

# 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](http://www.st-aidans-parish.org.uk)

**Support in times of loss:** [listeningtoyou.staidans@gmail.com](mailto:listeningtoyou.staidans@gmail.com)

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**St Aidan's School:** 01737 556036

**Parish banking details:**

**Name of acc:** RCAS Coulsdon.

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

**Year C**

**15th Sunday ~ Ordinary Time**

**13th July 2025**

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

**Saturday Vigil 6pm** Domini David RIP **Confessions after Mass.**

**Sunday 9am** People of the parish

**Sunday 11am** Elizabeth McManus RIP

**Monday 10am** Clara Dhinoy RIP

**Funeral Mass 2pm** MAURA PUCKETT RIP. Parishioners welcome. (Cremation is private).

**Tuesday 10am Mass** Private intention

**Wednesday 6.30pm** Priest's intention

**Thursday 10am** **SCHOOL MASS** Parishioners welcome. Evelyn Mary Bishop (Foundation).

**Friday 10am** Deceased members of the Cota and Back families **Exposition until 11am.**

**Saturday Vigil 6pm** Agnes McManus RIP

**Confessions after Mass.**

**Sunday 9am** Intentions of Teresa O'Donoghue

**11am** Manuel Bosco Denzil Fernandes RIP

**Life breakfast today.**

**Bar open after 11am Mass.**

**Please pray for the sick and housebound.**

Win Jordan, Adolfo Santa-Olalla (Maria Murray's father), Elizabeth Hubbard-Brown, Angela Lambert, Claire Longworth, Marina Dormer, Kevin Leavey, Jean Bleach, Truda Hobbs, Terry Doman, Eileen Darville, Pat Kelly, Marion McCluskey, 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**

**This Week Second Collection: Stella Maris**

Sunday 13 July is Sea Sunday. Seafarers and fishers play a vital role in all of our lives, but they often work in difficult and hazardous conditions. On Sea Sunday, the Church prays for all those who live and work at sea, and for the ministry of Stella Maris, the Catholic Church's agency that looks after seafarers and fishers. Stella Maris supports seafarers worldwide and provides practical and pastoral care to all seafarers, such as through port chaplains and volunteer ship visitors.

To learn more about Stella Maris or to donate online, please visit [stellamaris.org.uk](http://stellamaris.org.uk)

**Today we welcome Fr Peter Mabhudu to our parish.** He will be our supply priest to cover my holiday period. He is from Gweru diocese Zimbabwe, currently studying pastoral theology in Louvain, Belgium.

Fr John who has come for many summers felt he could no longer offer his services to us having reached his 87th birthday ! He is very much missing his visit to the parish this year and we will miss him. We thank him for all he has done.

*Fr Peter*

### **Diaconal Day**

On Sunday 13 July we are celebrating our second Archdiocesan Diaconal Day, during which we pray for the Permanent Deacons serving in our Archdiocese as well as we pray for the new vocations to this ministry. If you are a man between 21 years to 58 years, prayerful, with the desire to love God and God's people, you are involved in services within your parish and community, you have tried many things and still feel drawn to a closer relationship with Christ and His Church you might possibly be called to be a Permanent Deacon? If you require further information about the Permanent Diaconate, please speak to your Parish Priest, (the Parish Deacon, if there is one).

### **A lifechanging opportunity!**

#### **Do you desire to know Jesus more intimately?**

The Archbishop's Certificate (ArchCert) is a two-year online course for all in Southwark and beyond who wish to understand their faith in a more profound way and be able to share it with both confidence and joy.

The course will commence on 18 October 2025 and the cost will be £400 per year. The full cost of the course, payable over 2 years is £800. In addition, registration must be completed in advance and there is a non-refundable registration fee of £50. Further details can be found here:

<https://aec.rcaos.org.uk/archcert>

It is particularly good for catechists.  
Please see Fr Peter if you are interested.

**Part-time cleaner required** for St. Columba's Presbytery and Hall in Selsdon, on a Monday morning for 4 hours.  
Please contact the Parish Office  
on [selsdon@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:selsdon@rcaos.org.uk) if interested.

**SVP National Raffle 2025** Tickets for our annual fundraising event will be on sale after Masses over this weekend and the next. Tickets are £1 each. Cash only please as we have no card reader. Thank you for your continued support..

The National Raffle is the biggest annual fundraising event of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul. Every year your support helps the Society continue its work with people facing isolation, loneliness and a daily struggle with poverty in communities throughout England and Wales. This year the prizes are: 1st prize £5000, 2nd prize £1000 plus 15 additional prizes of £100. Tickets are £1 each or £5 for a book of 5 tickets and the draw will take place on 25th September 2025.

**Members of St. Aidan's Conference will be selling tickets after Masses on the weekends of 12th & 13th July and 19th & 20th July 2025.**

**Cash only** please as we have no card reader. Thank you once again for your continued and generous support.

**Deacon Stephen Trafford -**  
**Today we welcome Stephen to minister as deacon at the 11am Mass**

#### **Ordination as Priest.**

Stephen will be ordained a priest on Saturday 19th July at 12:30pm in St George's Cathedral, Southwark. All are very welcome to attend the Mass and the reception afterwards (no need to confirm attendance). It will also be livestreamed on YouTube.

We thought it would be lovely if those wanting to attend, could travel there and sit together on the day. If you would like to do that, you can meet us on the platform at Coulsdon South Station. We hope to take the 11.09am train to London Bridge and change for Waterloo East. Just look out for Richard Thurbon - he is always easy to spot! You can then decide whether to take the bus, walk (20 mins) or share a taxi from Waterloo.

**Stephen will come to St Aidan's and celebrate the 11am Mass on Sunday 24th August.**

#### **Coulsdon Community Choir Summer Concert**

They will be holding a summer concert supporting St Christopher's Hospice on the 17<sup>th</sup> July at 8pm at Coulsdon Methodist Church, Brighton Road, CR5 2BE. Free entrance.

***A reflection on the parable of the Good Samaritan  
- today's Gospel - given by Pope Leo in May this  
year.***

*Dear brothers and sisters,*

We will continue to meditate on some parables of the Gospel, which are an opportunity to change perspective and open ourselves up to hope. The lack of hope, at times, is due to the fact that we fixate on a certain rigid and closed way of seeing things, and the parables help us to look at them from another point of view.

Today I would like to talk to you about an expert, knowledgeable person, a doctor of the Law, who however needs to change his perspective, because he is concentrated on himself and does not notice others (cf. *Luke* 10:25-37). Indeed, he questions Jesus on the way in which eternal life is “inherited,” using an expression that intends it as an unequivocal right. But behind this question perhaps it is precisely the need for attention that is concealed: the only word he asks Jesus to explain is the terby Pope Leom “neighbour,” which literally means *he who is near*.

Jesus therefore tells a parable that is a path for transforming that question, to pass from *who loves me?* to *who has loved?* The first is an immature question, the second is the question of an adult who has understood the meaning of his life. The first question is the one we ask when we sit in the corner and wait, the second is the one that drives us to set out on the path.

The parable that Jesus tells has, in fact, a road as its setting, and it is a difficult and impervious road, like life. It is the road travelled by a man going down from Jerusalem, the city on the mountain, to Jericho, the city below sea level. It is an image that already foreshadows what might happen: it happens that the man is attacked, beaten, robbed, and left half dead. It is the experience that happens when situations, people, sometimes even those we have trusted, take everything from us and leave us in the middle of the road.

However, life is made up of encounters, and in these encounters, we emerge for what we are. We find ourselves in front of others, faced with their fragility and weakness, and we can decide what to do: to take care of them or pretend nothing is wrong. A priest

and a Levite go down that same road. They are people who serve in the Temple of Jerusalem, who live in the sacred space. And yet, the practice of worship does not automatically lead to being compassionate. Indeed, before being a religious matter, compassion is a question of humanity! Before being believers, we are called to be human. We can imagine that, after staying a long time in Jerusalem, that priest and that Levite are in a hurry to return home. It is indeed haste, so present in our lives, that very often prevents us from feeling compassion. Those who think that their own journey must take precedence are not willing to stop for another.

But here comes someone who is actually able to stop: he is a Samaritan, hence a person belonging to a despised people (cf. *2 Kings* 17). In his case, the text does not specify the direction, but only says that he was travelling. Religiosity does not enter into this. This Samaritan simply stops because he is a man faced with another man in need of help.

Compassion is expressed through practical gestures. The Evangelist Luke ponders the actions of the Samaritan, whom we call “good,” but in the text he is simply a person: a Samaritan approaches, because if you want to help someone, you cannot think of keeping your distance, you have to get involved, get dirty, perhaps be contaminated; he binds the wounds after cleaning them with oil and wine; he loads him onto his horse, taking on the burden, because one who truly helps if one is willing to feel the weight of the other's pain; he takes him to an inn where he spends money, “two silver coins,” more or less two days of work; and he undertakes to return and eventually pay more, because the other is not a package to deliver, but someone to care for.

Dear brothers and sisters, when will we too be capable of interrupting our journey and having compassion? When we understand that the wounded man in the street represents each one of us. And then the memory of all the times that Jesus stopped to take care of us will make us more capable of compassion.

Let us pray, then, that we can grow in humanity, so that our relationships may be truer and richer in compassion. Let us ask the Heart of Jesus for the grace increasingly to have the same feelings as him.

**OUR OFFERTORY INCOME.** Cash £455, Standing Orders £591, Card reader £192  
**Total income:** £1,238 of which £753 was gift-aided.

**Thank you.**

Please consider making a standing order for your offertory contributions. Contact the GA coordinator Clive Fernandes to get the details. [coulsdongac@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:coulsdongac@rcaos.org.uk)

## Today's readings:

### First reading Deuteronomy 30:10-14

Moses spoke to the people: 'Obey the voice of the LORD your God, keep his commandments and his statutes that are written in this Book of the Law, turn to the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul.

'For this commandment that I command you today is not too hard for you, neither is it far off. It is not in heaven, that you should say, "Who will ascend to heaven for us and bring it to us, that we may hear it and do it?" Neither is it beyond the sea, that you should say, "Who will go over the sea for us and bring it to us, that we may hear it and do it?" But the word is very near you. It is in your mouth and in your heart, so that you can do it.'

### Responsorial Psalm Ps 69(68)

*Seek God, you who are poor,  
and your hearts will revive.*

I pray to you, O LORD,  
at an acceptable time.

In your great mercy, answer me, O God,  
with your faithful salvation.

LORD, answer, for your mercy is kind;  
in your great compassion, turn toward me.

As for me in my poverty and pain,  
let your salvation, O God, raise me up.  
Then I will praise God's name with a song;  
I will glorify him with thanksgiving.

The poor when they see it will be glad,  
and God-seeking hearts will revive;  
for the LORD attends to the needy,  
and does not spurn his own in their chains.

For God will bring salvation to Sion,  
and rebuild the cities of Judah.  
The children of his servants shall inherit it;  
those who love his name shall dwell there.

### Second reading Colossians 1:15-20

Christ Jesus is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities — all things were created through him and for him. And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together. And he is the head of the body, the Church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in everything he might be pre-eminent. For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross.

### Gospel Luke 10:25-37

At that time: Behold, a lawyer stood up to put Jesus to the test, saying, 'Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?' He said to him, 'What is written in the Law? How do you read it?' And he answered, 'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind, and your neighbour as yourself.' And he said to him, 'You have answered correctly; do this, and you will live.'

But he, desiring to justify himself, said to Jesus, 'And who is my neighbour?' Jesus replied, 'A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and he fell among robbers, who stripped him and beat him and departed, leaving him half dead. Now by chance a priest was going down that road, and when he saw him he passed by on the other side. So likewise a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. But a Samaritan, as he journeyed, came to where he was, and when he saw him, he had compassion. He went to him and bound up his wounds, pouring on oil and wine. Then he set him on his own animal and brought him to an inn and took care of him. And the next day he took out two denarii and gave them to the innkeeper, saying, "Take care of him, and whatever more you spend, I will repay you when I come back." Which of these three, do you think, proved to be a neighbour to the man who fell among the robbers?' He said, 'The one who showed him mercy.' And Jesus said to him, 'You go, and do likewise.'

## SOUTHWARK DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES

There are still a few places available on the pilgrimage, which Southwark makes to Lourdes from 22 to 29 August this year. For information and booking, please see

<https://www.tangney-tours.com/diocese-pilgrimages/diocese-ca/>

There are a range of hotels available, though most Southwark pilgrims will be staying at the Hotel Eliseo. Further information is available from Bishop Paul [paulhendricks@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:paulhendricks@rcaos.org.uk) or Canon Perera [edwardperera@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:edwardperera@rcaos.org.uk)