

NEWSLETTER

St Aidan's Catholic Church - Coulsdon



Parish Priest: Fr Peter Mansfield,

Deacon: Rev. Tony Flavin

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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

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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

27th Sunday ~ Ordinary Time

5th October 2025

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

Saturday Vigil 6pm God's blessing on the marriage of Carly and George Manning **Confessions after Mass.**

Sunday 9am Francis Dias RIP

Sunday 11am Jean Kelly RIP

Monday 10am Anthony Vincent Cotta RIP

Tuesday No Mass here

Wednesday 6.30pm Yolanda Sapsford RIP

Thursday 10am John Archer RIP

Friday 10am Maria Mafalda Cotta RIP

Saturday Vigil 6pm Steve Ashmore RIP **Confessions after Mass.**

Sunday 9am Jackie Van Elswijk-du Cassé RIP

Sunday 11am Patricia Hassett RIP

Life breakfast today.

Bar open after 11am Mass.

OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY

St John Henry Newman

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.

October is the month of the Holy Rosary.

There will be Rosary & Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament on Fridays at 2.30pm. This is a good opportunity for school parents and others before pick up time from school. Parking in church for those attending but please register. Cars can be left until children are collected.

SAVE THE DATE !

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

Please pray for the sick and housebound.

Siobhan Buttimer, 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:

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.

The Coulsdon/Old Coulsdon Branch of the WORLD DAY OF PRAYER is holding a COFFEE MORNING and CAKE SALE on Wednesday, 15th October from 10.30am to 12 noon at OLD COULSDON CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

Please join us – there will be a warm welcome awaiting you as well as coffee or tea and home-made cakes!

CAFOD Family Fast Day Appeal 2025 was Friday 3rd October. Envelopes or cash can be placed in the second collection today.

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.

Cardinal Vincent Nichols, President of the Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales, has released a statement expressing his shock and assuring the Jewish community of his prayers after the terror attack on the Heaton Park Hebrew Congregation Synagogue in Manchester on 2 October.

"The killing of two Jewish worshippers, the injuries inflicted on others, and the attempt to drive a car into a crowd in Manchester today are expressions of utter hatred that must not be tolerated in this land. That such an attack is directed at the Jewish community, and on Yom Kippur, this most solemn of days, shocks me to the core.

"Jewish and Christian people are closely bound together in our common faith in God. Indeed, in the Catholic tradition, Jewish people are held to be the 'elder brothers' in faith of our Christian family. My prayers, and those of the Catholic community, are heartfelt and profound: for those who have died, the bereaved, the injured, and those who will feel less safe tonight.

"It is a duty of us all to work together to ensure a more cohesive and respectful society, one in which such violence and inhumanity have no place."

Cardinal Vincent Nichols

Archbishop of Westminster

President, Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales

Tabernacle - update.

Following our consultation I have now submitted to the Archbishop through his Art & Architecture Committee the proposal to have a new tabernacle in our church in the apse of the sanctuary. I decided that the second tabernacle which was on display here on 28th / 29th June is the better option having listened to the feedback about it. It is gold plated and has the image of the Trinity / Holy Family on the door, see photo below. It is smaller than the first one proposed, 30cm high (same as our present tabernacle) and 40cm wide. The diocesan committee will consider all liturgical norms and architectural implications before giving their decision. I know that Archbishop John will be personally involved in this stage of the process. The application includes permission for the statue of the Holy Family. As promised the application included the files of everyone's YES and NO submissions.



FR Peter

Church heating boiler is currently out of order, awaiting components parts.

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.

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.

Sacrament of Confirmation at St Aidan's 2026.
Preparation begins on Sunday 16th November at 6pm in parish hall.

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.

OUR OFFERTORY INCOME. Cash £389,
Standing Orders £591, Card reader £269
Total income: £1,249 of which £741 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

PURLEY FOOD HUB are always very grateful for our donations. Please leave food items in church porch. Tinned peas, carrots, sweetcorn, packet soup containing several sachets, tinned meat meals such as stew, meatballs, hot dogs, 500g packets of long grain rice, small jars of honey, tinned dessert fruit, tinned rice pudding, packets of custard requiring only hot water, small bottles of squash, adult toothpaste

Today's Mass readings.

First reading Habakkuk 1:2-3; 2:2-4

O LORD, how long shall I cry for help, and you will not hear? Or cry to you 'Violence!' and you will not save? Why do you make me see iniquity, and why do you idly look at wrong? Destruction and violence are before me; strife and contention arise.

And the LORD answered me: 'Write the vision; make it plain on tablets, so he may run who reads it. For still the vision awaits its appointed time; it hastens to the end — it will not lie. If it seems slow, wait for it; it will surely come; it will not delay.

'Behold, his soul is puffed up; it is not upright within him, but the righteous shall live by his faith.'

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 95(94):1-2. 6-7b. 7c-9. R7c, 8a

*O that today you would listen to his voice!
'Harden not your hearts.'*

Come, let us ring out our joy to the LORD;
hail the rock who saves us.
Let us come into his presence, giving thanks;
let us hail him with a song of praise.

O come; let us bow and bend low.
Let us kneel before the LORD who made us,
for he is our God, and we the people,
the people of his pasture, the flock of his hand.

O that today you would listen to his voice!
'Harden not your hearts as at Meribah,
as on that day at Massah in the desert
when your forebears put me to the test;
when they tried me, though they saw my work.'

Second reading 2 Timothy 1:6-8, 13-14

Beloved: I remind you to fan into flame the gift of God, which is in you through the laying on of my hands, for God gave us a spirit not of fear, but of power and love and self-control. Therefore do not be ashamed of the testimony about our Lord, nor of me his prisoner, but share in suffering for the gospel by the power of God,

Follow the pattern of the sound words that you have heard from me, in the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. By the Holy Spirit who dwells within us, guard the good deposit entrusted to you.

Gospel Luke 17:5-10

At that time: The Apostles said to the Lord, 'Increase our faith!' And the Lord said, 'If you had faith like a grain of mustard seed, you could say to this mulberry tree, "Be uprooted and planted in the sea", and it would obey you.

'Will any one of you who has a servant ploughing or keeping sheep say to him when he has come in from the field, "Come at once and recline at table"? Will he not rather say to him, "Prepare supper for me, and dress properly, and serve me while I eat and drink, and afterwards you will eat and drink"? Does he thank the servant because he did what was commanded? So you also, when you have done all that you were commanded, say, "We are unworthy servants; we have only done what was our duty."'