

NEWSLETTER

St Aidan's Catholic Church - Coulsdon



Remembrance

Sunday

2024

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 coulsdong1@safeguardrcaos.org.uk

Alexandra Collins coulsdong3@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

32nd Sunday - Ordinary Time

10th November 2024

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

Saturday Vigil 6pm Confessions after Mass. Michael Ward RIP

Sunday 9am Welfare of Clare Barrett

Sunday 11am Dead of Two World Wars.

Monday 10am Deceased priests, deacons and parishioners of St Aidan's. *St Martin of Tours*

Tuesday No public Mass (People of the parish). *St Josaphat*

Wednesday 6.30pm Canon Francis Roe RIP

Thursday 10am Aine Kennedy RIP

Friday 10am Margaret Janz RIP

Vigil 6pm Intentions of Elizabeth Hubbard-Brown **Confessions after Mass.**

Sunday 9am Aine Kennedy RIP **Sunday 11am** Deceased loved ones –November book

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

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

Christmas Eve 6pm Vigil Mass

11pm Carols and readings followed by

11.30pm Midnight Mass

Christmas morning: 10am Mass.

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, 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

This weekend's second collection.

Archbishop's Appeal.

Sat 9th / Sun 10th November.

The Archbishop's Appeal is a Diocesan second collection that funds key areas of ministry: Youth and Evangelisation, Our Faith in Action (Caritas) and Clergy Care and Formation. Your support will enable the Archdiocese of Southwark to support innovative projects taking place within Catholic parishes and Schools throughout South London and Kent that seek to invest Faith, Hope and Love into the communities they serve.

Please be generous to the Archbishop's Appeal 2023. Every gift is welcome.

Confirmation preparation.

There will be a **parents meeting** on Thursday 14th November in the parish hall at 7.30pm. The young people are not required to come to this session.

Those attending must register their car if they park in the car park.

The first session for the young people who have applied to join the preparation programme will be Sunday 17th November at 6pm.

There is a 10 minute grace period for dropping off and picking up in the car park. If you are parked longer than that you must register your car in the foyer on the screen or via the QR code with your mobile phone. Please err on the side of caution - DO NOT GET CAUGHT OUT BY INCURRING A PENALTY NOTICE. THIS IS PROCESSED BY A COMPANY NOT THE CHURCH.

Catholic primary school references.

PLEASE NOTE THE CHANGE OF DATE FOR THIS WEEK.

Those needing a priest's reference accompanying an application for a Catholic primary school can come at the following times in November without an appointment:

Friday 15 Nov. 7.15 - 8pm.

Thursday 21 Nov. 3.15 - 4.45pm.

Friday 29 Nov. 7.15 - 8pm.

Christian Christmas cards are now available in the church shop.

They are sold in packs of tens and twenties. Sending a Christian card at Christmas is a simple but meaningful way of witnessing to our Christian faith and the wonderful message of Christmas which is proclaimed in the Gospels.

WINTER BALL

Save the Date! Winter Ball 7th December 2024. More information and tickets on sale soon.

OUR OFFERTORY INCOME

Cash £504, Standing Orders £591, Card reader £130 **Total income:** £1,225 of which £728 was gift-aided

2nd Collection: LEPRA £475 - Leprosy charity

Thank you.

REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY.

Today we remember those who gave their lives in the two World Wars of the 20th Century. In particular we give thanks for those who suffered and died so that we may live in freedom.



In recent times there have been many other conflicts and peace keeping missions throughout the world where members of the Armed Forces have paid with their lives or have been severely injured.

Many men and women of the Services suffer from post traumatic stress disorder and depression as a result of their experiences in more recent conflicts.

Let us not forget the sacrifice made by the families of service men and women.

We bring before the Lord:

- those who have died, - that they may know eternal life;
- those who continue to serve, - that they may be kept safe;
- the families and loved ones, - that they may receive the support they deserve.

A RAINBOWS group meet in our hall on Mondays after school. They are not a parish organisation but we support them by making the hall available free of charge for the benefit of the children in our community.

Sarah-Jane Ward is the leader. She would appreciate adult help on a regular basis. If anyone in the parish would like to get involved please let me know. Please contact Fr Peter if you can help. couldson@rcaos.org.uk

The Saying Goodbye Service at Methodist Central Hall, Westminster, Sun the 24th of Nov 2024, 3.30pm.

The Saying Goodbye Services are for people who have lost a child at any stage of pregnancy, at birth or in infancy, whether the loss be recent or 80 years ago. In addition anyone who has never been able to have children for whatever reason, is most welcome.

Please visit: <https://www.sayinggoodbye.org/>

Weekly Mass in Croydon University Hospital

There is Mass every **Wednesday** at 12pm in Croydon University Hospital Chapel. All are most welcome.

PURLEY FOOD HUB, together with local churches, will once again be supporting the local community this Christmas with two projects - '*Come Dine with Jesus*' and '*Toys for Joy*'.

Come Dine with Jesus.

We will be giving Aldi supermarket gift cards to local families who are in crisis so that they can purchase the ingredients for a Christmas meal. The gift cards cannot be used for alcohol or the lottery and are intended for those who may not be able to afford a traditional Christmas meal. Nominations will be made by Purley Food Hub's ticket partners. Accompanying the gift card will be some booklets with a Christian message.

Toys for Joy

We will be purchasing a toy and chocolate for each child nominated by ticket partners, and families will be invited to an event at the end of November when they can enjoy crafts and refreshments, as well as selecting a toy for each child. **Please note we are not accepting toys – financial donations only please.**

How to Donate.

The value of each Aldi voucher for a family is £75 and

£50 for a single person. The cost of a toy and chocolate for each child is approximately £15. If you would like to make a financial contribution to either of these Christmas projects you can donate online by the following link or use the QR code below:

www.stewardship.org.uk/pages/PKCTChristmasProjects2024

If you prefer to send a cheque, please make this payable to 'Purley Food Hub' and write 'Christmas Projects' on the reverse. Send to Joanna Walker, Treasurer, Purley Food Hub, c/o Purley Baptist Church, Banstead Road, CR8 3EA.

How to Offer Help.

We will need help delivering the gift cards to clients early in December and also with 'Toys for Joy' during the afternoon of Saturday, 30th November at Purley Baptist Church, when parents will be picking up toys for their children. If you can help with either of these projects, please contact me on the email or telephone number below.

Jean Ludlow.

Purley Food Hub

T: 07546 635295

E: christmasprojects@pfoodhub.org.uk

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: warm clothing, hats/gloves/scarves, especially winter coats and waterproof shoes/trainers & umbrellas, 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.

TODAY'S READINGS at Mass.

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The reign of the Lord glorified in today's Psalm is a kingdom of justice for the oppressed. The other readings, too, all focus on God's loving concern for the poor, the weak and the powerless.

In the **First Reading**, a destitute Gentile widow gives to Elijah all that she has left in the world, when he asks for help. Though she herself is not one of the people of Israel, her generous self-giving is rewarded by a miraculous multiplication of her tiny supply of flour and oil.

The **Psalm** continues this theme, celebrating God's eternal faithfulness and loving care to those who are vulnerable, bowed down and hungry.

By way of introduction to today's Gospel scene, which takes place outside the Temple in Jerusalem, the **Second Reading** explains that the death and resurrection of Jesus have done away once and for all with Temple offerings and sacrifices for sin.

As Jesus sits outside the Temple treasury (**Gospel**), he teaches his disciples to be wary of people like the scribes, who flaunt their privilege and entitlement in public places. The rich and powerful have a false sense of their own importance. In contrast, Jesus honours the humble actions of another poor widow passing by. Although she only gives a tiny amount to the Temple, her contribution is all the more generous because she is offering all that she has to the Lord. It is her example that we are asked to follow.

Let us pray this week for a generous and loving heart. May we never be afraid to give of ourselves to the Lord, so that we may bring about his Kingdom of love in the world today.

200 Club monthly draw with annual subscription. Volunteer needed.

The parish needs a volunteer to run this fundraising activity. Peter McFall ran it for many years and Erica Thurbon has done it since Peter left. Erica needs to hand it on to a new person due to her other commitments. Currently we have 136 members. It is a fundraising activity which raises around £1,000 for the parish annually.

The job description for a volunteer consists of the following:

- Organise the monthly draw.
- Inform the winner and inform the treasurer to pay the monthly prize.
- Collect the subscriptions in the spring. Some pay by Standing Order.
- Expand the membership.

Today's readings:

First Reading 1 KINGS 17:10-16

Elijah the Prophet went off to Sidon. And when he reached the city gate, there was a widow gathering sticks; addressing her he said, 'Please bring me a little water in a vessel for me to drink.' She was setting off to bring it when he called after her. 'Please' he said 'bring me a scrap of bread in your hand.' 'As the Lord your God lives,' she replied 'I have no baked bread, but only a handful of meal in a jar and a little oil in a jug; I am just gathering a stick or two to go and prepare this for myself and my son to eat, and then we shall die.' But Elijah said to her, 'Do not be afraid, go and do as you have said; but first make a little scone of it for me and bring it to me, and then make some for yourself and for your son. For thus the Lord speaks, the God of Israel: "Jar of meal shall not be spent, jug of oil shall not be emptied, before the day when the Lord sends rain on the face of the earth."' The woman went and did as Elijah told her and they ate the food, she, himself and her son. The jar of meal was not spent nor the jug of oil emptied, just as the Lord had foretold through Elijah.

Responsorial Psalm PSALM 145(146):7-10

My soul, give praise to the Lord.

It is the Lord who keeps faith for ever,
who is just to those who are oppressed.
It is he who gives bread to the hungry,
the Lord, who sets prisoners free.

It is the Lord who gives sight to the blind,
who raises up those who are bowed down.
It is the Lord who loves the just,
the Lord, who protects the stranger.

The Lord upholds the widow and orphan
but thwarts the path of the wicked.
The Lord will reign for ever,
Zion's God, from age to age.

Second Reading HEBREWS 9:24-28

It is not as though Christ had entered a man-made sanctuary which was only modelled on the real one; but it was heaven itself, so that he could appear in the actual presence of God on our behalf. And he does not have to offer himself again and again, like the high priest going into the sanctuary year after year with the blood that is not his own, or else he would have had to suffer over and over again since the world began. Instead of that, he has made his appearance once and for all, now at the end of the last age, to do away with sin by sacrificing himself. Since men only die once, and after that comes judgement, so Christ, too, offers himself only once to take the faults of many on himself, and when he appears a second time, it will not be to deal with sin but to reward with salvation those who are waiting for him.

Gospel MARK 12:38-44

In his teaching Jesus said, 'Beware of the scribes who like to walk about in long robes, to be greeted obsequiously in the market squares, to take the front seats in the synagogues and the places of honour at banquets; these are the men who swallow the property of widows, while making a show of lengthy prayers. The more severe will be the sentence they receive.'

He sat down opposite the treasury and watched the people putting money into the treasury, and many of the rich put in a great deal. A poor widow came and put in two small coins, the equivalent of a penny. Then he called his disciples and said to them, 'I tell you solemnly, this poor widow has put more in than all who have contributed to the treasury; for they have all put in money they had over, but she from the little she had has put in everything she possessed, all she had to live on.'