

# 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**

**Third Sunday of Lent**

**3rd March 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** Antenor, Maria and Norma Gomes RIP

**Monday 10am** Priscilla Fernandez RIP

**Tuesday** No Mass

**Wednesday 6.30pm** Philomena Sullivan RIP

**Thursday 10am** Trevor Estelita RIP 12 noon **FUNERAL SERVICE** for Nigel Elliott.

**Friday 10am** Jack Darville RIP **Exposition until 11am.**

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

**Sunday 9am** Lydia Moniz RIP **Sunday 11am** Priscilla Fernandez RIP

**Life breakfast after 9am Mass.**

**Bar open after 11am Mass.**

**Stations of the cross during Lent  
will be in church at 4pm on  
Sundays.**

### **Sacrament of Reconciliation - Confessions.**

After Mass on Saturday evening.  
Monday 4 March - after 10am Mass,

**Could the person who asked for a Mass intention  
for Anthony O'Harlihy please contact Fr Peter.**

### **SVP MEETING**

The next meeting of the parish SVP group will take place on the evening of Monday 4th March 2024 at 8:15pm in the Marian Room.

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

Truda Hobbs, Terry Doman. Bridget Haran, Eileen Darville, Barbara Wood, Ewan Keppie, Kevin Leavey, Anne Walker, Caroline Garvey, Pat Kelly, 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.

**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 St Aidans listening group** will be meeting at 10:30am in the Marian room on Friday 8th March. 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.

### **St Aidan's meal train**

We are setting up a "meal train" service in the parish, where parishioners will have the opportunity to sign up to bring a meal to someone going through a difficult time or needing a short-term helping hand.

**If you would like to request a meal train** because you are struggling for any reason, are grieving a loved one, are about to have treatment or surgery, or have just welcomed a new baby, please email Katie Stockermans ([katharine.stockermans@gmail.com](mailto:katharine.stockermans@gmail.com)) or speak to Fr Peter. Katie will discuss some details and timings with you and take it from there.

**If you are interested in offering to cook a meal,** keep an eye out for a newsletter notice about an active meal train: a MealTrain.com link will allow you to put your name on a calendar to commit to cooking on a certain date and will tell you all the details you need for delivering the meal.

### **Vacancy for a Higher Level Teaching Assistant at Laleham Lea**

Laleham Lea, a Catholic Independent School in Purley, is looking for a Higher Level Teaching Assistant (HLTA) to start as soon as possible. For more information and application forms please visit our school website - [www.lalehamlea.co.uk](http://www.lalehamlea.co.uk) or call 0208 660 3351.

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

Croydon Refugee Centre are always grateful for our donations. Current needs: Soap, shampoo, conditioner, washing up liquid, washing pods, toilet rolls, boy's socks (new) especially aged 4 to 10, men's new underwear (boxers) - especially size medium, rucksacks, luggage (needed for those having to move at very short notice) and shopping trolleys.

### **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: Small Jars of Coffee • Small Bags of Sugar (500g) • Tinned Meat such as Beef, Chicken, Ham • Jars of Jam • Tinned Tomatoes • Packet Custard requiring only water • Tinned Rice Pudding • Tin Openers • Unisex Deodorant • J Cloths & Kitchen Sponge scourers

### **WOULD YOU LIKE TO BE A YOUTH MINISTRY LEADER IN THE LAKE DISTRICT?**

Castlerigg Manor (Diocese of Lancaster Retreat Centre) are looking for a Programme Leader to join their youth ministry team. The work involves working on retreats in the heart of the Lake District, and occasionally working on outreach visits around the area. The post is residential and comes with a salary package in the range of £26-28k, made up of paid salary, accommodation, food etc. Would suit somebody with youth ministry experience perhaps recently graduated. Interested – [jack@castleriggmanor.co.uk](mailto:jack@castleriggmanor.co.uk)

### **Ask your MP to support the abortion time limit reduction amendment.**

Support an amendment to reduce our abortion time limit from 24 weeks to 22 weeks. Research indicates that a significant number of babies born at 22 or 23 weeks can now survive outside the womb, leaving a contradiction in our abortion law. Take action: Collect a postcard today from the back of the church and post it to your MP urgently in support of this amendment!

**YOUNG ADULT EVENTS** St George's Cathedral hosts a monthly Young Adult Mass at 6.00pm on the first Sunday (3rd March) of every month, followed by a social gathering (for those aged 18+). Details can be found on the RCAOS website, Facebook, and Instagram @stgeorgesya.

**CATHOLIC ASSOCIATION PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES** Incorporating the Southwark Archdiocese, 23rd-30th August. Register your interest at [www.catholicassociation.co.uk](http://www.catholicassociation.co.uk) or [chiefs@catholicassociation.co.uk](mailto:chiefs@catholicassociation.co.uk). Find out more from experienced pilgrims on Zoom ([www.catholicassociation.co.uk/askanything](http://www.catholicassociation.co.uk/askanything)) at 11.00am on 16th March. All are welcome.

**CATHOLIC HISTORY WALKS** Historian Joanna Bogle is hosting a Catholic history walk on Tuesday 12th March: to join meet at 6.00pm at the Church of the Most Precious Blood, London SE1 1TE. Nearest tube: London Bridge; walk across Tower Bridge, discover the story of the Tower of London, and finish at the birthplace of St John Henry Newman. No need to book, [www.catholichistorywalks.com](http://www.catholichistorywalks.com).

**OUR OFFERTORY INCOME .** Cash £664, Standing Orders £540, Card reader: £116

**Total income:** £1,320 of which £753 was gift-aided

**Second Collection: CAFOD £752**

**Thank you.**

Easter cards are available in the church shop @ £1 each.

St Patrick's Day cards available @ £1

## St Aidan's Social Club

17<sup>th</sup> March

St Patricks Day Celebration.

An invitation to all parishioners.



12pm to 4pm

Craic, Ceol agus Cairde!

*Fun, Music & Friendship!*

No charge on the door,  
just bring a plate of food to share.

Cash bar

Charity Raffle

Games and treats for the children,  
dress up not essential but encouraged !

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### FOR THE BEREAVED

*Grief In Loss: Hope In Christ I*

is a weekend for those who have been bereaved. This weekend, from March 22-24, will take place away from the pressures of day-to-day life and can help one begin to come to terms with bereavement. It is a time for quiet, prayer, talking and acceptance. The residential cost is £230 for a single, £210 for a shared room. Due to the special nature of this weekend retreat, held at Aylesford Priory in Kent, places are ordinarily limited and subject to a telephone call to

**Last week there was a parish mission at St Chad's parish South Norwood.** It was led by Fr Pablo and Sr Briege McKenna. All the services are available on their parish website. The talks are well worth listening to. Generally Sr Briege speaks at the end of Masses or afterwards. Usually Fr Pablo speaks at the homily time. YouTube channel: **St Chads South Norwood**

**Social Club** - members' annual subscriptions are due this month. Adults £5. See Dave Murray.

### ***Some brief extracts from the message of Pope Francis for this Lent 2024.***

Lent is a time to act, *to act also means to pause*. To pause *in prayer*, in order to receive the word of God, to pause like the Samaritan *in the presence of a wounded brother or sister*. Love of God and love of neighbour are one love. Not to have other gods is to pause in the presence of God beside the flesh of our neighbour. For this reason, prayer, almsgiving and fasting are not three unrelated acts, but a single movement of openness and self-emptying, in which we cast out the idols that weigh us down, the attachments that imprison us. Then the atrophied and isolated heart will revive. Slow down, then, and pause! The contemplative dimension of life that Lent helps us to rediscover will release new energies. In the presence of God, we become brothers and sisters, more sensitive to one another: in place of threats and enemies, we discover companions and fellow travellers. This is God's dream, the promised land to which we journey once we have left our slavery behind.

To the extent that this Lent becomes a time of conversion, an anxious humanity will notice a burst of creativity, a flash of new hope. Allow me to repeat what I told the young people whom I met in Lisbon last summer: "Keep seeking and be ready to take risks. At this moment in time, we face enormous risks; we hear the painful plea of so many people. Indeed, we are experiencing a third world war fought piecemeal. Yet let us find the courage to see our world, not as being in its death throes but in a process of giving birth, not at the end but at the beginning of a great new chapter of history. We need courage to think like this". Such is the courage of conversion.

I bless all of you and your Lenten journey.

*Franciscus*



**Right to Life UK**

*Parliamentary pro-life group.*

**PRAYER**

Let us pray for new parents and grandparents, that they may manifest the love and mercy of God to their children and grandchildren. Lord hear us.

**POPE FRANCIS' MONTHLY PRAYER INTENTION.**

Each month, Pope Francis asks Catholics around the world to pray for a specific intention. During the month of March we are encouraged to pray for the martyrs of our day, witnesses to Christ, **that 'those who risk their lives for the Gospel in various parts of the world inflame the Church with their courage and missionary enthusiasm'.**

**Today's readings.**

**First Reading**

**EXODUS 20:1-17**

**Second Reading 1 CORINTHIANS 1:22-25**

God spoke all these words. He said, 'I am the Lord your God who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery.

'You shall have no gods except me.

'You shall not utter the name of the Lord your God to misuse it, for the Lord will not leave unpunished the man who utters his name to misuse it.

'Remember the sabbath day and keep it holy

'Honour your father and your mother so that you may have a long life in the land that the Lord your God has given to you.

'You shall not kill.

'You shall not commit adultery.

'You shall not steal.

'You shall not bear false witness against your neighbour.

'You shall not covet your neighbour's house.

You shall not covet your neighbour's wife, or his servant, man or woman, or his ox, or his donkey, or anything that is his.'

**Responsorial Psalm**

**PSALM 18(19):8-11**

*You, Lord, have the message of eternal life.*

The law of the Lord is perfect,  
it revives the soul.

The rule of the Lord is to be trusted,  
it gives wisdom to the simple.

The precepts of the Lord are right,  
they gladden the heart.

The command of the Lord is clear,  
it gives light to the eyes.

The fear of the Lord is holy,  
abiding for ever.

The decrees of the Lord are truth  
and all of them just.

They are more to be desired than gold,  
than the purest of gold  
and sweeter are they than honey,  
than honey from the comb.

While the Jews demand miracles and the Greeks look for wisdom, here are we preaching a crucified Christ; to the Jews an obstacle that they cannot get over, to the pagans madness, but to those who have been called, whether they are Jews or Greeks, a Christ who is the power and the wisdom of God. For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

**Gospel**

**JOHN 2:13-25**

Just before the Jewish Passover Jesus went up to Jerusalem, and in the Temple he found people selling cattle and sheep and pigeons, and the money-changers sitting at their counters there. Making a whip out of some cord, he drove them all out of the Temple, cattle and sheep as well, scattered the money-changers' coins, knocked their tables over and said to the pigeon-sellers, 'Take all this out of here and stop turning my Father's house into a market.' Then his disciples remembered the words of scripture: Zeal for your house will devour me. The Jews intervened and said, 'What sign can you show us to justify what you have done?' Jesus answered, 'Destroy this sanctuary, and in three days I will raise it up.' The Jews replied, 'It has taken forty-six years to build this sanctuary: are you going to raise it up in three days?' But he was speaking of the sanctuary that was his body, and when Jesus rose from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this, and they believed the scripture and the words he had said.

During his stay in Jerusalem for the Passover many believed in his name when they saw the signs that he gave, but Jesus knew them all and did not trust himself to them; he never needed evidence about any man; he could tell what a man had in him.