

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

Parish Website: www.st-aidans-parish.org.uk

Support in times of loss: listeningtoyou.staidans@gmail.com

Safeguarding: Bridget Hanlon coulsdonsg1@safeguardrcaos.org.uk

Alexandra Collins coulsdonsg3@safeguardrcaos.org.uk

Church Hall enquiries: staidanshallbookings@gmail.com

Property maintenance, report issues: staidanspremisesteam@gmail.co.uk

St Aidan's School: 01737 556036

Year B

27th Sunday - Ordinary Time

6th October 2024

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

Saturday Vigil 6pm Francis Dias **Confessions after Mass.**

Sunday 9am Teresa and Pdraig Griffin RIP **4pm Rosary and Exposition.**

Life breakfast after 9am Mass
Bar open after 11am Mass.

Sunday 11am Jean Kelly RIP

Monday 10am Fr John Hartley RIP **Confessions after Mass** *OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY*

Tuesday 10am. Fr Edward Hill RIP.

Wednesday 6.30pm People of the parish *St John Henry Newman*

Thursday 10am Fr Patrick Harran RIP

Friday 10am Steve Ashmore RIP **Exposition until 11am**

Sat Vigil 6pm Mrs Eleanor Nolan RIP **Confessions after Mass.**

Sunday 9am Maria Malfalda Cota RIP **Sunday 11am** People of the parish

2nd collection today.

CAFOD Family Fast Day was FRIDAY 4th October.

Please place the CAFOD envelopes or loose cash in the 2nd collection today.

or go to cafod.org.uk/fastday.

Daniel, a young man in Democratic Republic of the Congo, is carving a better future for his family with carpentry skills he learned in a CAFOD-funded training centre. Give to CAFOD today and you'll fund training, tools, equipment and safe spaces so more people like Daniel can learn new skills and fulfil their God-given potential.

Please pray for the sick and housebound.

Sue Henriot, 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 and David Morling

October is the month of the Holy Rosary.

There will be Rosary & Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament on the Sundays of October at 4pm.

SVP Meeting

The next meeting of the parish SVP group will take place Monday 7th October 2024 at 8:15pm in the Marian Room.

The annual national Mass count takes place this weekend and next week.

Thank you for your prayers, Masses and loving support since I had my hip replacement. On Tuesday I had my first consultation at the hospital to assess my progress. I was delighted to learn that I have now reached over 95% recovery. My walk is still a bit uneven but this is due to some stiffness in the muscles which will gradually improve.

FR Peter

Sacrament of Confirmation at St Aidan's 2025.

Year 9 pupils or older have been invited to enrol for the preparation programme. Please return any outstanding forms.

Canon Gerard Brady has said he will come to administer the sacrament on 7th February 2025.

We have deferred the starting date for the preparation programme until after half term. We will begin with a social session and introduction on Sunday 17th November at 6pm in the church hall.

There will be a meeting for parents in October, date to be arranged. The catechists will also have planning time in October.

HELP FOR THE HOMELESS:

The Croydon Churches' Floating Shelter (CCFS) recently took the final decision at its AGM that it could not open again as an overnight operation. Although a disappointment to many committed volunteers, this was the inevitable result of now-confirmed lack of support from the council with its changed criteria for accommodating rough sleepers. However, our organisation has not been dissolved. Our original remit has been closed off but there still exists a huge amount of goodwill and support among the churches of Coulsdon for helping the homeless in other ways. One of these is our collaboration with Nightwatch in the provision of sandwiches for distribution in the evenings in Croydon. We have pursued this initiative for a few years now and Nightwatch have reported on the ever-increasing need for food provision on a nightly basis. The CCFS has now been asked to collaborate again and we, the Coulsdon churches, have agreed take on sandwich provision on Thursday evenings in November and December.

Previous St Aidan's volunteers will be contacted directly for their availability but new volunteers are also very welcome indeed. A lot of food is needed so please do respond to this if you can. Volunteers are needed to cover the following jobs:

1) To make about 15 rounds of simple sandwiches and deliver them to a specified Coulsdon address any time up to 7.30pm on Thursdays in November and December (collection can be arranged if you are not able to deliver). About seven volunteers are needed for each week.

2) To collect all the batches of sandwiches from the Coulsdon address at 8pm on Thursdays in November and December and deliver them by car to Nightwatch in central Croydon. The round trip takes about one hour. One volunteer is needed each week.

Detailed instructions will be available for both jobs when a rota is circulated. If we have enough volunteers you should only be asked to be on the rota a couple of times.

If you are able to help out please contact Maureen Lee - maureenannelee213@gmail.com - by Friday 18th October saying which job you would like to do and which Thursdays in November and December you are available. A rota will be issued towards the end of October.

Secondary school priest's references.

Fr Peter will be available in the Parish House, 1 Portnalls Rd., CR5 3DD, at the following times and dates to sign secondary school priest's references. No appointment necessary.

Mon 7 Oct. 7.30 - 8pm;

Fri 18 Oct. 3 - 3.45pm;

Mon 21 Oct. 7.30 - 8pm;

Thurs 24 Oct. 3 - 3.45pm;

Primary school references will be done in November.

WINTER BALL

Save the Date! Winter Ball 7th December 2024.

More information and tickets on sale soon.

St Aidan's meal train

We have a "meal train" service in the parish, where parishioners can 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 speak to Fr Peter or email Katie Stockermans (katharine.stockermans@gmail.com).

Letter from Cardinal Pizzabella, the Bishop who oversees the Catholic community in Israel, Gaza and Jordan.

"I invite you to a day of prayer, fasting and penance on October 7 next, a date that has become symbolic of the drama we are experiencing. The month of October is also the Marian month and on October 7 we celebrate the memory of Mary Queen of the Rosary."

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

May the Lord give you peace!

The month of October is approaching, and with it the realisation that for the past year the Holy Land, and not only, has been plunged into a vortex of violence and hatred never seen or experienced before. The intensity and impact of the tragedies we have witnessed in the past twelve months have deeply lacerated our conscience and our sense of humanity.

Violence, which has caused and is causing thousands of innocent victims, has also found its way into political and social language and actions. It has struck a profound blow to the common feeling of belonging to the Holy Land, to the consciousness of being part of a plan of Providence that wanted us here to build together His Kingdom of peace and justice, and not to make it instead a reservoir of hatred and contempt, of mutual rejection and annihilation.

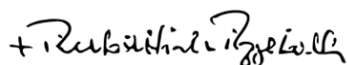
In recent months we have already spoken out clearly about what is happening and have repeatedly reiterated our condemnation of this senseless war and what has generated it, calling on everyone to stop this drift of violence, and to have the courage to find other ways of resolving the current conflict, which take into account the demands of justice, dignity and security for all.

We can only call once again on those in authority and those who bear the grave responsibility of making decisions in this context, to a commitment to justice and respect for every person's right to freedom, dignity and peace.

We too have a duty to commit ourselves to peace, first by preserving our hearts from all feelings of hatred, and instead cherishing the desire for good for everyone. By committing ourselves, each in our own community contexts and in the forms we can, we should support those in need, help those who are personally invested to alleviate the suffering of those affected by this war, and promote every action of peace, reconciliation and encounter.

Yet, we also need to pray, to bring our pain and our desire for peace to God. We need to convert, to do penance, and to implore forgiveness. Therefore, I invite you to a day of prayer, fasting and penance on October 7 next, a date that has become symbolic of the drama we are experiencing. The month of October is also the Marian month and on October 7 we celebrate the memory of Mary Queen of the Rosary. May each of us, with the rosary or in whatever form he or she sees fit, personally but better again in community, find a moment to pause and pray, and bring to the "merciful Father and God of all consolation" (2 Cor. 1:3), our desire for peace and reconciliation. We invoke the intercession of Mary Queen of the Rosary for this beloved Land and its inhabitants.

Sincerely in Christ,



†Pierbattista Pizzaballa - Cardinal Patriarch of Jerusalem

PURLEY FOOD HUB are always very grateful for our donations. Please leave food items in church porch. Cartons of long life whole full fat milk, tinned meat meals: meat balls, mince, stew, boxes/packets of dried potato, tinned plain meat: corned beef, ham, chicken, tinned vegetarian meals, small bottles of fruit squash, tinned tomatoes, tins of fruit & rice pudding, packet/ tinned custard, 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.

**OUR
OFFERTORY
INCOME**

Cash £433,
Standing Orders
£591,
Card reader £188

Total income:
£1,212
of which £732 was
gift-aided

Thank you.

The Archbishop's Certificate (ArchCert) is a two-year online course incorporating three in person study days for all in Southwark who wish to understand their faith in a more profound way and be able to share it with both confidence and joy.

"The course has given me a deeper knowledge and understanding about the Catholic faith, inspiring and enabling me to explain to others with quiet confidence what I firmly believe to be the truth."

The Archbishop's Certificate is in accord with Archbishop John Wilson's vision for a missionary archdiocese and is open to all who work towards this. The course will commence on **12 October 2024** with an introductory zoom session and the first in person session will take place on 19 October 2024 at St George's Cathedral. Further details can be found here: <https://aec.rcaos.org.uk/archcert>.

If you have any questions please email archcert@aec.rcaos.org.uk

Today's readings:

First Reading GENESIS 2:18-24

The Lord God said, 'It is not good that the man should be alone. I will make him a helpmate.' So from the soil the Lord God fashioned all the wild beasts and all the birds of heaven. These he brought to the man to see what he would call them; each one was to bear the name the man would give it. The man gave names to all the cattle, all the birds of heaven and all the wild beasts. But no helpmate suitable for man was found for him. So the Lord God made the man fall into a deep sleep. And while he slept, he took one of his ribs and enclosed it in flesh. The Lord God built the rib he had taken from the man into a woman, and brought her to the man. The man exclaimed: 'This at last is bone from my bones, and flesh from my flesh! This is to be called woman, for this was taken from man.' This is why a man leaves his father and mother and joins himself to his wife, and they become one body.

Responsorial Psalm PSALM 127(128)

May the Lord bless us all the days of our life.

O blessed are those who fear the Lord
and walk in his ways!
By the labour of your hands you shall eat.
You will be happy and prosper.

Your wife like a fruitful vine
in the heart of your house;
your children like shoots of the olive,
around your table.

Indeed thus shall be blessed
the man who fears the Lord.
May the Lord bless you from Zion
in a happy Jerusalem
all the days of your life!
May you see your children's children.
On Israel, peace!

Second Reading HEBREWS 2:9-11

We see in Jesus one who was for a short while made lower than the angels and is now crowned with glory and splendour because he submitted to death; by God's grace he had to experience death for all mankind.

As it was his purpose to bring a great many of his sons into glory, it was appropriate that God, for whom everything exists and through whom everything exists, should make perfect, through suffering, the leader who would take them to their salvation. For the one who sanctifies, and the ones who are sanctified, are of the same stock; that is why he openly calls them brothers.

Gospel MARK 10:2-16

Some Pharisees approached Jesus and asked, 'Is it against the law for a man to divorce his wife?' They were testing him. He answered them, 'What did Moses command you?' 'Moses allowed us' they said 'to draw up a writ of dismissal and so to divorce.' Then Jesus said to them, 'It was because you were so unteachable that he wrote this commandment for you. But from the beginning of creation God made them male and female. This is why a man must leave father and mother, and the two become one body. They are no longer two, therefore, but one body. So then, what God has united, man must not divide.' Back in the house the disciples questioned him again about this, and he said to them, 'The man who divorces his wife and marries another is guilty of adultery against her. And if a woman divorces her husband and marries another she is guilty of adultery too.'

People were bringing little children to him, for him to touch them. The disciples turned them away, but when Jesus saw this he was indignant and said to them, 'Let the little children come to me; do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs. I tell you solemnly, anyone who does not welcome the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it.' Then he put his arms round them, laid his hands on them and gave them his blessing.