

# NEWSLETTER

## St Aidan's Catholic Church - Coulsdon



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St Aidan's School: 01737 556036

**Year B**

**22nd Sunday - Ordinary Time**

**1st September 2024**

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

**Saturday Vigil 6pm** Jacque Ward RIP. **Confessions after Mass.**

**Sunday 9am** People of the parish.

**Sunday 11am** Welfare of Lindsay Given.

**Monday 10am** Intentions of the Moniz family **10.30am** Sacrament of Reconciliation - Confessions.

**Tuesday** No Mass in church. *Pope St Gregory the Great.*

**Wednesday 6.30pm** Fr Pat O'Leary RIP.

**Thursday 10am** Intentions of the Moniz family

**Friday 10am** Welfare of Jackie du Cassé -Van Elswijk **Exposition until 11am**

**Saturday Vigil 6pm** Margaret Almeida RIP. **Confessions after Mass.**

**Sunday 9am** Eva Fernandez RIP. **Sunday 11am** Deceased and living members of the Cecil & Hutton families.

**Life breakfast after 9am Mass will be teas and biscuits.  
Bar open after 11am Mass.**

### **NEXT WEEKEND 2nd collection Catholic Education Service.**

The Catholic Education Service (CES) acts on behalf of the Catholic Bishops' Conference to support Catholic education. Catholic schools make up 10% of the national total of state schools. There are over 2000 Catholic schools, academies and colleges in England educating over 800,000 pupils. The CES is the chief negotiating and advisory body on matters affecting all aspects of Catholic education, and it also provides financial assistance for school transport in rural areas.

**SVP Meeting.** The next meeting of the parish SVP group will take place on the evening of Monday 2nd September 2024 at 8:15pm in the Marian Room.

### **St Vincent de Paul - SVP - Annual National Raffle 2024**

**Members of St. Aidan's SVP Conference will be selling tickets after Masses this weekend and next.**

The National Raffle is the biggest annual fundraising event of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul. Every year your support helps the Society continue its work with people facing isolation, loneliness and a daily struggle with poverty in communities throughout England and Wales. This year the prizes are: 1<sup>st</sup> prize £5000, 2<sup>nd</sup> prize £1,000 plus 15 additional prizes of £100. Tickets are £1 each or £5 for book of 5 tickets and the draw will take place on 26<sup>th</sup> September 2024. Thank you once again for your generous support.

**This weekend we celebrate St Aidan, patron of our parish.**

The official date for St Aidan's feast day is 31st August. However, it seems appropriate that we extend it into Sunday. In this way more people in our parish can join in honouring St Aidan and invoking his intercession at Mass. This weekend all three parish Masses will be in honour of St Aidan.

Aidan was a native of Ireland. He became a monk and travelled to Iona in Scotland. When the Christian King Oswald returned from exile on Iona to his kingdom of Northumbria, he invited the monks of Iona to provide missionaries to instruct his people in Christianity. After initial difficulties, Aidan was consecrated bishop and sent with a group of Irish monks to begin this task. He established a monastery on the island of Lindisfarne which became the centre of a major missionary effort in the North of England.

From Lindisfarne Aidan journeyed throughout Northumberland, usually on foot, and working closely with King Oswald who found him to be a wise adviser and a good personal friend. After Oswald's death in 642, Aidan continued this work under his successor, Oswin, but when Oswin himself was killed nine years later, Aidan did not long survive him and died two weeks later in 651.

According to the Venerable Bede, a renowned church historian, Aidan was a man of great gentleness and moderation, outstanding for his energetic missionary work. His influence on the North of England was enormous, and his wise promotion of Christian education among the native English laid the solid foundation for the spread of the Gospel in the centuries which followed his death.



**Signing in at Mass for school references recommences today.**

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 sheets for primary and secondary schools.

**PURLEY FOOD HUB** are always very grateful for our donations but supplies are running low so please donate some food items. Please leave food items in church porch. No fruit or perishables please. Cartons of long-life whole milk, jars of peanut butter, small (500g) bags of sugar, tinned meat - corned beef, ham, chicken, small bottles of squash, sponge puddings, jellies, Angel Delight for children, toddler microwave meals for 12 months+, small bottles of washing up liquid, bars of soap and toilet rolls.

**WEST CROYDON REFUGEE CENTRE.**

Croydon Refugee Centre are always grateful for our donations. Current needs: good quality shoes/trainers especially teenager's size, soap, shampoo, conditioner, women's deodorant, razors, washing up liquid, washing capsules, j-cloths, small (500ml or less) used bottles which can be filled with shampoo, bowls and spoons.

**Afternoon Tea Friday 6 September.**

at 4pm in the church hall for a donation of £5. To book a place, speak to Brenda Eydman after 9am Mass or telephone 01737 552610

**Message from Fr John Naughton ....**

Thank you to all at St Aidan's community for their welcome, kindness, generosity and friendship during my stay. It was much appreciated and made things very easy. At my age every year is a bonus so I thank the Lord. Sincere gratitude for your extreme generosity and affording me the opportunity to 'keep my hand in' I enjoyed the few weeks and the sunshine was a bonus.

With prayerful good wishes.

*Fr John*

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

Claire Longworth, Riley Fitzgerald (age 5 yrs), Kevin Leavey, Jean Bleach, Truda Hobbs, Terry Doman, Eileen Darville, 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.

Thank you very much for the Mission Appeal collection last weekend for the Spiritans (Holy Ghost Fathers). The total will be published in the next newsletter.

**The World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation**, celebrated on 1 September, kicks off the *Season of Creation*, a time of sustained prayer and action which lasts a month and four days. During this season we are encouraged to pray and engage in community events in order to deepen our relationship with our God, our neighbour and the earth we share, being ever more attentive to the cry of the earth and the cry of the poor.

In the letter of Paul the apostle to the Romans, the biblical image pictures the Earth as a Mother, groaning as in childbirth (Rom 8:22). Francis of Assisi understood this when he referred to the Earth as our sister and our mother in his *Canticle of Creatures*. The times we live in show that we are not relating to the Earth as a gift from our Creator, but rather as a resource to be used. And yet, there is hope and the expectation for a better future. To hope in a biblical context does not mean to stand still and quiet, but rather actively striving for new life amidst the struggles.

### **Sacrament of Confirmation at St Aidan's 2025.**

**Year 9 pupils or older are now being invited to enrol for the preparation programme.**

We need to have the Confirmation Mass earlier in the year in future as the summer term is so full with school trips, Duke of E and sports events, it has become very difficult. As we would not want Confirmations in Lent, it leaves the beginning of February as the best time. so we will need to begin soon.

The Confirmation preparation programme will begin in the church hall on Sunday evenings on Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> October. Half term and Christmas holidays come during the preparation period. **The application forms will be available from Fr Peter after Masses** today and for the next couple of weeks.

Mass attendance is an essential requirement for any prospective applicant.

**The young person applying needs to request the form personally, NOT A PARENT.**

The St Aidan's programme is not open to people from other parishes.

On the application form the applicants are asked to write a short account in handwriting saying why they wish to be confirmed.

## Today's readings:

### First Reading DEUTERONOMY 4:1-2,6-8

Moses said to the people: 'Now, Israel, take notice of the laws and customs that I teach you today, and observe them, that you may have life and may enter and take possession of the land that the Lord the God of your fathers is giving you. You must add nothing to what I command you, and take nothing from it, but keep the commandments of the Lord your God just as I lay them down for you. Keep them, observe them, and they will demonstrate to the peoples your wisdom and understanding. When they come to know of all these laws they will exclaim, "No other people is as wise and prudent as this great nation." And indeed, what great nation is there that has its gods so near as the Lord our God is to us whenever we call to him? And what great nation is there that has laws and customs to match this whole Law that I put before you today?'

### PSALM 14(15):2-5

*The just will live in the presence of the Lord.*

Lord, who shall dwell on your holy mountain?  
He who walks without fault;  
he who acts with justice  
and speaks the truth from his heart;  
he who does not slander with his tongue.

He who does no wrong to his brother,  
who casts no slur on his neighbour,  
who holds the godless in disdain,  
but honours those who fear the Lord.

He who keeps his pledge, come what may;  
who takes no interest on a loan  
and accepts no bribes against the innocent.  
Such a man will stand firm for ever.

### JAMES 1:17-18,21-22,27

It is all that is good, everything that is perfect, which is given us from above; it comes down from the Father of all light; with him there is no such thing as

alteration, no shadow of a change. By his own choice he made us his children by the message of the truth so that we should be a sort of first-fruits of all that he had created.

Accept and submit to the word which has been planted in you and can save your souls. But you must do what the word tells you, and not just listen to it and deceive yourselves.

Pure, unspoilt religion, in the eyes of God our Father is this: coming to the help of orphans and widows when they need it, and keeping oneself uncontaminated by the world.

### Gospel MARK 7:1-8,14-15,21-23

The Pharisees and some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem gathered round Jesus, and they noticed that some of his disciples were eating with unclean hands, that is, without washing them. For the Pharisees, and the Jews in general, follow the tradition of the elders and never eat without washing their arms as far as the elbow; and on returning from the market place they never eat without first sprinkling themselves. There are also many other observances which have been handed down to them concerning the washing of cups and pots and bronze dishes. So these Pharisees and scribes asked him, 'Why do your disciples not respect the tradition of the elders but eat their food with unclean hands?' He answered, 'It was of you hypocrites that Isaiah so rightly prophesied in this passage of scripture:

This people honours me only with lip-service, while their hearts are far from me. The worship they offer me is worthless, the doctrines they teach are only human regulations. You put aside the commandment of God to cling to human traditions.' He called the people to him again and said, 'Listen to me, all of you, and understand. Nothing that goes into a man from outside can make him unclean; it is the things that come out of a man that make him unclean. For it is from within, from men's hearts, that evil intentions emerge: fornication, theft, murder, adultery, avarice, malice, deceit, indecency, envy, slander, pride, folly. All these evil things come from within and make a man unclean.'