

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

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Parish banking details: **Name of acc:** RCAS Coulsdon.
 Acc no.: 01751182 **Sort:** 60-06-14

Year C

7th Sunday of Easter

1 June 2025

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

Saturday Vigil 6pm Mary Crehan RIP **Confessions after Mass.**

Sunday 9am Colin Hadley RIP

Sunday 11am Maria and Juliette Angole (Twins 18th Birthday)

Monday 10am People of the parish

Tuesday **No Mass here**

Wednesday 6.30 pm Baby Gloria Fernandes (deceased)

Thursday 10am Wilma Noronha RIP *St. Boniface, Bishop/Martyr*

Friday 10am Barbara Wood RIP. **Exposition until 11am.**

Pentecost

Saturday Vigil 6pm Isabel Noronha RIP **Confessions after Mass.**

Sunday 9am Olivet Almeida RIP **11am** Margaret O'Donnell RIP

Life breakfast today.

Bar open after 11am Mass.

2nd collection this weekend: Church Communications Day.

This collection supports the work of the Catholic Communications Network (CCN) the media office of the Bishops' Conference of England and Wales. The CCN seeks to be of service both to the Church and the world in offering professional channels of communication and provides support for the Bishops of England and Wales and the wider Church in promoting the Gospel through the media on current issues. Its office is the focus for media enquiries on National matters and seeks to develop the public profile of the Church and its teaching. The CCN provides up to date news releases, features and podcasts, information from the Bishops' Conference of England and Wales, and trains spokesmen and women.

Kivia Da Silva and Alali Dorencamp (adults) will be Confirmed this Sunday at 11am Mass. Alali is also being received into full communion with the Catholic church.

We pray for them as they receive this great sacrament of mission.

Special wedding anniversary ?

If you are celebrating your 1st/10th/25th/40th/50th/60th or any later wedding anniversary this year, you are invited to renew your marriage vows at a Mass to be celebrated at St George's Cathedral, Southwark, at 3pm on July 12.

Close family members can attend with you. In order to receive a personal invitation from Archbishop John, email to mflsw@rcaos.org.uk the following details: your full names, address, phone number, anniversary being celebrated and parish.

Please apply immediately as we are a bit late with this publicity.

Please let Fr Peter know if you are celebrating your 25th, 40th and longer, ending in '0'.
couldson@rcaos.org.uk

Please pray for the sick and housebound. Elizabeth Hubbard-Brown, Angela Lambert, Maura Puckett, Claire Longworth, Marina Dormer, 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, 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.

Emails purporting to come from Fr Peter have been doing the rounds. Please do not respond to them. They say:

Hello, I hope this finds you well? I'm heading into a meeting with limited communication access. So just reply by email. Fr Peter Mansfield

Afternoon Tea Friday 6th June

In the church hall at 4pm for a donation of £5. To book a place please speak to Brenda Eydman after the 9am Mass or telephone 01737 5523610

The next meeting of the parish SVP group

will take place on the evening of Monday 2nd June 2025 at 8:15pm in the Marian Room

TS Eliot.

The Parish of St Stephen's, (C of E) Gloucester Road (SW7 4RL) are hosting a free art exhibition from 2nd-15th June 2025, 10am-5pm entitled *The Painted Word* by Jérémie Queyras – based on TS Eliot's *The Four Quartets*.

He was Churchwarden at St Stephen's for 25 years and the first Anglican poet to be mentioned in a papal document (Pope Francis, 2023) you are warmly invited to come and explore TS Eliot's enduring legacy to the church, arts, and the world. More information at <https://linktr.ee/TSEliot>

Job vacancy.

Following the retirement of the current post holder the Diocesan Education Service are looking to recruit a person to support its schools and academies. Details for the Trust Relationship Officer available at <https://www.rcaoseducation.org.uk/trust-relationship-officer-education-service/>

Jubilee Year diocesan Pilgrimage to Aylesford. Saturday 7th of June.

- **Board coach from 9.40am outside Smitham school.**
- **Money for the coach will be collected on board. £20 per adult. Br Oliver has been appointed 'Bus Conductor'. He will take your money and tell you where to get off, - which some might say is good training for his future life !**
- **Dress for the weather - Mass is outdoors.**
- **Children should bring a ball and outdoor games.**
- **Please bring your own lunch or a picnic. While there are eating places at Aylesford they will be oversubscribed on the day.**

Good luck to the walkers, Leonie and Colin, who will depart with a diocesan group from St Georges Cathedral on Monday.

Our coach will leave St Aidan's at 10am and depart from Aylesford at 5pm. Mass will be celebrated by Archbishop John and concelebrated by the priests of the diocese in the afternoon at 3pm.

Aylesford is a Kent village. Outside it the Carmelite Friars have a shrine to Our Lady where people gather every day for prayer, Mass, devotions and relaxation. Please see their website for more information: thefriars.org.uk

The month of June is dedicated to the Sacred Heart of Jesus.

The symbol of the 'Sacred Heart' has an important place in Catholic spirituality. It was highlighted in the seventeenth century when a French nun, Sr. Margaret Mary, received a vision of Christ with flames of love coming from his heart. In describing the apparition Margaret Mary said, "The divine heart was represented to me, ... and the wound which Jesus received on the cross appeared there visibly". It is important to remember that Margaret Mary's vision has its origin in the scriptures and is highlighted particularly by St. John's Gospel, "From his heart shall flow fountains of living water". Jn. 7:38 The month of June has traditionally been a time of renewing devotion to the Sacred Heart. It was literally on the cross that he was pierced with a lance "and immediately there came out blood and water" Jn 19:34. Friday 27 June is the feast of the Sacred Heart.

Commentary on today's readings - with Dom Henry Wansbrough OSB.

First reading

Acts 7:55-60

Stephen publicly declared his faith in Christ, and his death echoes that of Jesus. He saw the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God, just as Jesus prophesied that his judges would see the Son of Man seated at the right hand of God. The final prayers of Stephen, committing his spirit to the Lord Jesus and forgiving his killers, echo those of Jesus himself on Calvary. The account therefore shows that Christian martyrdom echoes the death of Christ himself.

Second reading

Revelation 22:12-14, 16-17, 20.

There are some passages in scripture which contain so much in them that a commentary is superfluous and even a little impertinent. Here is one example. This reading belongs to the final Sunday of Eastertide, the season which celebrated the Redemption, the hinge of history. It belongs to Year C, the final year of the three-year cycle. It is the final passage of the final book of the Bible.

The way to know what this passage, is saying, and how it pulls together the threads of the Apocalypse, the Bible and the whole sweep of salvation history, is not to intellectualize it. It should not be read or studied as some kind of specimen. It should be proclaimed. Go into a private room if you want – or out on a balcony – or on a hilltop miles from anywhere – and read this passage out loud, as loudly as you can. If you don't want to embarrass yourself, wait until no-one is passing by. Don't worry about mere people: tell the sky and tell the stars. Tell the universe.

Gospel John 17:20-26

In this final part of the high priestly prayer of Jesus, he suddenly turns from concern for the circle of his disciples to concern for the wider circle of future disciples, and prays for their unity. The unity of the disciples was to be a sign not only horizontally, a sign of their love for one another, but also vertically, a sign of the love of Jesus for them and the mutual love of Jesus and the Father. It was to be a sign for the world, 'that the world may believe that you sent me'.

There is a story that in extreme old age the Apostle John would be carried into the Christian assembly and asked to give them a saving message. All he would say was, 'Love one another'. And at the early martyrdoms the spectators would say, 'See how these Christians love one another!'

Already the Letter of John, especially 2 and 3 John, show that Christian unity was not flawless. The scandals of Christian disunity have become flagrant since the break between Eastern and Western Christianity in 1054 and the shattering of Western Christianity into increasingly petty fragments since 1517. Mission to non-Christians has in the last century or so shown the counterproductive absurdity of this disunity, but the priority given by the Churches to this sign of Jesus' message remains far below that of their Founder. A scatter of quarrelling sects is hardly an effective sign of divine love.

Sacraments of Initiation for adults and children. Becoming a Catholic ... or receiving the Sacraments of Initiation as an adult.

Journey-in-Faith— BEGINS IN AUTUMN

The course is for:

- Those who wish to become members of the Catholic Church;
- OR those who wish to receive the sacrament of Confirmation as adults (18 yrs. and over);

'Come and see' - you are not committed to becoming a Catholic if you attend but it will help you to think more about it. Ask Fr Peter for an enrolment form or email him
couldsdon@rcaos.org.uk

Penne Hutton and friends (parish youth ministry)

are raising funds in the hope of taking our Confirmation group and other secondary school age young people on a day trip to the Big Church Festival on Saturday the 23rd August 2025 (August Bank Holiday Weekend). You can find more about the festival here: <https://bigchurchfestival.com>

We are organising a night of musical entertainment Saturday 21st June in the church hall after 6pm mass. With:

- Roy's 3 Amigos
- Performing Arts alumni: Paige
- Recording Artist: Cecile
- Care home entertainer: Philip

The bar will be open.

£5 Tickets will go on sale next weekend.

Summertime 2025: 6th – 9th August: Altar Servers and YOUTH Trip to Westminster Pastoral Centre, £189. For aged 11-15. (NB not restricted to altar servers.)

We commend this excellent residential trip for altar servers and those who regularly attend mass on the weekend. It is an event that has now gone on for more than 20 years, it is a few days for deepening one's catholic faith, in a great social atmosphere, including football, sports and visit to Thorpe Park. For more details of how to get to the venue, with a coach laid on at St. Anselm's Dartford, see your parish priest for a form. .

Last week's 2nd collection.

**HCPT Lourdes Group 510 says
THANK YOU for £1,317**

What an incredible bunch of 'Angels we have amongst us' in St. Aidan's! A grand total of £1,317 (*Plus Gift Aid to come!*) from last weekend's second collection has meant we are able to pay for someone completely plus assist a second person! Your generosity has blown me away, and has made a huge difference to everyone involved. We are truly grateful. Thank you. Bridget Hanlon & Group 510.

Today's readings:

First reading

Acts 7:55-60

In those days: Stephen, full of the Holy Spirit, gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. And he said, 'Behold, I see the heavens opened, and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God.' But they cried out with a loud voice and stopped their ears and rushed together at him. Then they cast him out of the city and stoned him. And the witnesses laid down their garments at the feet of a young man named Saul. And as they were stoning Stephen, he called out, 'Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.' And falling to his knees he cried out with a loud voice, 'Lord, do not hold this sin against them.' And when he had said this, he fell asleep

Responsorial Psalm Ps 97(96):

The LORD is king, most high above all the earth.

The LORD is king, let earth rejoice;
let the many islands be glad.
Justice and right are the foundation of his throne.

The skies proclaim his justice;
all peoples see his glory.
All you angels, worship him.

For you indeed are the LORD,
most high above all the earth,
exalted far above all gods.

Second reading Rev 22:12-14, 16-17, 20

I, John, heard a voice saying to me, 'Behold, I am coming soon, bringing my recompense with me, to repay each one for what he has done. I am the

Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end.' Blessed are those who wash their robes, so that they may have the right to the tree of life and that they may enter the city by the gates.

'I, Jesus, have sent my angel to testify to you about these things for the churches. I am the root and the descendant of David, the bright morning star.'

The Spirit and the Bride say, 'Come.' And let the one who hears say, 'Come.' And let the one who is thirsty come; let the one who desires take the water of life without price.

He who testifies to these things says, 'Surely I am coming soon.' Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!

Gospel

John 17:20-26

At that time: Jesus lifted up his eyes to heaven, and praying said, '[Holy Father,] I do not ask for these only, but also for those who will believe in me through their word, that they may all be one, just as you, Father, are in me, and I in you, that they also may be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me. The glory that you have given me I have given to them, that they may be one even as we are one, I in them and you in me, that they may become perfectly one, so that the world may know that you sent me and loved them even as you loved me. Father, I desire that they also, whom you have given me, may be with me where I am, to see my glory that you have given me because you loved me before the foundation of the world. O righteous Father, even though the world does not know you, I know you, and these know that you have sent me. I made known to them your name, and I will continue to make it known, that the love with which you have loved me may be in them, and I in them.'