

# 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)

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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**

**6th Sunday of Easter**

**5th May 2024**

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

**Saturday Vigil 6pm** Martin Rodrigues RIP

**Sunday 9am** Hannah Cook

**Sunday 11am** People of the parish

**Monday 10am** Zia Gomes RIP

**Tuesday** NO MASS

**Wednesday 7.30pm** Welfare of David Manning

**ASCENSION VIGIL**

**Thursday 10am** People of the parish

**ASCENSION OF THE LORD**

**Friday 10am** Mario Menezes RIP Exposition until 11am. 6.30pm Rosary and benediction for May

**Saturday Vigil 6pm** Soledad Aldana RIP

**Sunday 9am** Michelle Gent RIP **Sunday 11am** People of the parish **FIRST HOLY COMMUNION MASS**

**Life breakfast after 9am Mass.**

**Bar open after 11am Mass.**

### SVP MEETING

The next meeting of the parish SVP group will take place on the evening of Monday 6th May 2024 at 8:15pm in the Marian Room.

### Catholic Primary & secondary school references.

Will you be requesting a priest's reference accompanying an application for a Catholic school this autumn?

If so, please write your child's name and sign in the place indicated on the clipboard provided in the church porch.

There are separate clipboards for primary and secondary schools.

### Please pray for the sick and housebound.

Truda Hobbs, Terry Doman. Eileen Darville, Barbara Wood, Ewan Keppie, Kevin Leavey, Anne Walker, 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, Trudy Kiely, John Cooksey, Geoff Wood, 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.**

**World Communications Day.  
NEXT WEEK'S SECOND COLLECTION.**

This collection supports the work of the Catholic Communications Network (CCN) the media office of the Bishops' Conference of England and Wales. The CCN seeks to be of service both to the Church and the world in offering professional channels of communication and provides support for the Bishops of England and Wales and the wider Church in promoting the Gospel through the media on current issues. Its office is the focus for media enquiries on National matters and seeks to develop the public profile of the Church and its teaching. The CCN provides up to date news releases, features and podcasts, information from the Bishops' Conference of England and Wales, and trains spokesmen and women.

**The month of May in Catholic tradition is dedicated to Mary, Mother of Christ and mother of us all.**

**There will be Rosary and adoration of Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament at 6.30pm every Friday in May (except the first Friday due to Confirmations).**

Devotion to Mary is an important part of our spiritual lives as Catholics. Praying to Mary is of course not the same as offering prayer to God. When we pray to Mary we are not worshipping her we are asking her help as a loving Mother in the Christian family.

**The St Aidan's Listening Group**

Will be meeting at 10:30am in the Marian room on Friday 10th May. This group is open to anyone who has experienced loss to join. 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.

**HCPT Grp 510 Wine Tasting Evening**

Friday the 7<sup>th</sup> June, Grp 510 will be hosting evening of tastings. There will be 7 different wines, a professional sommelier, with table bread and cheese board. Spaces are **LIMITED £20pp, 7pm for 7.30 start.** To secure your place, please email [group510@hcpt.org.uk](mailto:group510@hcpt.org.uk) stating how many tickets you would like, or call Bridget on 07899 915515. Tickets will also be available after Masses from the 11<sup>th</sup> May.

**Parish office help.**

St Aidan's church office needs the help of a volunteer to do about two hours on Mondays, from 11am or afternoon. Please contact Fr Peter if you can help. Knowledge of MS Word essential. Email [couldson@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:couldson@rcaos.org.uk)

**St Aidan's Car Park -  
Automatic Number Plate Recognition  
ANPR.  
Begins Friday 10<sup>th</sup> May 2024**

Please read the full two page information sheet available from the welcomers desk today.

The system will be turned OFF for Sat Vigil Mass, Sunday Masses and social club time. It will be OFF for all holy days, Ash Wednesday, Good Friday, polling days and other special occasions. Funerals and weddings are also included as OFF periods.

Those who use the car park as least once a week for Mass or hall activities will be given permanent permit access without having to register their vehicle on each occasion.

**DON'T GET CAUGHT OUT -  
REGISTER YOUR VEHICLE NUMBER  
WHEN AT CHURCH SERVICES OR  
HALL EVENTS ON WEEKDAYS.  
FAILURE TO DO SO WILL RESULT IN  
A PENALTY NOTICE FROM THE  
MANAGEMENT COMPANY.**

**An Ecumenical CELEBRATION on  
Pentecost.**

**Couldson Churches Together 40<sup>th</sup> Birthday**

A United Service  
followed by Refreshments

**Date and Time:**  
19<sup>th</sup> May 2024, 18.00

**Venue:** Old Couldson Congregational Church  
and its Cameron Hall, Couldson Road,  
CR5 1BH. No off road parking available.

Please let Fr Peter know if you wish to attend.  
[couldson@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:couldson@rcaos.org.uk)



## Ascension Thursday.

At St. Aidan's there will be Mass at 10am and 7.30pm.

The feast of the Ascension is celebrated on the fortieth day after Easter Sunday, Thursday of this week. It is a Holy Day of obligation when Catholics attend Mass.

Having risen from the dead, Jesus had shown himself on many occasions to the disciples. The Ascension celebrates the return of Jesus to his Father in heaven having completed the work of our redemption. By ascending in his human body he shows that his humanity is eternally united with his divinity.

After the Ascension the disciples no longer saw Jesus in bodily form, but they remembered his promise: *you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you, and then you will be my witnesses (Acts 1:8)*. They went back to the upper room accompanied by Mary the mother of Jesus. There they spent the following days in prayer waiting for the promised gift of the Holy Spirit. The period between Ascension and Pentecost is a special period of prayer for us who are disciples of Christ today.

## Weekday Mass in Croydon University Hospital

There is a Mass every **WEDNESDAY at 12 noon** in the CUH Chapel.

## **Celebrating migrants at St George's Cathedral - Monday 6<sup>th</sup> May 2024.**

Everyone's a migrant. Anyone who has moved from one country to another, from one part of the country to another, one city to another, one town to another, one street to another is a migrant whether travelled by bus, train, car, taxi, aeroplane, boat, ship or any other means of transport. Everyone is welcome.

Come to celebrate the valuable contribution the stranger makes to every structure of society in life across our city and beyond.

Principal celebrant Archbishop John Wilson.

The Mass will be celebrated on **Monday 6 May at 12.30pm** at **St George's Cathedral, London SE1 6HR**. People are encouraged to arrive early.

## **The Purley Food Hub.**

**purleyfoodhub@gmail.com**

Please leave food items in church porch. No fruit or perishables please.

Top 10 priority items for May:

- Cartons of Long Life Whole Milk
- Jars of Jam & Honey
- Hot Chocolate requiring only water
- Tinned Tuna Fish - the most popular with children!
- Tinned Vegetarian Meals
- Toddler Microwave Meals for 10 months+
- Tins of Rice Pudding
- Tins of Dessert Fruit
- Unisex Shampoo in liquid or bar form
- Washing Powder Tablets

## **A YEAR OF ENCOUNTER.**

With a UK general election due sometime this year, politicians will be looking for our votes. We have a responsibility as Catholics to make sure that parties commit to tackling issues such as poverty and injustice. Raising our voices and contacting parliamentary candidates as a parish community will send a strong signal to those standing for election in our local constituencies. A Year of Encounter is a joint initiative between CAFOD and St Vincent de Paul Society (SVP), equipping Catholics to ask key questions of local candidates at the key moments. Please see **[cafod.org.uk/ encounter](https://cafod.org.uk/encounter)** for more information, including an online session on Saturday 4th May to learn more.

## **OUR OFFERTORY INCOME**

Cash £503, Standing Orders £540,

Card reader: £111

**Total income:** £1,154 of which £690 was gift-aided

**Second collection:** St George's Cathedral £473

**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)

## **WEST CROYDON REFUGEE CENTRE.**

Croydon Refugee Centre are always grateful for our donations. Current needs: Soap, shampoo, conditioner, women's deodorant, razors, washing up liquid, washing capsules, toothpaste, soup/dessert bowls and spoons, dinner plates, saucepans etc, size 16 plus (underwear for women), women's socks, men's large & XL u/w (boxers).

*'As the Father has loved me,  
so I have loved you. Remain in my love.'*

Today's readings centre on the theme of love: the totally faithful, unconditional love of God for us.

The **First Reading** describes a turning point in the growth of the Early Church. Peter visits the house of Cornelius, a Roman centurion and Gentile, announcing that 'God does not have favourites'. God reaches out to those who listen to him through his Holy Spirit. He creates a community of love that embraces all humanity.

St John (**Second Reading**) reminds us that God loved us first. God's nature is love. The great depth of that love is revealed in God sending Jesus, whose self-sacrifice redeems our sins and draws us into the life of God.

The **Gospel** shows us Jesus teaching his disciples about his loving relationship with his Father. Jesus chooses and invites us into that same intimate relationship. He tells us how to follow him: that we should love one another.

The **Psalmist** encourages us to sing praise joyfully to the Lord whose love offers salvation to all. As we approach the end of the Easter season, we pray for the grace that we ourselves might reflect the gift of God's love, through our actions to our brothers and sisters, and to all creation. We also give thanks for the love of our friends, and for the joy that they bring to our lives.

### Sunday readings:

#### **First Reading ACTS 10:25-26,34-35,44-48**

As Peter reached the house Cornelius went out to meet him, knelt at his feet and prostrated himself. But Peter helped him up. 'Stand up,' he said 'I am only a man after all!'

Then Peter addressed them: 'The truth I have now come to realise' he said 'is that God does not have favourites, but that anybody of any nationality who fears God and does what is right is acceptable to him.'

While Peter was still speaking the Holy Spirit came down on all the listeners. Jewish believers who had accompanied Peter were all astonished that the gift of the Holy Spirit should be poured out on the pagans too, since they could hear them speaking strange languages and proclaiming the greatness of God. Peter himself then said, 'Could anyone refuse the water of baptism to these people, now they have received the Holy Spirit just as much as we have?' He then gave orders for them to be baptised in the name of Jesus Christ. Afterwards they begged him to stay on for some days.

#### **Responsorial Psalm PSALM 97(98):1-4**

*The Lord has shown his salvation to the nations.*

Sing a new song to the Lord  
for he has worked wonders.  
His right hand and his holy arm  
have brought salvation.

The Lord has made known his salvation;  
has shown his justice to the nations.  
He has remembered his truth and love  
for the house of Israel.

All the ends of the earth have seen  
the salvation of our God.  
Shout to the Lord, all the earth,  
ring out your joy.

#### **Second Reading 1 JOHN 4:7-10**

My dear people, let us love one another since love comes from God and everyone who loves is begotten by God and knows God. Anyone who fails to love can never have known God, because God is love. God's love for us was revealed when God sent into the world his only Son so that we could have life through him; this is the love I mean: not our love for God, but God's love for us when he sent his Son to be the sacrifice that takes our sins away.

#### **Gospel JOHN 15:9-17**

Jesus said to his disciples: 'As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you. Remain in my love. If you keep my commandments you will remain in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and remain in his love. I have told you this so that my own joy may be in you and your joy be complete. This is my commandment: love one another, as I have loved you. A man can have no greater love than to lay down his life for his friends. You are my friends, if you do what I command you. I shall not call you servants any more, because a servant does not know his master's business; I call you friends, because I have made known to you everything I have learnt from my Father. You did not choose me: no, I chose you; and I commissioned you to go out and to bear fruit, fruit that will last; and then the Father will give you anything you ask him in my name. What I command you is to love one another.'