

NEWSLETTER

St Aidan's Catholic Church - Coulsdon



Parish Priest: Fr Peter Mansfield, Deacon: Rev. Tony Flavin

Parish House: 1 Portnalls Road, Coulsdon, Surrey. CR5 3DD

Tel: 020 8660 2452 Email: coulsdon@rcaos.org.uk

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

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

Safeguarding: Bridget Hanlon coulsdonsg1@safeguardrcaos.org.uk

Alexandra Collins coulsdonsg3@safeguardrcaos.org.uk

Church Hall enquiries: staidanshallbookings@gmail.com

Property maintenance, report issues: staidanspremisesteam@gmail.co.uk

St Aidan's School: 01737 556036

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

Year C

26th Sunday ~ Ordinary Time

28th September 2025

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

Saturday Vigil 6pm Margaret Whitelaw RIP **Confessions after Mass.**

Sunday 9am Maria Almeida RIP

Sunday 11am Intentions of Eileen and John Joyce

Monday 10am People of the parish.

11.30am Funeral service, Kevin Leavey RIP

Tuesday No Mass here

Wednesday 6.30pm People of the parish

Thursday 10am Christopher Palmer RIP

Friday 10am Mieczyslaw Kucharski RIP

Saturday Vigil 6pm For the marriage of Carly and George Manning **Confessions after Mass.**

Sunday 9am Francis Dias RIP

Sunday 11am Jean Kelly RIP

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

Saints Michael, Gabriel and Raphael Archangels

St Jerome

St Therese of the child Jesus

The Holy Guardian Angels

There will be a Catholic funeral service for Kevin Leavey RIP on Monday 29th September at 11.30am in church. All are welcome to attend and come into the hall afterwards for refreshments. There will be a Mass at a later date.

New Altar Servers Needed.

Team members will be outside after Masses today.

We are excited to invite new altar servers to join our team for all Masses. We welcome girls, boys, and adults who wish to serve at the altar. Children should be in **Year 4 or above** and have received their **First Holy Communion**.

A **training session** for new and current servers will take place on Sunday, 9th November. After the 11:00am Mass

If you or your child are interested in joining, or would like more information, please speak with the **altar server coordinator after Mass**, or contact: **Agnelo Braganza – 9:00am Mass**,

Email: agnelob@yahoo.com, **Phone:** 07546 113700

We look forward to welcoming new members to our altar server team and thank you for considering this important ministry.

Please pray for the sick and housebound.

Elizabeth Hubbard -Brown, Brigid O'Donnell, 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, Michael Ogonovsky, 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.

Catholic school applications. Primary and secondary. Certificate of Catholic Practice.

The priest's reference form has been replaced with the Certificate of Catholic Practice. The certificate is signed by the priest if the applicant comes to Mass weekly. Previously the priest was required to indicate Mass attendance ranked as weekly, fortnightly, monthly, etc. Now all Catholic schools have adopted the new Certificate as proposed by the Archbishop. It means that where Mass attendance is less than weekly the priest is not permitted to sign the Certificate. There is no need to come to the appointment with the priest if you have not signed in weekly at church. Parents who attend Mass less than weekly can still apply to the Catholic schools and prove their Catholicity with the Baptism certificate.

NB St Bede's write directly to the priest.

For more information parents should pick up the cream information sheet from the tables at the back of the church.

Fr Peter will be available to sign secondary school certificates on the following dates and times:

Friday 3 Oct. .. 7 - 7.30pm

Thursday 9 Oct .. 3 - 3.45pm

Thursday 16 Oct .. 7 - 7.30pm

Thursday 23 Oct. .. 7 - 7.30pm

Primary certificates will be signed in November.

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.

CAFOD Family Fast Day Appeal 2025. Friday 3rd October is the family fast day.

Eat less this coming Friday, place the money saved in the envelope and bring it for 2nd collection at church next weekend. Use the envelopes provided in church or go to cafod.org.uk/fastday. Envelopes are available from the welcome desk today and on the tables.

A typical story of how CAFOD helps with our money.

When a severe drought hit, finding water became an extreme challenge. Waré was pregnant at the time and had no choice but to walk miles each day, enduring severe heat, to find water. Many women like Waré are still walking miles to find water.



Waré, a farmer and mother, was pregnant when severe drought hit her village: "We tried to plan, because we knew the dry season was coming, and I was going to give birth to my child, we tried to collect enough hay in storage for the livestock. But then the drought was so much more severe than we expected. We lost everything." - Waré

The major challenge Waré faced was water. She would wake up at 5 am every day and walk six hours to find water in the extreme heat whilst pregnant. Sometimes she would find the water source empty, so she'd have to keep walking, exhausted.

Waré had a plan – to build life-changing water tanks in her village. Our local water engineers, alongside Waré and her neighbours, constructed an underground water tank. These tanks are like a reservoir - collecting rain to store to use when drought hits.

When asked about the support from our local experts, Waré said:

"They were always very close to us. They didn't just supervise us remotely, they came to our site and worked with us, practically. We shared everything together!"

These tanks hold 1,000 bathtubs worth of water and serve 300 families. You can make sure more of these tanks are built in drought-hit areas like Waré's.

Your support can help more women like Waré to build life-changing water tanks. You'll be helping families not just to survive but to thrive.

John Fisher Secondary School's Open Mornings

These are pre-bookable tours aimed at parents/carers and their sons who are transitioning to secondary school in September 2026 (current Year 6).

Open Morning dates: Friday 3rd October, Tuesday 7th October and Friday 10th October.

Each Open Morning will include a welcome from the Headteacher, a tour of the school led by our students, and an opportunity to ask questions. Pre booking is essential and can be made via the school www.johnfisherschool.org

The School's main Open Evening for those children in other year groups will take place Thursday 9th July 2026 from 4.30pm -7.00pm no booking is required for this event.

Exam Invigilators needed for Thomas More Catholic School Secondary School & Sixth Form

Thomas More Catholic School Secondary School & Sixth Form 11-18 in Purley require exam invigilators to supervise students taking public and internal exams on an ad hoc basis throughout the year. Further details and an application form can be found on the school website: www.tmore.org.uk
Closing date: Friday 10th October. You do not need to be Catholic to apply

HELP FOR THE HOMELESS:

Once again we will be collaborating this autumn with Nightwatch in the provision of sandwiches for distribution to the homeless and vulnerably housed in the evenings in central Croydon. We have pursued this initiative for a few years now and Nightwatch have reported on the ever-increasing need for food provision on a nightly basis. We, the Churches Together in Coulsdon, have agreed take on sandwich provision on Thursday evenings in November and December.

Previous St Aidan's volunteers will be contacted direct for their availability but new volunteers are also very welcome indeed. A lot of food is needed so please do respond to this if you can. Volunteers are needed to cover the following jobs:

1) To make about 15 rounds of simple sandwiches and deliver them to a specified Coulsdon address any time up to 7.00pm on Thursdays in November and December (collection can be arranged if you are not able to deliver). About seven volunteers are needed for each week.

2) To collect all the batches of sandwiches from the Coulsdon address at 8pm on Thursdays in November and December and deliver them by car to Nightwatch in central Croydon. The round trip takes about one hour. One volunteer is needed each week.

Detailed instructions will be available for both jobs when a rota is circulated. If we have enough volunteers you should only be asked to be on the rota once or twice.

If you are able to help out please contact Maureen Lee - maureenannelee213@gmail.com - by Thursday 16th October saying which job you would like to do and which Thursdays in November and December you are available. A rota will be issued towards the end of October.

Afternoon tea in October is cancelled. The next one will be Friday 14th November at the Winter time of 2pm.

Calling all youth.

**on behalf of St Aidan's Youth Ministry
Are you interested in Performing Arts and are under the age of 18?**

If you are a singer, instrumentalist, actor or producer, come along to an open casting call:

- in The Marian Room (Hall), **12th October after 11am Mass**

Show us what you can do. Please do bring your instruments and / or voices. Everyone is welcome irrespective of experience or ability.

We would like to start a St Aidan's Youth troupe to enrich the parish.

SAVE THE DATE!!

St. Aidan's Social Committee Annual Winter Ball
will be held on 6th December
Full details to follow

OUR OFFERTORY INCOME. Cash £403, Standing Orders £591, Card reader £10
Total income: £1,004 of which £598 was gift-aided.

2nd Collection: Home Missions £409 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

Sacrament of Confirmation at St Aidan's 2026.

FINAL WEK TO ENROL.

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 6th 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 12th 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.

Funeral for Mrs Norma Carroll, former Director of Music at Coloma School

The Funeral for Mrs Norma Carroll, former Director of Music at Coloma School will be held at St John the Baptist Church, Purley at 11.30 am on Tuesday 30th September.

May she rest in peace.

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.

Today's Mass readings.

First reading Amos 6:1a, 4-7

Thus says the LORD, the God of hosts: 'Woe to those who are at ease in Sion, and to those who feel secure on the mountain of Samaria.

'Woe to those who lie on beds of ivory and stretch themselves out on their couches, and eat lambs from the flock and calves from the midst of the stall, who sing idle songs to the sound of the harp and like David invent for themselves instruments of music, who drink wine in bowls and anoint themselves with the finest oils, but are not grieved over the ruin of Joseph! Therefore they shall now be the first of those who go into exile, and the revelry of those who stretch themselves out shall pass away.'

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 146(145): 7. 8-9a. 9b-10. R5a

My soul, give praise to the LORD.

Second reading 1 Timothy 6:11-16

O man of God, pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, steadfastness, gentleness. Fight the good fight of the faith. Take hold of the eternal life to which you were called and about which you made the good confession in the presence of many Witnesses. I charge you in the presence of God, who gives life to all things, and of Christ Jesus, who in his testimony before Pontius Pilate made the good confession, to keep the commandment unstained and free from reproach until the appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ, which he will display at the proper time — he who is the blessed and only Sovereign, the King of kings and Lord of lords,

who alone has immortality, who dwells in unapproachable light, whom no one has ever seen or can see. To him be honour and eternal dominion. Amen.

Gospel Luke 16:19-31

At that time: Jesus said to the Pharisees, 'There was a rich man who was clothed in purple and fine linen and who feasted sumptuously every day. And at his gate was laid a poor man named Lazarus, covered with sores, who desired to be fed with what fell from the rich man's table. Moreover, even the dogs came and licked his sores. The poor man died and was carried by the angels to Abraham's side. The rich man also died and was buried, and in Hades, being in torment, he lifted up his eyes and saw Abraham far off and Lazarus at his side. And he called out, "Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus to dip the end of his finger in water and cool my tongue, for I am in anguish in this flame." But Abraham said, "Child, remember that you in your lifetime received your good things, and Lazarus in like manner bad things; but now he is comforted here, and you are in anguish. And besides all this, between us and you a great chasm has been fixed, in order that those who would pass from here to you may not do so, and none may cross from there to us." And he said, "Then I beg you, father, to send him to my father's house — for I have five brothers — so that he may warn them, lest they also come into this place of torment." But Abraham said, "They have Moses and the Prophets; let them hear them." And he said, "No, father Abraham, but if someone goes to them from the dead, they will repent." He said to him, "If they do not hear Moses and the Prophets, neither will they be convinced if someone should rise from the dead."'