

NEWSLETTER

St Aidan's Catholic Church - Coulsdon



Parish Priest: Fr Peter Mansfield,

Deacon: Rev. Tony Flavin

Pastoral Assistant: Oliver Abasolo - seminarian

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

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

Safeguarding: Bridget Hanlon coulsdonsg1@safeguardrcaos.org.uk

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Church Hall enquiries: staidanshallbookings@gmail.com

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

Year C

The Presentation of the Lord - Candlemas

2nd February 2025

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

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

Sunday 9am David McCleave RIP

Sunday 11am People of the Parish

Monday 10am Intentions of PKM **Followed by blessing of throats** *St Laurence of Canterbury & St Blaze*

Wednesday 6.30pm Rose D'Souza RIP

St Agatha

Thursday 10am Terence Gasper RIP

Saints Paul Miki and Companions

Friday 7.30pm Confirmation Mass. Everyone welcome. NO MORNING MASS.

Vigil 6pm Dave O'Donoghue RIP

Confessions after Mass.

Sunday 9am Lesley King (Née Du Casse) RIP

Sunday 11am Terry Kennedy RIP

SVP Meeting

The next meeting of the parish SVP group will take place on the evening of Monday 3rd February 2025 at 8:15pm in the Marian Room.

Sunday Missals with the new translation of the readings, now on sale in the church shop - £15

Afternoon Tea Friday 7th February

At 2pm in the church hall for a donation of £5.00. If you would like to attend, please speak to Brenda Eydman or phone 01737 552610 to book a place.

People of the parish

Please come and sing at the Confirmation Mass 7.30pm Friday. Form a choir near the organ.

Presentation of the Lord. Candlemas day.

Today celebrates the occasion when the parents of Jesus presented him in the Temple when he was 40 days old. In the Christian tradition it has become a celebration of light because a holy old man, called Simeon, came into the Temple and prophesied that this child was to be God's light. A light that would enlighten not only Israel but all the nations of the world. "The light to enlighten the Gentiles." Candles are blessed at Mass on this day

Called to Bear Fruit .

There is still time to join a group.

You can email:

alexandraecollins@outlook.com or
couldson@rcaos.org.uk

Or give as note and a contact detail to Fr Peter.

Let us know whether you would prefer an evening, daytime, weekend or online group. Please also indicate if you would welcome a small group to meet in your house.

Blue discussion books still available on tables at the back of the church. For those who missed the information it is reprinted below:

At Mass in January we heard a pastoral letter from The Archbishop of Southwark outlining the Archdiocese's renewal process. We were invited to read about the 'Called to Bear Fruit' process which asks parishes to share their own experiences, reflect on issues affecting our parish and suggest solutions that can be fed back to the Archdiocese.

The Parish Pastoral Council met recently and discussed how we can take this process forward here at St Aidan's. We would like to invite all Parishioners to participate over the next few weeks in small discussion groups to address the themes outlined in the Consultation document. This will involve a short series of group gatherings, each lasting about an hour between now and the end of March. These meetings may be in someone's home, on Church premises or even online at a time to suit your availability. The Parish Council is willing to help coordinate the groups.

This is a diocesan exercise but we hope that this might enable our Parish to focus on what we want and need from each other and that we might be able to identify opportunities for parish communities to work effectively together.

A member of the PPC will speak at each mass this weekend, and will be calling for volunteers to join with us to work through Archbishop John's themes together over the next few weeks.

OUR OFFERTORY INCOME

Cash £432, Standing Orders £591,
Card reader £165 **Total income:** £1,188
of which £754 was gift-aided

2nd Collection 5th January:
Catholic Children's Society £358 **Thank you.**

Please consider making a standing order for your offertory contributions. Contact the GA coordinator Clive Fernandes to get the details.

couldongac@rcaos.org.uk

Confirmation Mass 7.30pm Friday 7th February.

We pray for our young people who are being Confirmed on Friday evening. Everyone is welcome to this Mass at 7.30pm.

Candidates:

Aron Prendi, Will Ransom, Dylan Sales, Rafferty Grant, Chinemerem God's Gift Igben, Jessica Steedman, Matthew Lehane, Sebastian Moczydlowski, Alex Townsley, Liam Latuszek, Katie Clark, Tayla Clark.

Chibuye Margaret Ngwisha (adult) will receive Confirmation and First Holy Communion.

Godspower Offormah will be confirmed later in the year when his brother and sister are receiving sacraments of initiation.

Parish safeguarding date for your diary NEW date is Saturday 8 March.

If you have a DBS for voluntary work in our parish, the Southwark diocesan Safeguarding team have introduced a compulsory training which consists of viewing a video entitled 'Level 3 Safeguarding for Volunteers in the Catholic Church' This requirement is in line with what other organisations have to do. We will be holding an open morning on Sat 8th March 2025 to show the video and start DBS rechecks. We will start at 10am with coffee and registration; we will then confirm all the attendees to Southwark. If you're unable to attend please let one of the parish safeguarding reps know so we can make alternative arrangements for you to complete the training. As part of Southwark's safeguarding policy, all active volunteers with a DBS, are expected to be rechecked every 3 years. (Even if you're on the update service.) This is essential to ensure you are able to continue in your current role uninterrupted. If your DBS is due to be renewed you will receive an email from one of the parish reps in the next few weeks to get this started, couldsonsg1@safeguardrcaos.org.uk or couldsonsg3@safeguardrcaos.org.uk You will have an opportunity to start your recheck on the 1st February. If you have any questions please speak one of the safeguarding representatives - Bridget Hanlon (sg1) or Alexandra Collins (sg3) or to Fr Peter.

Volunteers needed to act as Fire Wardens

The Premises Team have identified the need for a pool of volunteers to act as Fire Wardens during Mass. No previous experience is necessary, full training will be given. It is hoped that with a group of parishioners we could establish a rota similar to other ministries.

If you are interested in helping the parish in this way please email the Premises Team staidanspremisesteam@gmail.com

SDC Bible Study Group.

Our meetings take place online on ZOOM every Friday evening at 7.30pm. Once a month we also meet in person at the SDC House at 38 Ryefield Road, Upper Norwood. SE19 3QU.

For information email sdcmeetings@gmail.com

For the meeting go to ZOOM Website at pwa.zoom.us/jc ZOOM ID: 4454292726

Pope Francis' list of 2025 Resolutions

- Don't gossip.
- Finish your meals.
- Make time for others.
- Choose the more humble purchase.
- Meet the poor "in the flesh".
- Stop judging others.
- Befriend those who disagree.
- Make commitments.
- Make it a habit to "ask the Lord".
- Be Happy.

Meal train volunteers needed!

We are currently running a meal train for a family who are new to the area, have just had a baby and are also taking care of their niece. There are still some days available where a volunteer is needed. If you would like to volunteer to cook one meal for a family of three (two adults and a child) over the next 10 days, please go to www.mealtrain.com/87e2q4 and sign up ASAP 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.

If you would like to cook a meal in future but weren't able to do so this time, please email Katie and your name will be added to the list of volunteers to be notified next time we host a meal train.

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.

RED MISSIO Boxes.

There are many boxes which Brenda Eydman has been unable to return as there was no name on them when they were handed in. They are now on the tables at the back of the church. If you did not receive yours back, please take any one of them and immediately write your name and phone number on the label so that next time it can be returned to you.



Red boxes are for your loose change. When it is fairly full you bring it in for counting and it is returned to you afterwards. All proceeds go to the Catholic foreign missions, spreading the Gospel.

Jubilee Year prayer

Father in heaven,
may the *faith* you have given us
in your son, Jesus Christ, our brother,
and the flame of *charity* enkindled
in our hearts by the Holy Spirit,
reawaken in us the blessed *hope*
for the coming of your Kingdom.

May your grace transform us

into tireless cultivators of the seeds of the Gospel.

May those seeds transform from within both
humanity
and the whole cosmos
in the sure expectation
of a new heaven and a new earth,
when, with the powers of Evil vanquished,
your glory will shine eternally.

May the grace of the Jubilee

reawaken in us, *Pilgrims of Hope*,

a yearning for the treasures of heaven.
May that same grace spread
the joy and peace of our Redeemer
throughout the earth.

To you our God, eternally blessed,
be glory and praise for ever. **Amen.**

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

Anyone travelling to Italy soon ?

Please let Fr Peter know. Small envelope package to be posted.

Croydon Churches' Floating Shelter and Nightwatch.

The annual review (2024-25) of our support for the homeless through the Croydon Churches' Floating Shelter and Nightwatch is available on the noticeboard at the back of church.

Please pray for the sick and housebound.

Elizabeth Hubbard-Brown
 Angela Lambert, Barbara Wood, 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.

Today's readings:**First reading Malachi 3:1-4**

Thus says the LORD God: Behold, I send my messenger, and he will prepare the way before me. And the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his Temple; and the messenger of the covenant in whom you delight, behold, he is coming, says the LORD of hosts. But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears? For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap. He will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the sons of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, and they will bring offerings in righteousness to the LORD. Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the LORD as in the days of old and as in former years.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 24(23):7. 8. 9. 10. R8a

The LORD of hosts, he is the king of glory!

Second reading Hebrews 2:14-18

Since the children share in flesh and blood, Jesus himself likewise partook of the same things, that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, and deliver all those who through fear of death were subject to lifelong slavery. For surely it is not angels that he helps, but he helps the offspring of Abraham. Therefore he had to be made like his brothers in every respect, so that he might become a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make propitiation for the sins of the people. For because he himself has suffered when tempted, he is able to help those who are being tempted.

Gospel Luke 2:22-40

When the time came for their purification according to the Law of Moses, the parents of Jesus brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord (as it

is written in the Law of the Lord, 'Every male who first opens the womb shall be called holy to the Lord') and to offer a sacrifice according to what is said in the Law of the Lord, 'a pair of turtle-doves, or two young pigeons'.

Now there was a man in Jerusalem, whose name was Simeon, and this man was righteous and devout, waiting for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was upon him. And it had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Christ. And he came in the Spirit into the Temple, and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him according to the custom of the Law, he took him up in his arms and blessed God and said,

'Lord, now you are letting your servant depart in peace, according to your word; for my eyes

have seen your salvation that you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and for glory to your people Israel.'

And his father and his mother marvelled at what was said about him. And Simeon blessed them and said to Mary his mother, 'Behold, this child is appointed for the fall and rising of many in Israel, and for a sign that is opposed — and a sword will pierce through your own soul also — so that thoughts from many hearts may be revealed.'

And there was a prophetess, Anna, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was advanced in years, having lived with her husband seven years from when she was a virgin, and then as a widow until she was eighty-four. She did not depart from the Temple, worshipping with fasting and prayer night and day. And coming up at that very hour she began to give thanks to God and to speak of him to all who were waiting for the redemption of Jerusalem.

And when they had performed everything according to the Law of the Lord, they returned into Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. And the child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom. And the favour of God was upon him.