carried out 248 advice tasks (e.g. providing benefits advice, finding accommodation, sorting out ID etc) for 93 clients. More information on how our advice service helped our clients can be found at <https://www.mannasociety.org.uk/2020/04/13/telephone-helpline-weekly-reports/> We are only able to continue to provide these services thanks to your support.

Best wishes. **Paddy Boyle.** Manna Society Administrator

**OUR OFFERTORY INCOME** Cash £557, Standing Orders £540, Card reader: £117

**Total income:** £1,214 of which £597 was gift-aided

**Second Collection: Catholic Children Society £492**

**Thank you.**

## Today's readings.

### First Reading 1 SAMUEL 3:3-10,19

Samuel was lying in the sanctuary of the Lord, where the ark of God was, when the Lord called, 'Samuel! Samuel!' He answered, 'Here I am.' Then he ran to Eli and said, 'Here I am, since you called me.' Eli said, 'I did not call. Go back and lie down.' So he went and lay down. Once again the Lord called, 'Samuel! Samuel!' Samuel got up and went to Eli and said, 'Here I am, since you called me.' He replied, 'I did not call you, my son; go back and lie down.' Samuel had as yet no knowledge of the Lord and the word of the Lord had not yet been revealed to him. Once again the Lord called, the third time. He got up and went to Eli and said, 'Here I am, since you called me.' Eli then understood that it was the Lord who was calling the boy, and he said to Samuel, 'Go and lie down, and if someone calls say, "Speak, Lord, your servant is listening."' So Samuel went and lay down in his place. The Lord then came and stood by, calling as he had done before, 'Samuel! Samuel!' Samuel answered, 'Speak, Lord, your servant is listening.' Samuel grew up and the Lord was with him and let no word of his fall to the ground.

### PSALM 39(40):2,4,7-10

*Here I am, Lord! I come to do your will.*

I waited, I waited for the Lord  
and he stooped down to me;  
he heard my cry.  
He put a new song into my mouth,  
praise of our God.

You do not ask for sacrifice and offerings,  
but an open ear.  
You do not ask for holocaust and victim.  
Instead, here am I.

In the scroll of the book it stands written  
that I should do your will.  
My God, I delight in your law  
in the depth of my heart.

Your justice I have proclaimed  
in the great assembly.  
My lips I have not sealed;  
you know it, O Lord.

### 1 CORINTHIANS 6:13-15,17-20

The body is not meant for fornication: it is for the Lord, and the Lord for the body. God, who raised the Lord from the dead, will by his power raise us up too. You know, surely, that your bodies are members making up the body of Christ; do you think I can take parts of Christ's body and join them to the body of a prostitute? Never! But anyone who is joined to the Lord is one spirit with him. Keep away from fornication. All the other sins are committed outside the body; but to fornicate is to sin against your own body. Your body, you know, is the temple of the Holy Spirit, who is in you since you received him from God. You are not your own property; you have been bought and paid for. That is why you should use your body for the glory of God.

### Gospel JOHN 1:35-42

As John stood with two of his disciples, Jesus passed, and John stared hard at him and said, 'Look, there is the lamb of God.' Hearing this, the two disciples followed Jesus. Jesus turned round, saw them following and said, 'What do you want?' They answered, 'Rabbi,' – which means Teacher – 'where do you live?' 'Come and see' he replied; so they went and saw where he lived, and stayed with him the rest of that day. It was about the tenth hour. One of these two who became followers of Jesus after hearing what John had said was Andrew, the brother of Simon Peter. Early next morning, Andrew met his brother and said to him, 'We have found the Messiah' – which means the Christ – and he took Simon to Jesus. Jesus looked hard at him and said, 'You are Simon son of John; you are to be called Cephas' – meaning Rock.