

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

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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

30th Sunday ~ Ordinary Time

26th October 2025

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

Saturday Vigil 6pm People of the parish **Confessions after Mass.**

Sunday 9am Welfare of Louisa Rubin

Sunday 11am Adolfo Santa-Olalla RIP

Monday 10am Clara Dhinoy RIP

Tuesday No Mass here *Saints Simon and Jude - Apostles*

Wednesday 6.30pm In memory of Jude Stockermans.

Thursday 10am Miguel Farina RIP and Dorinda Farina RIP

Friday 11.30am Wedding Mass for Alessandra Negri & Jed Murphy.

ALL SAINTS

Saturday Vigil 6pm People of the parish **Confessions after Mass.**

Sunday 9am Michelle Gent RIP **Sunday 11am** Daria Mascarenhas RIP

Life breakfast today.

Bar open after 11am Mass.

You can pay offertory or make a donation to the parish using this QR code or by using the link on the homepage of the parish website. The first time you use it you will be asked if you wish to Gift-Aid.



On Friday there is no 10am Mass and no afternoon rosary.

Please pray for the sick and housebound.

Atticus Flatcher-Smith (baby), Claire Longworth, Elizabeth Hubbard-Brown, Brigid O'Donnell, 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.

We pray for those who have died recently.

Colleen Welsman RIP
(mother of Alexandra Collins)
and Adrian McManus (nephew of Eileen Joyce).
May they know the loving mercy of God in heaven.

On Friday we have the joy of two of our parishioners getting married at St Aidan's:
Alessandra Negri & Jed Murphy.



We congratulate them and wish them every blessing in their married life together.

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

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

Faithful departed - November Book.

During the month of November there will be a Book placed in our Church with the names of departed loved ones that you have submitted. Throughout the month a Mass will be celebrated every week and on all Souls Day, 3rd Nov, for all the names in the book. Please place your list of departed loved ones in the box provided in the centre aisle of the Church.

FAQ.

If people submitted a list in previous years do they need to do a new one each year ?

Yes. Composing your list of departed loved ones is part of your prayer for them and a way of calling them to mind and bringing them to the Eucharist which is always offered for the living and the dead. It is fine to save lists on a computer file. They can be added to each year before printing for the church book.

Parish International Food celebration.
Special social club event.

November 2nd, 12pm in the hall.

Celebrating our diverse St Aidan's community.

We invite everyone to join us for an informal social gathering.

There is no charge for this event but we ask everyone to bring a plate of your national dish to share.

Cherish Life

A one-day conference to help us build a culture of life will take place on 22 November 2025 at St John the Baptist Church Hall, Dale Road, Purley CR8 2EF, 11am-4pm. The conference is organised by the Croydon South Branch of the Society for the Protection of Unborn Children, who will be giving us more information about this important event, at all Masses next weekend.

Transport to Mass .

One of our parishioners has had to give up driving and as a consequence can no longer get to Mass. She would appreciate a lift to and from church even occasionally. She lives at Walpole Ave., Chipstead. See Fr Peter if you can help.

Some of our parishioners help in this way already, thank you to all of them.

HELP FOR THE HOMELESS

Many thanks to all of those who volunteered to make sandwiches for Nightwatch this autumn. By now everyone should have received their rota. It's encouraging that so many volunteers continue to come forward for this. It spreads the load very nicely. We may be asked to continue to do this for a couple of the winter months post-Christmas.

National Day of Prayer and Fasting for Life

There have now been over **ten and a half million abortions** in Great Britain since the Abortion Act was passed 58 years ago, on 27th October 1967. On this terrible anniversary please pray and fast for the end of abortion in this country. On Monday 27th October please go to Mass, say an extra Rosary and give up some food for the day. Share this with your friends on Facebook, <https://www.facebook.com/events/2088827391922348/>

Retreat day for Readers and Special Ministers of Holy Communion.

St Aidan's parish Coulsdon are hosting a retreat day for Readers & Special Ministers of Holy Communion.
Saturday 22nd November 2025. 11am - 3pm.

The newly recruited Special Ministers are included.

All ministers in the Croydon Deanery are invited.

The day includes reflections with Canon Luke Smith on the theme of **'The Word became flesh'**. There will be a session on praying with the scriptures. Adoration and Benediction included.

Venue: St Aidan's Church Hall - Coulsdon, Chipstead Valley Road, CR5 3DD

Please bring a packed lunch, hot drinks provided.

. Please see church noticeboard for the full programme. Parking available – please register your car to avoid a parking penalty.

The historic service at the Sistine Chapel in Rome, during the King's state visit to the Holy See, was the first time a British monarch and a Pope have prayed together since the Reformation.

With King Charles standing with him in front of the congregation, Pope Leo XIV prayed, "God our father, you have created the heavens and the earth, and made us in your own image. Teach us to see your hand in all your works and your likeness in all your children. Through Christ our Lord."

Although the late Queen Elizabeth met popes at the Vatican for courtesy visits, there has never been a prayer service between a British monarch and a Pope since King Henry VIII replaced the Pope with himself as supreme head of the Church of England.

In our troubled world of today simple gestures bring hope and joy. Immense courage was involved in this step especially to overcome the voices of disapproval against both sides.

FR Peter

**Contact a Peer to oppose
Assisted Suicide**

The Terminally Ill Adults (End of Life) Bill has passed through the House of Commons and is now with the House of Lords. Our clear principled objection to the Bill remains. The House of Lords has a responsibility to scrutinise the Bill in depth and reject it if necessary.

Unlike MPs, Members of the House of Lords do not have constituents, meaning there is not a Peer whose job it is to represent you based on the area of the country in which you live. For this reason you should take some time to think about which Peer you will write to and why, such as whether you have a personal or professional connection with them, or you have professional expertise in medicine or healthcare.

Please visit this link for a full list of peers and just choose one. [parliament.uk website](http://parliament.uk).

EXCITING ADVENT RETREAT FOR 2025

Sign up by 31st October to guarantee your place.
4 Week Video Series Advent Retreat 2025
Illuminate by Fr John Nepil. From only £20
Two packages available, go to the link to register, find out more and see what's included. <https://mailchi.mp/59b29c1d4257/yt23923erp>

The Retreat Journey, "If we do not embrace the darkness," writes Fr. John Nepil, "we cannot welcome the light. This is the heart of Advent: a season of trustful surrender, renewed receptivity, and silent vigil. It is the time when we wait for the coming of the light not just in the Christ child at Christmas, but in the inner illumination of God's presence in the soul. God, who is conceived in silence and born in poverty, comes again to fill the soul with light."

In *Illuminate: A Guided Advent Journal for Prayer and Meditation*, Fr. John leads you on a four-week journey through darkness to light. Beginning with the prologue of St. John's gospel, he reveals the profound hope found in the Word made flesh the sacred mystery of the Incarnation.

Each week you'll journey deeper into the meaning of Advent with a meditation:

Week 1: Word—"In the beginning was the Word..."

Encounter the eternal Word of God and learn to hear his voice speaking into your daily life.

Week 2: Light—"The light shines in the darkness..."

See how Christ's light breaks through fear, doubt, and uncertainty, guiding you to embrace truth and hope.

Week 3: Faith—"He came as a witness to testify to the light..."

Like John the Baptist, become a bold and faithful witness to Christ's love, bringing light to those around you.

Week 4: Life—"The Word became flesh and dwelt among us."

Celebrate the miracle of the Incarnation and experience the fullness of God's love in your everyday life.

**Christmas cards in packs of 10 are now on sale in the church shop.
Unbelievable prices !!!**

Sending a Christian Christmas card is a simple and prayerful way of witnessing to our faith in the God who become human for our salvation. Profits also go to charitable causes.

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.

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

OUR OFFERTORY INCOME.

Cash £407, Standing Orders £591, Card reader £235

Total income: £1,233 of which £685 was gift-aided.

2nd Collection: World Missions £549 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

Today's Mass readings:

First reading Sirach 35:15b-17, 20-22b

The Lord is the judge, and with him is no partiality. He will not show partiality in the case of a poor man; and he will listen to the prayer of one who is wronged. He will not ignore the supplication of the orphan or the widow when she pours out her story. He whose service is pleasing to the Lord will be accepted, and his prayer will reach to the clouds. The prayer of the humble pierces the clouds, and he will not be consoled until it reaches the Lord; he will not desist until the Most High visits him and does justice for the righteous and executes judgement. And the Lord will not delay.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 34(33):2-3. 17-18. 19, 23. R7a

The lowly one called, and the LORD heard him.

I will bless the LORD at all times,
praise of him is always in my mouth.
In the LORD my soul shall make its boast;
the humble shall hear and be glad.

The LORD turns his face against the wicked
to cut off their remembrance from the earth.
When the just one cries out, the LORD hears,
and rescues him in all his distress.

The LORD is close to the broken-hearted;
those whose spirit is crushed he will save.
The LORD ransoms the souls of his servants.
All who trust in him shall not be condemned.

Second reading 2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18

Beloved: I am already being poured out as a drink offering, and the time of my departure has come. I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. Henceforth there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will award to me on that day, and not only to me, but also to all who have loved his appearing.

At my first defence no one came to stand by me, but all deserted me. May it not be charged against them! But the Lord stood by me and strengthened me, so that through me the message might be fully proclaimed and all the Gentiles might hear it. So I was rescued from the lion's mouth. The Lord will rescue me from every evil deed and bring me safely into his heavenly kingdom. To him be the glory for ever and ever. Amen.

Gospel Luke 18:9-14

At that time: Jesus told this parable to some who trusted in themselves that they were righteous, and treated others with contempt: 'Two men went up into the Temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. The Pharisee, standing by himself, prayed thus: "God, I thank you that I am not like other men, extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week; I give tithes of all that I get." But the tax collector, standing far off, would not even lift up his eyes to heaven, but beat his breast, saying, "God, be merciful to me, a sinner!" I tell you, this man went down to his house justified, rather than the other. For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but the one who humbles himself will be exalted.'