

# NEWSLETTER

## St Aidan's Catholic Church - Coulsdon



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Deacon: Rev. Tony Flavin

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

**Year C**

**23rd Sunday ~ Ordinary Time**

**7th September 2025**

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

**Saturday Vigil 6pm** 50th Wedding Anniversary Marina & Steven Dormer. **Confessions after Mass.**

**Sunday 9am** Margaret Almeida RIP.

**Sunday 11am** People of the Parish

**Monday 10am** Eva Fernandes RIP **Birthday of the Blessed Virgin Mary**

**Tuesday** No Mass here

**Wednesday 6.30pm** Santana Gomes RIP

**Thursday 10am** Penny Giorgio RIP

**Friday 10am** Intention of PKM **Exposition until 11am.**

**Saturday Vigil 6pm** Staff and patients of Cane Hill Hospital

**Confessions after Mass.**

**Sunday 9am** People of the parish **Sunday 11am** First Anniversary of Jean O'Boyle RIP

**Life breakfast today.  
Bar open after 11am Mass.**

**Sacrament of  
Reconciliation  
Confessions.  
Monday 8th Sept after  
10am Mass.**

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

Elizabeth Hubbard -Brown, Claire Longworth, Eileen Mallows, Marina Dormer, 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.

**Many young people are preparing to begin or return to university this month.** Others are taking up further education in new colleges or have started in their new secondary school. We ask God to bless them in this time of transition in their lives.

We would especially like to thank Juliette and Maria Angole 'the twins' who serve 11am Mass. We wish them well as they go to Uni this week. We look forward to seeing them back serving during their holidays. We look forward to them reaching their 10 year landmark as servers.

**We pray for those who have died recently:** Patricia Donko RIP;

Katherine Duchess of Kent RIP. - Patron of HCPT - Lourdes. Became a Catholic in 1994.

## Today's Gospel .... Lost in translation ?

The opening lines of today's Gospel are puzzling to say the least. The passage has Jesus saying *'If anyone comes to me and does not hate his own father and mother, and wife and children, and brothers and sisters, yes, and even his own life, he cannot be my disciple.'*

The word *'hate'* in this context should not be understood in the way we usually use that word in our English language. There are some things which are not possible to translate accurately from one language to another. It was not uncommon in the culture in which the gospels were written to express one's first preference in terms of love and everything else as hate. So for example a waiter offers someone a fish meal or roast lamb. The person chooses the fish. It would be said that the person in that instance loved the fish and hated the lamb. However, we would say that the person showed a preference for the fish as opposed to the lamb.

The Gospel today is from St. Luke. It is interesting that when the same passage appears in St. Matthew's Gospel he changes the wording in order to better express the meaning. St Matthew has Jesus saying that his disciples must not prefer family to him. In other words Christ must come first.

Jesus teaching is about putting our relationship with him at the centre of all our relationships. He must come first. In saying that, Jesus was not undermining our family relationships. Rather he was teaching his disciples that if God's love is first and central in their lives then all other relationships including love of family, friends and self will fall into their rightful place.



***This Sunday Pope Leo will canonise two new saints, Carlo Acutis and Pier Giorgio Frassati.***

**The photo to the right is Carlo Acutis (1991—2006).** It is a very modern looking image for a saint, - this is because he is of our own time. Carlo Acutis was an Italian teenager known for his intense devotion to the Eucharist and his use of the internet to promote Catholic faith. He died of leukaemia at the age of 15 in 2006. Born and baptised in London, he created a website documenting Eucharistic miracles and apparitions. Beatified in 2020, Acutis is notable as the "first millennial saint".

**Pier Giorgio Frassati (1921—1925)** was a young man who spent his short life caring for the sick and infirm. A handsome and active young man from an influential family in Turin, he dedicated his short life to the care of the poor and the sick and worked for social and political reforms. Pier Giorgio Frassati's generosity was legendary. He often gave the clothes he was wearing to poor people he met who were in need. An open anti-fascist, a keen sportsman and mountaineer, an enthusiast of the theatre and literature, and a young man with a great devotion to the Blessed Sacrament, he stands as a great example of Christianity in action. His life was cut short by polio at the age of twenty-four and thousands of the Italian industrial city's poor lined the streets at his funeral.



***Saints Carlo and Pierre ... pray for us.***

**Saturday 20 September – Annual Diocesan Day for Catechists.** Registration now open! You are invited to join us for a day filled with teachings and prayer and a chance to meet fellow Catechists. Join us at St George's Cathedral, SE1 6HU from 10am. Registration and choice of workshops can be found at [aec.rcaos.org.uk/day-for-catechists-2025](http://aec.rcaos.org.uk/day-for-catechists-2025)

If you help with parish programmes such as Confirmation, First Confession / Communion, Children's Liturgy of the Word, Children generally, adult catechesis, Baptism prep for parents. Anyone interested in Catechetics is welcome to go. Cost £10 payable by the parish. Please let Fr Peter know if you are attending.

## Sacrament of Confirmation at St Aidan's 2026.

Year 9 pupils or older are now being invited to enrol for the preparation for Confirmation. Canon Gerard Bradley (the Archbishop's area vicar) will be coming to our parish on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> February 2026 to administer the sacrament of Confirmation at 7.30pm Mass. I would therefore like to invite our young people who are currently in year 9 or older to apply.

The Confirmation preparation programme will begin in the church hall on Sunday evenings beginning 12<sup>th</sup> October. The application forms will be available from Fr Peter after Masses today and for the next couple of weeks.

**Sunday (or Saturday Vigil) Mass attendance is an essential requirement for any prospective applicant.**

The young person applying needs to request the form personally, **NOT A PARENT.**

The St Aidan's programme is not open to people from other parishes.

On the application form the applicants are asked to write a short piece in their own words saying why they wish to be confirmed.

**Signing in for school reference** purposes resumes today in the church porch.

**The weekday missal** with the new ESV translation for the readings will be available from the end of September. Please let Fr Peter know if you want one ordered for you. They are priced at £50.

## Weekly Mass in Croydon University Hospital

There will be Mass every Wednesday at 12 noon in the Chapel at Croydon University Hospital. All are most welcome.

## **Join the Pro-Life Mission – SPUC Education Officer (England)**

SPUC is hiring a full-time Education Officer, based in London with travel across in England. Help bring the pro-life message to schools and communities through engaging talks and outreach. A passion for life and youth engagement essential. To apply or find out more, visit: [spuc.org.uk/joinourteam](http://spuc.org.uk/joinourteam)


**PURLEY FOOD HUB** are always very grateful for our donations. Please leave food items in church porch. Tinned fish, packet soup containing several sachets, tinned meat meals, tinned baked beans, packets of savoury biscuits, 500g packets of pasta, small bottles of fruit squash, packets of custard requiring only hot water, unisex shampoo, small bottles of washing up liquid.

**OUR OFFERTORY INCOME.** Cash £406, Standing Orders £591, Card reader £130  
**Total income:** £1,027 of which £685 was gift-aided.

## **2nd Collection:**

Foreign Missions Appeal £1055.  
**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](mailto:couldongac@rcaos.org.uk)






### Coloma Convent Girls' School

*Nurturing the pursuit of greatness today in the leaders of tomorrow*

## An Invitation to Year 5 and 6 Students from Our Catholic Primary Schools and Parishes

WE WOULD LIKE TO MEET YOU AT OUR OPEN EVENTS TO SHARE WHAT COLOMA HAS TO OFFER AS A CATHOLIC SECONDARY SCHOOL



**Are you looking for a secondary school that:**

- ✓ is built on strong Catholic traditions?
- ✓ values the wellbeing and pastoral care of every individual?
- ✓ has strong academic outcomes which are significantly above the national average?
- ✓ is a place where children learn and grow personally and socially?

**Exclusive Open Morning**  
(By appointment only)  
Friday 12<sup>th</sup> September @8:30am  
To book your place email [visits@coloma.co.uk](mailto:visits@coloma.co.uk)

**Open Evening**  
(no appointment needed)  
Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> September @ 4:30pm-7pm

**Number One School in Croydon for Progress and Attainment (DfE 2024)**

*"I can do all things through him who strengthens me"*  
Philippians 4:13

To book your place or for more information visit [www.coloma.co.uk](http://www.coloma.co.uk)

## CAFOD: Response in Gaza

Your donations to Gaza since the start of the conflict have been a vital lifeline. Right now, CAFOD's partner, Caritas Jerusalem, is delivering essential medical treatment to displaced people and providing medicines to treat chronic illnesses. We have helped 1,400 households with cash to buy supplies in the last month and we are currently feeding 2,000 people with new stocks of flour and rice. Despite the restrictions on aid coming into Gaza, CAFOD's local partners are working tirelessly to help people. And with your ongoing support, they will do all in their power to keep doing so. You can find out more about how you can make a difference in Gaza at [cafod.org.uk](http://cafod.org.uk). Thank you for backing our work through holding collections for our Family Fast Day appeals and for continuing to pray for peace in the Middle East.

## Today's Mass readings.

### First reading

### Wisdom 9:13-18b

What human being can learn the counsel of God? Or who can discern what the Lord wills? For the reasoning of mortals is worthless, and our designs are likely to fail, for a perishable body weighs down the soul, and this earthy tent burdens the mind full of thoughts. We can hardly guess at what is on earth, and what is at hand we find with labour; but who has traced out what is in the heavens? Who has learned your counsel, unless you have given wisdom and sent your holy spirit from on high? And thus the paths of those on earth were set right, and people were taught what pleases you.

### Responsorial Psalm 90(89)

*O Lord, you have been our refuge,  
from generation to generation.*

You turn man back to dust,  
and say, 'Return, O children of Adam.'  
To your eyes a thousand years  
are like yesterday, come and gone,  
or like a watch in the night.

You sweep them away like a dream,  
like grass which is fresh in the morning.  
In the morning it sprouts and is fresh;  
by evening it withers and fades.

Then teach us to number our days,  
that we may gain wisdom of heart.  
Turn back, O LORD! How long?  
Show pity to your servants.

At dawn, fill us with your merciful love;  
we shall exult and rejoice all our days.  
Let the favour of the LORD our God be upon us;  
give success to the work of our hands.  
O give success to the work of our hands.

### Second reading Philemon 9b-10, 12-17

Beloved: I, Paul, an old man and now a prisoner also for Christ Jesus — I appeal to you for my child, Onesimus, whose father I became in my imprisonment. I am sending him back to you, sending my very heart. I would have been glad to keep him with me, in order that he might serve me on your behalf during my imprisonment for the gospel, but I preferred to do nothing without your consent in order that your goodness might not be by compulsion but of your own accord. For this perhaps is why he was parted from you for a while, that you might have him back for ever, no longer as a bondservant but more than a bondservant, as a beloved brother — especially to me, but how much more to you, both in the flesh and in the Lord. So if you consider me your partner, receive him as you would receive me.

### Gospel

### Luke 14:25-33

At that time: Great crowds accompanied Jesus, and he turned and said to them, 'If anyone comes to me and does not hate his own father and mother, and wife and children, and brothers and sisters, yes, and even his own life, he cannot be my disciple. Whoever does not bear his own cross and come after me cannot be my disciple. For which of you, desiring to build a tower, does not first sit down and count the cost, whether he has enough to complete it? Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, all who see it begin to mock him, saying, "This man began to build and was not able to finish." Or what king, going out to encounter another king in war, will not sit down first and deliberate whether he is able with ten thousand to meet him who comes against him with twenty thousand? And if not, while the other is yet a great way off, he sends a delegation and asks for terms of peace. So therefore, any one of you who does not renounce all that he has cannot be my disciple.'