

# 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  
**Tel:** 020 8660 2452      **Email:** [coulsdon@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:coulsdon@rcaos.org.uk)  
**Parish Website:** [www.st-aidans-parish.org.uk](http://www.st-aidans-parish.org.uk)  
**Support in times of loss:** [listeningtoyou.staidans@gmail.com](mailto:listeningtoyou.staidans@gmail.com)  
**Safeguarding:** Bridget Hanlon [coulsdonsg1@safeguardrcaos.org.uk](mailto:coulsdonsg1@safeguardrcaos.org.uk)  
                         Alexandra Collins [coulsdonsg3@safeguardrcaos.org.uk](mailto:coulsdonsg3@safeguardrcaos.org.uk)  
**Church Hall enquiries:** [staidanshallbookings@gmail.com](mailto:staidanshallbookings@gmail.com)  
**Property maintenance, report issues:** [staidanspremisesteam@gmail.co.uk](mailto:staidanspremisesteam@gmail.co.uk)  
**St Aidan's School:** 01737 556036

**Year B**

**5th Sunday of Ordinary Time**

**4th February 2024**

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

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

**Sunday 9am** Sylvester Anthony D'Souza RIP

**Sunday 11am** Welfare of Rosemary and Patrick McDonough

**Monday 10am** Mrs Christine Watts RIP

**Tuesday** No Mass

**Wednesday 6.30pm**

**Thursday 10am** Eddie Moniz RIP.

**Friday 10am** Peter 'PJ' Smith RIP      **Exposition until 11am**

**Saturday Vigil 6pm** Joseph Brusadelli RIP

**Sunday 9am** Maurice O'Leary RIP

**Sunday 11am** Welfare of Paul Hubbard-Brown

**Life breakfast after 9am Mass.**

**Bar open after 11am Mass.**

*St Agatha*

*Saints Paul Miki and Companions*

### **St Blaise - blessing.**

There is a tradition of blessing throats on the feast of St Blaise (martyr) on 3 Feb. As it fell on a Saturday this year we will transfer it to Monday 5 Feb. with a votive Mass of St Blaise followed by the blessing of throats for healing and protection from illnesses.

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

Bridget Haran, Eileen 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, 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.

### **Jack Darville RIP.**

Our prayers and condolences go to Eileen Darville and her family on the death of her husband Jack. They have been much loved members of this parish for decades.

**May he rest in peace and rise in glory.**

### **Parish Pastoral Council meet and greet.**

PPC members will visit the Social Club after the 11am mass this Sunday.

It is a good opportunity to learn more about what they do, ask questions or raise concerns.

### **St Aidan's Listening Group**

The St Aidan's listening group will be meeting at 10:30am in the Marian room on Friday 9th February. This group is open to anyone who has experienced loss.

Please email [listeningtoyou.staidans@gmail.com](mailto:listeningtoyou.staidans@gmail.com) or phone the parish office 020 8660 2452 should you wish to learn more.

### **Junior Bake Off Channel 4.**

They are looking for children aged 9-11 who are enthusiastic bakers to take part in the new series! If your child is interested then they need to apply on the website [www.applyforjuniorbakeoff.co.uk](http://www.applyforjuniorbakeoff.co.uk).

Applications close Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> March 2024. All enquiries email [applyforjuniorbakeoff@loveproductions.co.uk](mailto:applyforjuniorbakeoff@loveproductions.co.uk)

### **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.

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

### **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: Cartons of Whole Longlife Milk (for clients' children), small bags of sugar (500g), jars of meat and fish paste, tinned meat meals - especially chicken and beef, packet soup, jars of honey, small boxes/packs of tea bags (80 or 120), packet custard requiring only water, tinned rice pudding, tin openers, shampoo and toilet rolls.

### **Transport for elderly people.**

There are a few elderly people in the parish who could come to Mass (usually 6pm or 11am), afternoon tea (1st Fridays 3pm) and the listening session (2nd Friday 10.30am) if they had a lift by car. We would provide a DBS check for drivers volunteering on behalf of the parish.

Helping out this way would be as and when you are able to.

Please let us know by speaking to Fr Peter or emailing the parish office: [couldsdon@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:couldsdon@rcaos.org.uk)

**FLOATING SHELTER:** The end-of-year review of our activities for supporting the homeless is on the notice board at the back of church and on the parish website.

### **SVP MEETING**

The next meeting of the parish SVP group will take place on the evening of Monday 5th February 2024 at 8:15pm in the Marian Room.

### **VOCATIONS WEEKEND FOR WOMEN**

Vocations weekend for women (20s & 30s) Theme: Discerning God's Call in your life, 16th-18th February in Liverpool: Jesus invites each of us to 'Come and See', the weekend is organised by the Sisters, Faithful Companions of Jesus (FCJ) and will give the opportunity to explore the vocation to religious life and to reflect on God's call to you. If you are wondering if God is calling you to religious life and would like to find out more why not come along? You are welcome to stay for the weekend or just come along on Saturday for the day. There will be opportunity for prayer, reflection and input, chance to ask questions and to meet others who are also wondering where God is calling them.

Please contact Sr Lynne fcJ at [fcjvocationeurope@gmail.com](mailto:fcjvocationeurope@gmail.com) or visit [www.fcjsisters.org](http://www.fcjsisters.org)

### **ADVANCE NOTICE: ASH WEDNESDAY.**

Lent this year begins on Wednesday 14th February. Masses with the Imposition of ashes will be at 10:00am and 7.30pm. Please put the date in your diary now as a reminder.

## READINGS.

**Fifth Sunday of Ordinary Time, Year B,  
4th February 2024**

*'He heals the broken hearted,  
he binds up all their wounds.'*

This Sunday, the readings invite us to look more deeply into the experience of human suffering. It is only through Christ that our pain and despair can and will be transformed. Just like the suffering people in today's Gospel, we all long for Christ. It is through prayer that our yearning will be fulfilled.

Job (**First Reading**) expresses total despair at the great losses that he has experienced; he seems overwhelmed by the frailty of life. The suffering in our world today perhaps makes it easy to relate to his sentiments.

The **Psalms**, however, is like an antidote to the howls of loss that Job exclaims. It speaks of healing for broken hearts and minds; of wounds being

bound and tended by our loving God, whose wisdom extends across a universe that he knows and loves intimately.

In the **Second Reading**, Paul writes of how his own experience of Christ and the Gospel impels him to share the Good News with others. He feels that he is like a slave to the Gospel, and is happy to accept this role.

Today's **Gospel** portrays the early days of Jesus's healing ministry in Galilee. After praying with the community in the synagogue, Jesus responds with compassion to all the sick and suffering people who are brought to him. He begins his days in prayerful solitude and is drawn by a desire to bring his Good News to as many people as possible.

Let us pray for the grace to respond with wisdom and compassion to the suffering and needs of our time. May we centre our lives in prayer and by the grace of God be determined like St Paul to bring the Good News to our broken and hurting world.

**Archdiocese of Southwark.**      <https://www.rcsouthwark.co.uk/>

**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.

**NET MINISTRIES: RETREAT FOR YOUNG PEOPLE** Saturday 17th February, for those aged 13- 17, at St George's Cathedral Primary School. Visit the Events page of the Archdiocesan website: [www.rcsouthwark.co.uk](http://www.rcsouthwark.co.uk). Our St Aidan's confirmation group will be attending. Thank you to Penne and Anthony, the catechists who are taking them.

**NATIONAL MARRIAGE WEEK** The national event runs from 7th-14th February. For a rich resource of information, prayers and events please visit the Bishops' Conference website: <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/marriage-week-2024/>

## HOSPITAL CHAPLAINCY CONTACTS.

If you or a member of your family are admitted to one of the local hospitals, do please let the hospital's Catholic chaplain know.

You should ask the ward staff to contact the Catholic chaplain. You can also phone chaplains directly, - see contacts.

Data protection laws prohibit hospital staff from taking the initiative of letting a chaplain know your religion. The request to ward staff **MUST** come explicitly from the patient, family member or a friend. This is the law for data protection.

### **Croydon University Hospital:**

Sr Sheila with support of local clergy and laity.  
The chaplaincy 020 8401 3105 .

### **St Helier and Epsom Hospitals:**

Fr Philip Pak 020 8296 2000

**East Surrey Hospital:** Fr Alban Aguezeala  
01293 431703 Horley parish.

**St George's Hospital:** Fr Peter Littleton  
020 8725 3069 or 020 8672 1255

There is always a priest on call for emergencies. Best to ask the ward staff because the hospital switchboard will have an emergency contact number for the duty priest. Your local parish will not have that number as it changes depending on the duty priest.

### OUR OFFERTORY INCOME

Cash £602, Standing Orders £540,  
Card reader: £150

#### Total income:

£1,292 of which £663 was gift-aided

### 2nd Collection: Racial Justice £343

Thank you.

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

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

### Right to Life UK

*Parliamentary pro-life group.*

#### PRAYER

We pray for all women going through unexpected pregnancies, that they would experience peace and support in their situations, and experience the many blessings that motherhood brings. Lord hear us.

### Today's readings.

#### First Reading

#### JOB 7:1-4,6-7

Job began to speak: Is not man's life on earth nothing more than pressed service, his time no better than hired drudgery? Like the slave, sighing for the shade, or the workman with no thought but his wages, months of delusion I have assigned to me, nothing for my own but nights of grief. Lying in bed I wonder, 'When will it be day?' Risen I think, 'How slowly evening comes!' Restlessly I fret till twilight falls. Swifter than a weaver's shuttle my days have passed, and vanished, leaving no hope behind. Remember that my life is but a breath, and that my eyes will never again see joy.

#### PSALM 146(147):1-6

*Praise the Lord who heals the broken-hearted.*

Praise the Lord for he is good; sing to our God for he is loving: to him our praise is due.

The Lord builds up Jerusalem and brings back Israel's exiles, he heals the broken-hearted, he binds up all their wounds. He fixes the number of the stars; he calls each one by its name.

Our Lord is great and almighty; his wisdom can never be measured. The Lord raises the lowly; he humbles the wicked to the dust.

### Second Reading

#### CORINTHIANS 9:16-19,22-23

I do not boast of preaching the gospel, since it is a duty which has been laid on me; I should be punished if I did not preach it! If I had chosen this work myself, I might have been paid for it, but as I have not, it is a responsibility which has been put into my hands. Do you know what my reward is? It is this: in my preaching, to be able to offer the Good News free, and not insist on the rights which the gospel gives me. So though I am not a slave of any man I have made myself the slave of everyone so as to win as many as I could. For the weak I made myself weak: I made myself all things to all men in order to save some at any cost; and I still do this, for the sake of the gospel, to have a share in its blessings.

#### Gospel

#### MARK 1:29-39

On leaving the synagogue, Jesus went with James and John straight to the house of Simon and Andrew. Now Simon's mother-in-law had gone to bed with fever, and they told him about her straightaway. He went to her, took her by the hand and helped her up. And the fever left her and she began to wait on them. That evening, after sunset, they brought to him all who were sick and those who were possessed by devils. The whole town came crowding round the door, and he cured many who were suffering from diseases of one kind or another; he also cast out many devils, but he would not allow them to speak, because they knew who he was. In the morning, long before dawn, he got up and left the house, and went off to a lonely place and prayed there. Simon and his companions set out in search of him, and when they found him they said, 'Everybody is looking for you.' He answered, 'Let us go elsewhere, to the neighbouring country towns, so that I can preach there too, because that is why I came.' And he went all through Galilee, preaching in their synagogues and casting out devils.