

# NEWSLETTER

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



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**St Aidan's School:** 01737 556036

**Year B**

**3rd Sunday of Ordinary Time**

**21st January 2024**

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

**Saturday Vigil 6pm** Welfare of Yvonne Lodrick - 90th birthday

**Sunday 9am** Fred and Jim Du Casse RIP

**Sunday 11am** People of the parish

**Monday 10am** John and Margurite Dearlove RIP

**Tuesday** No Mass

**Wednesday 6.30pm** Welfare of Kevin Leavey

*St Francis de Sales*

**Thursday 10am**

**THE CONVERSION OF ST PAUL THE APOSTLE**

**Friday 10am** Welfare of Mrs Sue Murrell **Exposition until 11am**

*Saints Timothy and Titus*

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

**Sunday 9am** David McCleave RIP

**Sunday 11am** Margaret Emberton RIP

**Life breakfast after 9am Mass.**

**Bar open after 11am Mass.**

### **NEXT WEEKEND 2nd collections:**

#### **Racial Justice Collection**

Collection to support the work of the Catholic Church to promote racial justice in our schools, parishes and in wider society.

#### **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.

### **Prayer for Christian unity week.**

Lord Jesus,  
who prayed that all might be one,  
we pray to you  
for the unity of all Christians,  
according to your will,  
according to your means.  
May your Spirit enable us  
to acknowledge the suffering  
caused by division.  
May we heed the call to prayer,  
cooperation and reconciliation,  
as we place all our hope in you.  
Amen.

*PCU resources*

**This is Christian Unity Week. 18 - 25 January.**

**Symbolic gestures matter, especially in the area of ecumenism. Here is some welcome news of forthcoming events in Rome and Canterbury in the coming days.**

The Pope and the Archbishop of Canterbury will commission a group of Catholic and Anglican bishops to go out in pairs, to be witnesses to Christian unity.

Catholic and Anglican bishops will hold an ecumenical summit in Rome and Canterbury for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. More than 50 bishops are set to participate over 22-29 January, arriving in pairs representing each denomination in 27 countries.

On 25 January, Pope Francis and the Archbishop of Canterbury Justin Welby will commission the bishops at the tomb of St Paul, in the Basilica of St Paul Outside the Walls south of the centre of Rome. They will be sent out “in pairs, to be witnesses to Christian unity”, according to a statement from the Anglican Communion.

The service will recall Christ’s commission of the Apostles, when he gathered the Twelve “to send them out two by two, and gave them authority over unclean spirits” (Mark 6:7), and the other disciples he “sent on ahead of him in pairs to every town and place where he himself intended to go” (Luke 10:1). “This will be a significant moment, symbolic for Anglican-Catholic bonds and advancing ecumenical dialogue,” the Anglican Communion statement said.

The summit, “Growing Together”, has been organised by the International Anglican-Roman Catholic Commission for Unity and Mission (IARCCUM), “to discuss ways of growing together in joint witness and mission in the world”. The programme of discussions in Rome includes visits to holy sites, with an Anglican service of choral evensong in St Peter’s and a visit to the Church of San Gregorio al Celio, from which Pope Gregory the Great sent St Augustine of Canterbury to England in 597.

The 2024 summit will move to Canterbury on 26-29 January, Cardinal Stephen Chow SJ, the Bishop of Hong Kong, will preach at the Sunday choral service in Canterbury Cathedral.

**Today we celebrate the Sunday of the Word of God,**

a pastoral initiative desired by Pope Francis in 2019. It is a Sunday “to be devoted to the celebration, study and dissemination of the Word of God” (Aperuit Illis, 3). Let us open our minds and hearts to welcome this Word, «Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path» (cf. Ps 119,105).

The book of the Gospels, containing the Word of God, is solemnly carried and placed on the altar. It is a symbolic gesture in which we not only raise the Holy Scripture in the midst of our praying community, but it also expresses our willingness to put it first in our lives. Thus, the Word of God becomes the beacon of our lives that illuminates our decisions and inspires our actions according to God's will.

Ministers of the Word, our parish readers, will be asked to stand and receive a blessing on their ministry, after the homily. It serves as a renewal of their commitment to their ministry.

**There are some excellent resources on the Bishops’ website including a seven part course on various sections of the bible. Click the link:**  
<https://www.cbcew.org.uk/sunday-of-the-word-of-god/>

**Or search for [cbcew.org.uk](https://www.cbcew.org.uk)**

### **Altar Servers**

A follow up training session for new and current Altar Servers will take place on Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> January 2024 at 12.15pm. Please could all servers who registered and attended the last session please attend. Please contact P J O’Donnell with any questions at [peterodonnell83@gmail.com](mailto:peterodonnell83@gmail.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.

### **AGM of St Aidan's Social Club and Bar.**

Sunday 11th February at 12.30pm  
in hall (Marian room).

This is for all members of the Club.

We will need to formally elect the new committee and officers.

Members who have items they would like discussed should email the parish office.  
[couldson@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:couldson@rcaos.org.uk)

**Taskforce** is taking place next  
Saturday 27 January 10am - 12 noon  
Please come to do some jobs around the church and grounds. Many thanks.

### **OUR OFFERTORY INCOME**

Cash £570, Standing Orders £540,  
Card reader: £121

**Total income:** £1,231 of which £627 was gift-aided

**Thank you.**

Please consider making a standing order for your offertory contributions. Contact our treasurer Martin Puckett to get the details.  
[couldsontreasurer@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:couldsontreasurer@rcaos.org.uk)

### **DIOCESAN NOTICES.**

**Archdiocese of Southwark website.**  
[rcsouthwark.co.uk](http://rcsouthwark.co.uk)

### **CATHOLIC MEDICAL ETHICS ONLINE LECTURE SERIES**

For current university students of the healthcare professions interested in the Church's response to difficult ethical questions. Please visit the Events page of the Archdiocese of Southwark's website for more information or to sign up.

### **SOUTHWARK SPIRITUALITY FORUM ZOOM MEETINGS**

The aim of the Forum is to create a space where those who share a passion for fostering prayer and spiritual growth can meet and explore ways of supporting one another. The first Zoom meeting is on Tuesday 6th February. Please visit the Events page of the Archdiocesan website.

### **Dealing with Divorce.**

People suffering from relationship breakdown are the focus of Restored Lives which runs non-denominational online and face-to-face courses to help adults and their children deal with trauma of separation and divorce. Their next online course starts on Monday 22nd January, for details please visit: <https://www.restoredlives.org>

**The funerals of two much loved parishioners will be taking place at St Aidan's later in January.**

**Rhona Devine RIP.** Sadly, one of her daughters, Hilary who lived in Australia, died last April. Hilary's ashes will be in the coffin with her mother. Requiem Mass will be on Monday 29th January at 12 noon.

**Pricilla Fernandez RIP.** A great neighbour, she has lived next door to the parish house for the past forty years. Requiem Mass on Wednesday 31st January at 12 noon. Pricilla's son, Fr Alexander OSB (Worth Abbey) will be the principal celebrant at the Mass.

Parishioners are welcome to these Masses. There will be no other parish Mass on those days.

***"Indeed for your faithful, Lord, life is changed not ended,  
and, when this earthly dwelling turns to dust, an eternal dwelling is made ready for them in heaven."***

*From preface I of the Requiem Mass.*

**Holocaust Memorial Day** is marked on 27 January each year - Saturday - and is a time to remember the millions of people murdered during the Holocaust, under Nazi persecution and in the genocides which followed. is marked on 27 January each year and is a time to remember the

### Today's readings.

#### First Reading

#### JONAH 3:1-5,10

The word of the Lord was addressed to Jonah: 'Up!' he said 'Go to Nineveh, the great city, and preach to them as I told you to.' Jonah set out and went to Nineveh in obedience to the word of the Lord. Now Nineveh was a city great beyond compare: it took three days to cross it. Jonah went on into the city, making a day's journey. He preached in these words, 'Only forty days more and Nineveh is going to be destroyed.' And the people of Nineveh believed in God; they proclaimed a fast and put on sackcloth, from the greatest to the least. God saw their efforts to renounce their evil behaviour, and God relented: he did not inflict on them the disaster which he had threatened.

#### PSALM 24(25):4-6,7B-9

*Lord, make me know your ways.*

Lord, make me know your ways.

Lord, teach me your paths.

Make me walk in your truth, and teach me:  
for you are God my saviour.

Remember your mercy, Lord,  
and the love you have shown from of old.  
In your love remember me,  
because of your goodness, O Lord.

The Lord is good and upright.  
He shows the path to those who stray,  
He guides the humble in the right path,  
He teaches his way to the poor.

#### Second Reading

#### 1 CORINTHIANS 7:29-31

Brothers: our time is growing short. Those who have wives should live as though they had none, and those who mourn should live as though they had nothing to mourn for; those who are enjoying life should live as though there were nothing to laugh about; those whose life is buying things should live as though they had nothing of their own; and those who have to deal with the world should not become engrossed in it. I say this because the world as we know it is passing away.

#### Gospel

#### MARK 1:14-20

After John had been arrested, Jesus went into Galilee. There he proclaimed the Good News from God. 'The time has come' he said 'and the kingdom of God is close at hand. Repent, and believe the Good News.' As he was walking along by the Sea of Galilee he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net in the lake – for they were fishermen. And Jesus said to them, 'Follow me and I will make you into fishers of men.' And at once they left their nets and followed him. Going on a little further, he saw James son of Zebedee and his brother John; they too were in their boat, mending their nets. He called them at once and, leaving their father Zebedee in the boat with the men he employed, they went after him.