

NEWSLETTER

St Aidan's Catholic Church - Coulsdon



Parish Priest: Fr Peter Mansfield,

Deacon: Rev. Tony Flavin

Pastoral Assistant: Oliver Abasolo - seminarian

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

Parish banking details:

Name of acc: RCAS Coulsdon.

Acc no.: 01751182 Sort: 60-06-14

Year C

2nd Sunday - Ordinary Time

19th January 2025

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

Saturday Vigil 6pm Intentions of PKM.

Sunday 9am People of the Parish

Sunday 11am Thanksgiving for Gemma Brusadelli and family

Monday 10am Anthony Vincent Cotta RIP.

Wednesday 6.30pm Intention of PKM

Thursday 10am Derrick & Sheila Phillips RIP - *Votive Mass of the Conversion of St Paul*

Friday 10am Maria De Jesus RIP *St. Francis de Sales, Bishop & Doctor* **Exposition until 11am**

Vigil 6pm Miriam Fernandes RIP *The Conversion of St. Paul the Apostle* **Confessions after Mass.**

Sunday 9am Lesley King (Nee Du Casse) RIP

Sunday 11am People of the Parish

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

Taskforce is taking place next Saturday
10am - 12 noon.

Please come and do some jobs around the church and grounds. Many thanks.

Southwark diocesan directories 2025
are now available in the shop @ £6.50

We remember the repose of the soul of
Fr Paddy Cannon, former PP of Waddon who
died recently.

May Christ who called him welcome him.

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, Coral Hind, Freda Blade, Christi Cox, 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.

***Called to Bear Fruit* Help Shape the Future of Our Archdiocese.**

The Archbishop invites you to play a vital role in shaping the future of our Archdiocese. In today's pastoral letter, he encourages everyone to reflect on the themes in the *Called to Bear Fruit* booklet and participate in small group discussions over the coming weeks. The booklets highlight six key themes for discussion in small groups before Sunday 6 April, by when reflections should be submitted. The question being asked is essentially: how do we grow as communities of missionary disciples?

Here's how you can get involved:

- **Form a group:** Gather 4–12 people.
- **Choose your schedule:** Discuss all six themes across six sessions or combine them into fewer meetings—whatever works best for you.
- **Share your insights:** Submit your group's reflections via our online form or as a typed hard copy. The more people who take part, the richer our understanding of the needs of our archdiocese will be. Let's work together to shape our future! Thank you for your involvement.

Safeguarding morning

POSTPONED. Due to unforeseen circumstances the Safeguarding training morning and DBS rechecks on 1st February, has had to be postponed. We will contact individuals directly if you need your DBS recheck now. Please refer back to the newsletter for a new Safeguarding date. Any problems please contact:

Bridget couldsonsg1@safeguardraos.org.uk
or Alexandra couldsonsg3@safeguardraos.org.uk

Pope Francis' World Peace Day Message

for this year is rooted in the biblical tradition of the Jubilee. The Jubilee or 'acceptable year' was that one year in seven or one in forty-nine, of forgiveness and restoration, when all debts were forgiven, prisoners freed and a sense of community restored. However, it was more often than not a dream rather than a reality.

The Message tells us that the concepts of hope and forgiveness are at the heart of the Jubilee, a time for conversion that calls us not to condemn, but instead to bring about reconciliation and peace. We are invited to ask for forgiveness as a means of obtaining God's peace. And, God knows, we have much to be forgiven for. The Pope informs us that it is only from a genuine conversion on all levels - personal, local and international - that true peace will be able to flourish.

In the Bible, the term 'conversion' appears over a thousand times and means to turn, return, bring back, restore. It is always specific, a turning away from something towards something else: from injustice to justice, from violence to peace, from darkness to light. And it is always a turning towards God. In the New Testament, it can be understood best in the context of the Kingdom proclaimed by Jesus.

For more information and prayers, and to read the Pope's message, visit
paxchristi.org.uk/peace-sunday-2025.

Prayer for Christian Unity Week 18 - 15 January.

God of our journeyings,
Christ of our shorelines,
Spirit of endless horizons,
beckon us towards unity.
Challenge us to step out of our upper
rooms and safe spaces,
to be bringers of light and peace.
Imbue us with the light of your love,
reconciling us
to ourselves,
to each other
and to you
when we confront the scandal of division.
Graft peace, love and compassion into
our mission and discipleship.
Bind with peace any broken limb
that we might go into the world
and live the way of Jesus
for the sake of all creation. **Amen**

Next week is 'Sunday of the Word of God'. This is an annual celebration focussing on the gift of scripture.

Our ministers of the Word - parish readers - will renew their commitment at all Masses.

Pope Francis wrote: "*Devoting a specific Sunday of the liturgical year to the word of God can enable the Church to experience anew how the risen Lord opens up for us the treasury of his word and enables us to proclaim its unfathomable riches before the world.*"

Volunteer needed.

200 Club monthly draw with annual subscription.

The parish needs a volunteer to run this fundraising activity. Erica Thurbon is the current organiser but she 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.

Free online catechetical workshops.

Thanks to the generosity of donors to the Archbishop's Appeal, every parishioner, as well as teachers and parents in our schools, now has free access to workshops created by the Catechetical Institute at the world renowned Catholic Franciscan University of Stubenville, Ohio USA. The website is available while the diocesan subscription is valid, i.e. until 30th September 2025.

From Scripture to parenting workshops, to catechetical training and mentoring, there is something for everyone. For more information and instructions to access the workshops, please visit [HERE](https://aec.rcaos.org.uk/franciscan)
aec.rcaos.org.uk/franciscan

ANTI-HUMAN TRAFFICKING & MODERN SLAVERY

St Mary's RC Church, 70 Wellesley Road Croydon,
CR0 2AR Wednesday, 29 January 2025
6.30pm-8.30pm

The evening will focus on the work of the Santa Marta Group and how the Church is working to combat these crimes and support victims.

Meal train

We are organising a "meal train" for a family who have just had a baby and are also taking care of their niece, having relocated a few months ago. If you would like to volunteer to cook one meal for a family of three (two adults and a child) in the coming fortnight, please go to www.mealtrain.com/87e2q4 and sign up for a day that suits you. All the details can be found on that page. Please speak to Katie Stockermans (katharine.stockermans@gmail.com) if you have any questions.

Introduction to today's Readings.

First Reading (Isaiah 62:1-5) Isaiah, in the manner of the Hebrew prophets before him, promises that he will not tire of talking about Jerusalem and Zion until they are recognised for what they are: the city of peace and the land of wedding joy. This verse is a short poem about the glorious resurrection of Jerusalem, the crown of splendour in the land of God.

Psalm (96:1-3, 7-10) A beautiful prayer of praise to the Lord as King and Judge. The Psalms read like prayers - prayers of praise, petition and thanksgiving. In some ways, the Book of Psalms is the prayer book of the Bible.

Second Reading (1 Corinthians 12:4-11) Each one of us has a gift or talent (and some of us are lucky to have more than one!) We are all links in the long chain of history and if that chain is to remain unbroken, we have a duty to use well whatever talents God has given us.

Gospel (John 2:1-12) Towards the end of the wedding feast story, we read: 'And his disciples believed in him'. One of those disciples, very many years later, was Martin Luther King Jr, who had a dream. To realise that dream he worked at filling the empty jugs of this world with water, sure that once again HE would come to change all that water, the bitter water of this world, into wine - heavenly wine - in preparation for the final banquet to come. Let us work like him (and so many others) in the kitchens of this world, living out those timeless values of the Kingdom.

PURLEY FOOD HUB are always very grateful for our donations. Please leave food items in church porch.

January priorities: Hot Drinking Chocolate requiring only hot water • 500g Bags of Sugar • Boxes/Packets of Dried Potato • Cartons of Long Life Full Fat Milk • Tinned Tuna • Jars of Peanut Butter • Jars of Meat & Fish Paste • Tinned Dessert Fruit • Tinned Rice Pudding • Small Bottles of Washing Up Liquid • Bars of Soap • 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:

First reading

Isaiah 62:1-5

For Sion's sake I will not keep silent,
and for Jerusalem's sake I will not be quiet,
until her righteousness goes forth as brightness,
and her salvation as a burning torch.
The nations shall see your righteousness,
and all the kings your glory,
and you shall be called by a new name
that the mouth of the LORD will give.
You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the
LORD,
and a royal diadem in the hand of your God.
You shall no more be termed Forsaken,
and your land shall no more be termed Desolate,
but you shall be called My Delight Is in Her,
and your land Married;
for the LORD delights in you,
and your land shall be married.
For as a young man marries a young woman,
so shall your sons marry you,
and as the bridegroom rejoices over the bride,
so shall your God rejoice over you.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 96(95):1-2a. 2b-3. 7-8a. 9-10ac. R3

*Proclaim the wonders of the Lord
among all the peoples.*

O sing a new song to the LORD;
sing to the LORD, all the earth.
O sing to the LORD; bless his name.

Proclaim his salvation day by day.
Tell among the nations his glory,
and his wonders among all the peoples.

Ascribe to the LORD, you families of peoples,
ascribe to the LORD glory and power;
ascribe to the LORD the glory of his name.

Worship the LORD in holy splendour.
O tremble before him, all the earth.
Say to the nations, 'The LORD is king.'
He will judge the peoples in fairness.

Second reading

1 Corinthians 12:4-11

Brothers and Sisters: There are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of service, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who empowers them all in everyone. To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. For to one is given through the Spirit the utterance of wisdom, and to another the utterance of knowledge according to the same Spirit, to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit, to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another the ability to distinguish between spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. All these are empowered by one and the same Spirit, who apportions to each one individually as he wills.

Gospel

John 2:1-11

At that time: There was a wedding at Cana in Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. Jesus also was invited to the wedding with his disciples. When the wine ran out, the mother of Jesus said to him, 'They have no wine.' And Jesus said to her, 'Woman, what does this have to do with me? My hour has not yet come.' His mother said to the servants, 'Do whatever he tells you.'

Now there were six stone water jars there for the Jewish rites of purification, each holding seventy or one hundred litres. Jesus said to the servants, 'Fill the jars with water.' And they filled them up to the brim. And he said to them, 'Now draw some out and take it to the master of the feast.' So they took it. When the master of the feast tasted the water now become wine, and did not know where it came from (though the servants who had drawn the water knew), the master of the feast called the bridegroom and said to him, 'Everyone serves the good wine first, and when people have drunk freely, then the poor wine. But you have kept the good wine until now.'

This, the first of his signs, Jesus did at Cana in Galilee, and manifested his glory. And his disciples believed in him.