

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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Name of acc: RCAS Coulsdon.

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

Year C

Fifth Sunday of Lent

6th April 2025

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

Saturday Vigil 6pm Dr Peter Rodrigues RIP **Confessions after Mass.**

Sunday 9am Marie Sullivan RIP

Sunday 11am Thanksgiving of Erin and Ashley McKillop **4pm** Stations of the Cross.

Monday 10am Margaret Stone RIP

Tuesday 9.30am PKM intention.

Wednesday 6.30pm Michael O'Grady RIP.

Thursday 10am People of the parish

Friday 10am Paddy McGing RIP Exposition **10.30am CONFESSIONS after Mass during Exposition.**

PALM SUNDAY. **Vigil 6pm** Anton Fernando RIP **Confessions after Mass.**

Sunday 9am People of the parish **11am** Welfare of Anne Noeleen Greevy. *Both morning Masses begin in hall.*

**NO Life
breakfast
until 27 April.**

**Bar open
after 11am
Mass.**

Second collection

For the work and expenses of the Apostolate of the Fatima pilgrim statue that will be visiting us.

Please remember in your prayers the repose of the souls of: Canon John O'Toole, Canon Leo Mooney and Jose Carlos Cabreiro.

May they be welcomed into the fullness of life in heaven.

Please pray for the sick and housebound.

Elizabeth Hubbard-Brown, Angela Lambert, Barbara Wood, Claire Longworth, Riley Fitzgerald (age 5 yrs), Kevin Leavey, Jean Bleach, Truda Hobbs, Terry Doman, Eileen Darville, Pat Kelly, Marion McCluskey, 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, Fr Simplicio D'Souza

This weekend we welcome the pilgrimage statue of Our Lady of Fatima and the relics.

A big thank you to the Apostolate team and especially Br Oliver who is part of the group and has organized this weekend for us.



TABERNACLE update.

Tabernacles become available when churches and chapels close. There is one available at present from a closed church in the Archdiocese of Liverpool. The photo on the left is an almost identical 'twin', with very minor variations on the pattern. The eight stones are polished granite. This has the same dimensions as the mock-up which was in place on our sanctuary last weekend.

Thank you to those who already made donation pledges for the actual tabernacle, no money will be accepted until after a decision is made by the parish.

FR Peter

CAFOD Myanmar Earthquake Appeal

Following the devastating earthquake in Myanmar, CAFOD is responding through the Catholic Church there to support families affected by the disaster. Your donations will provide essentials like water, food, solar lights, and mosquito nets. Please give to CAFOD's Myanmar Earthquake Appeal. You can donate online at cafod.org.uk/myanmar or by calling 0303 303 3030. You can also text EARTHQUAKE to 70450 to donate £10. Anything given at church marked MYANMAR will be forwarded to CAFOD. Our Good Friday teas will be for this appeal.

Jubilee 2025 Pilgrimage to Walsingham

Join Archbishop John on Sat 28th June at the National Shrine. A coach will leave Virgo Fidelis (Upper Norwood) at 7am and take us to Walsingham (stopping on route for toilets/quick breakfast on M11). There will be extra transport for the less able to take people from the Shrine to the ancient abbey grounds. Must be registered by 10th May. The coach is £50 each and £5 for the entrance fee to the Abbey Grounds. To register please email norwoodupper@rcaos.org.uk

Join Br Oliver's gardening team at St. Aidan's

Are you passionate about plants and want to make a difference in our parish? Regardless if you're a novice or a seasoned gardener, your help is very much needed and welcomed. The team will also help maintain our existing memorial garden! We will look at creating "Our Lady's Garden". Please speak to Br. Oliver to sign up or email him on abasolo35@gmail.com for more information. Thank you for considering this opportunity to make our parish greener and more beautiful!

Have you seen Dave ?

If you are a member of our Social Club or you wish to join, Dave Murray would like to see you. Why? It is time for the annual subscriptions - £5 - to be collected. If you drink regularly in our bar you should be a paid up member. Dave will be there after 11am Mass collecting the subs. Children are free.

Upcoming collections.

The Good Friday collection for the Holy Places is used to maintain churches and shrines in the Holy Land associated with the life of Jesus. It also helps the work of the Church in the Holy Land by the relief of poverty and suffering. Parishes, schools, orphanages and medical centres there rely very much on assistance from the Collection, especially at this difficult time for them.

Easter Offerings.

The collection at the Easter Masses is the main source of personal income for priests. This is the system adopted in Catholic parishes throughout England. Catholic priests do not receive a salary in the way that ministers of other denominations do. They are therefore dependent on the Christmas & Easter offerings for personal income.

At the Easter Vigil and Easter Sunday morning Masses the offertory basket collection, the card reader, 'Just giving' and BACS are designated as 'Easter offerings'.

Parishioners' responsibility is to the priest of their own parish, not the parish they may be visiting at Easter. If you are going away you may wish to put your contribution in an envelope and post it through the Parish House letterbox or leave it in the sacristy marked 'Easter offering'. Any cheques should be made payable to the parish bank account 'RCAS Coulsdon' for banking purposes. If you are in the Gift Aid scheme, please use the relevant envelope. The parish benefits from the GA not the priest.

HOLY YEAR JUBILEE. Every 25 years the Church throughout the world celebrates the Death and Resurrection of Jesus in a special way.

We have now booked a coach. It will be £20 per adult, children and teens go free, paid by the parish. There will be a PPC member taking names again after Masses this week, only about 20 seats left.

Saturday 7th June is our Archdiocesan Jubilee Holy Year Celebration Day at Aylesford Friary. This is the centerpiece event of the Year of Jubilee 2025 in the Archdiocese of Southwark. Led by Archbishop John Wilson, we will gather as an Archdiocese at The Friars, Aylesford, for a day of prayer, Mass, reflection, celebration, and fun. There will be lots of activities for children and adults. The event is free except for the coach. The coach will leave here around 9am and depart Aylesford around 4.30pm.

To view The FRIARS, go to <https://www.thefriars.org.uk/>

A walking pilgrimage to the Friars will depart from St George's Cathedral, Southwark (Lambeth Road, SE1 7HY), on Monday 2 June. You can view the pilgrimage itinerary and register your interest at aec.rcaos.org.uk/pilgrimage2025. Overnight accommodation available in parishes along the route.

Two of our parishioners Leonie & Colin Wilding are joining the walk. Please make contact with them if you are interested in doing it. leonie@thewildings.eclipse.co.uk

Building a Better Marriage day for married couples in the Croydon deanery

Saturday 12th April 2025 9.30am – 4.30pm

St Mary's / Our Lady of Reparation, 70 Wellesley Road, Croydon, Surrey, CR0 2AR

This day is a day in which married couples can privately explore their relationship more deeply and gain valuable insights into the communication and the call of the Church to the married. May we humbly suggest that this day is a great Lenten observance for married couples to be involved in as the couples move through a journey of recognising the good in their marriage as well as facing some of the challenges, saying sorry and receiving healing. There is no charge for this course. Refreshments will be provided but please bring a packed lunch. Look us up on the diocesan website: <https://www.rcsouthwark.co.uk/mission/marriage-and-family-life/building-a-better-marriage/>

Booking is essential - please contact Carole on mflkent@rcaos.org.uk or phone 07983524727

SVP Meeting

The next meeting of the parish SVP group will take place on the evening of Monday 7th April 2025 at 8.15pm in the Marian Room.

OUR OFFERTORY INCOME. Cash £610, Standing Orders £591, Card reader £244
Total income: £1,445 of which £837 was gift-aided.
2nd Collection: Poor Parishes £ 514 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

Part-time cleaner required for St. Columba's Church in Selsdon.

Primary duties: cleaning the hall floor, toilets, and kitchen on a Monday morning 8:30am-10:30am
Please contact the Parish Office on selsdon@rcaos.org.uk if interested.

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.

PURLEY FOOD HUB are always very grateful for our donations. Please leave food items in church porch. Preferences for this month: Tin Openers - we have given out our last one, tinned meat meals (other than hot dogs & meatballs), tinned carrots, cartons of long life full fat milk, tinned sweetcorn, jars of peanut butter and meat & fish paste, tins of dessert fruit, tins of rice pudding, small bottles of shampoo, bars of soap, sanitary pads, laundry washing capsules

Prayer of consecration ... please join with the priest at the end of the bidding prayers.

O Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of God and our Mother,
to your Immaculate Heart we solemnly entrust and consecrate ourselves, the Church
and all humanity. Accept this act that we carry out with confidence and love.

Grant that war may end and peace spread throughout the world.
The 'YES' that arose from your heart opened the doors of history to the Christ the Prince of Peace.
We trust that, through your heart, peace will dawn once more.
To you we consecrate the future of the whole human family,
the needs and expectations of every people,
the anxieties and hopes of the world.

Through Christ Jesus Our Lord. **Amen.**

Today's readings:

First reading Isaiah 43:16-21

Thus says the LORD, who makes a way in the sea,
a path in the mighty waters, who brings forth
chariot and horse, army and warrior; they lie down
they cannot rise, they are extinguished, quenched
like a wick: 'Remember not the former things, nor
consider the things of old. Behold, I am doing a new
thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I
will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the
desert. The wild beasts will honour me, the jackals
and the ostriches, for I give water in the wilderness,
rivers in the desert, to give drink to my chosen
people, the people whom I formed for myself that
they might declare my praise.'

Responsorial Psalm 126(125):1-2b. 2c-3. 4-5. 6.

*What great deeds the LORD worked for us!
Indeed, we were glad.*

When the LORD brought back the exiles of Sion,
we thought we were dreaming.
Then was our mouth filled with laughter;
on our tongues, songs of joy.

Then they said among the nations,
'What great deeds the LORD worked for them!'
What great deeds the LORD worked for us!
Indeed, we were glad.

Bring back our exiles, O LORD,
as streams in the Negeb.
Those who are sowing in tears
will sing when they reap.

They go out, they go out, full of tears,
bearing seed for the sowing;
they come back, they come back with a song,
bearing their sheaves.

Second reading Philippians 3:8-14

Brothers and Sisters: I count everything as loss
because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ
Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss
of all things and count them as rubbish, in order that
I may gain Christ and be found in him, not having a
righteousness of my own that comes from the law,
but that which comes through faith in Christ, the
righteousness from God that depends on faith —
that I may know him and the power of his
resurrection, and may share his sufferings, becoming
like him in his death, that by any means possible I
may attain the resurrection from the dead.

Not that I have already obtained this or am already
perfect, but I press on to make it my own, because
Christ Jesus has made me his own. Brothers and
sisters, I do not consider that I have made it my own.
But one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and
straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on
towards the goal for the prize of the upward call of
God in Christ Jesus.

Gospel John 8:1-11

At that time: Jesus went to the Mount of Olives.
Early in the morning he came again to the temple.
All the people came to him, and he sat down and
taught them. The scribes and the Pharisees brought a
woman who had been caught in adultery, and
placing her in the midst they said to him, 'Teacher,
this woman has been caught in the act of adultery.
Now in the Law, Moses commanded us to stone
such women. So what do you say?' This they said to
test him, that they might have some charge to bring
against him. Jesus bent down and wrote with his
finger on the ground. And as they continued to ask
him, he stood up and said to them, 'Let him who is
without sin among you be the first to throw a stone
at her.' And once more he bent down and wrote on
the ground. But when they heard it, they went away
one by one, beginning with the older ones, and Jesus
was left alone with the woman standing before him.
Jesus stood up and said to her, 'Woman, where are
they? Has no one condemned you?' She said, 'No
one, Lord.' And Jesus said, 'Neither do I condemn
you; go, and from now on sin no more.'