

NEWSLETTER

St Aidan's Catholic Church - Coulsdon



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

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

Year A

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

1st March 2026

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 Francis Saldanha RIP

Sunday 11am Eileen Darville RIP

Monday 12 noon FUNERAL Jean Bleach RIP

Tuesday NO MASS

Wednesday 6.30pm Maria, Laura, Norma and Antenor Gomes RIP

Thursday 12 noon FUNERAL Eileen Darville RIP

Friday 10am Alison Kiely RIP Exposition until 11am

Saturday Vigil 6pm Mary Monahan RIP Confessions after Mass.

Sunday 9am People of the parish **Sunday 11am** Yvonne Ireland RIP

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

Everyone is welcome to the funeral Masses of Jean Bleach and Eileen Darville. Both are longstanding parishioners.

Please note that the weekday Mass schedule is altered this week because of funerals on Monday and Thursday.

Please pray for the sick and housebound

Eileen Joyce, Mary Archer, Norah Johnson, Claire Longworth, Elizabeth Hubbard-Brown, Brigid O'Donnell, Gill Lands, Eileen Mallows, Truda Hobbs, Terry Doman, Pat Kelly, Marion McCluskey, Charlie Hooke, Allen Reilly, David Gibson, Sarah Bell, Juliette Hinds, Veronica Lydon, Sammy McCarroll, Rosie Longworth, Trudy Kiely, John Cooksey, Geoff Wood, Margaret Long, Freda Blade, Christi Cox, David Morling and all who are sick.

CAFOD Family Fast Day was on Friday 27 February.

At Mass today we will collect the CAFOD envelopes in the second collection. It is a way to stop families going hungry, not just for today, but for the days ahead.

This Family Fast Day, collection lets us show love to our neighbours.

Afternoon Tea Friday 6th March at 2pm

In the church hall for a donation of £5.00
To book a place, please speak to Brenda Eydman or call 01737 552610

**ST PATRICK'S DAY CARDS
ARE AVAILABLE IN THE CHURCH SHOP.**

The parish Treasurer Martin Puckett has prepared for us the accounts of the Parish relating to 2025. You will have been given a summary sheet as you entered church today.

I would like to thank Martin for all his work throughout the year. I also thank Maria Murray who is the new Chair of the parish finance Committee. I welcome Javier Daura as the new secretary and Jed Murphy as the new parish Gift Aid coordinator. Thank you to Clive Fernandes the outgoing GA coordinator for all his work.

Today Jed will be speaking at all Masses in order to promote Gift Aid among all those who pay tax on income and savings. On the benches you will find slips and pens so that you can easily make known if you want to become a GA donor or increase an existing Standing Order (with or without GA).

St Aidan's Parish relies on the generosity of parishioners to make their contribution for the day-to-day costs of parish expenditure and to plan responsibly for the future. If you are a UK taxpayer, Gift Aid allows St Aidan's to reclaim 25% on your donation from HM Revenue & Customs, using the tax you have already paid. This is done at no additional cost to you.

For example, if you give £10, St Aidan's receives £12.50, without you paying anything extra. If you are a higher rate taxpayer you can claim 25p for yourself on every £1 you give.

Regular giving, whether weekly or monthly, is also very helpful. It provides the parish with a more predictable income, making it easier to plan ahead, manage costs, and support the ongoing work of St Aidan's. Both Gift Aid and Standing Orders are entirely voluntary. Any support, in whatever form, is always gratefully received. Thank you for your continued support of St Aidan's through your prayers, presence, and generosity.

Thank you so much.

FR 

Parish Plan A message from the Parish Pastoral Council.

Hello everyone

We have been asked by the Diocese to produce a Parish plan. As we received a lot of insight and ideas through both the Synod process and the Call to Bear Fruit consultation, we are reaching out and asking you to help us validate what we have already, suggest improvements or highlight anything that is missing.

We will be asking you to:

- Validate our current mission statement or tell us how it could be improved or what a new statement could look like?
- Comment on the statements on the following themes of Evangelisation (proclaiming our faith to others), Catechesis (sharing our faith with our youth and families) and Formation (deepening our faith).

Over the next three weekends there will be boards set up and you will be given sticky dots and post it notes. You can use the sticky dots to tell us if you agree with what is already written and the post it notes if you would like to add anything.

Father Peter will explain at every mass what is needed and the PPC will be available to help.

Weekend of 7/8 March – Theme one – Mission statement (the vision for our Parish)

Weekend of 14/15 March – Theme two – Evangelisation

Weekend of 21/22 March – Themes three and four – Catechesis and Formation

If you would like to understand more, please speak to a member of the PPC.

Thank you, *Erica Thurbon - Chair of PPC*

St. Aidan's Church Coulsdon. Chipstead Valley Rd. CR5 3DD.

Two evenings in Lent focussing two Lenten gospels.

Thursday 5th and Thursday 12th March 2026 - 7.30pm - 9pm

John 4 - Jesus speaks to the woman at the well. - *New life in Christ*

John 9 - The healing of the blind man. - *To see is to believe.*

At a time of year when many people ask themselves 'what can I do for Lent?', - here is a great opportunity to delve into two special Lenten gospels, a few days in advance of hearing them at Mass.

The Gospels will be read in parts, using the style of the Passion reading.

Fr. Peter will give a talk on the texts with special reference as to why these readings are linked to Baptism and the Easter mystery in our liturgical / catechetical tradition.

The evenings will be ideal for anyone who wants to prepare for hearing the two special Lenten Gospels of Year A. The evenings will be of special interest to everyone and especially to Parish Readers - RCIA participants and team members - Catechists in general - everyone involved in Parish life.

We will include time for discussion.

Contact: coulsdon@rcaos.org.uk

Celebrating St Patrick.

On Sunday March 22nd there will be a St Patrick's Day Celebration in the hall from 12pm to 4pm.

Craic, Ceoil agus Cairde guaranteed.

Beef & Guinness Stew with Potatoes & Soda Bread will be available to purchase for £5.

Charity Raffle will also be held.
Admission is free. All are welcome!

OUR OFFERTORY INCOME.

Cash £474, Standing Orders £591,
Card reader £375.

Total income: £1,440 of which £823 was gift-aided.

2nd Collection: Clergy Support Fund for sick and retired £574 Thank you.

Please consider making a standing order for your offertory contributions. Contact the GA coordinator Jed Murphy to get the details.
coulsdongac@rcaos.org.uk

You can pay offertory or make a donation to the parish using this QR code or via the parish website. When you donate, you will be asked if you wish to Gift Aid. **Gift Aid allows the parish to reclaim an extra 25% on your donation at no extra cost to you, if you are a UK taxpayer.**



This Sunday. The St Aidan's annual social committee AGM will take place on Sunday 1st March at 12.30pm in the hall Marian Room.

All members should make every effort to attend. The social committee is a vital part of parish life and needs your support. We are actively recruiting new members and I'm happy to speak to anyone who has any questions about what being part of the social committee entails, email me jennylehane@aol.com Remember 'Many hands make light work'. It is a statutory requirement to have a social committee in accordance with the constitution in order for the bar to be opened. That is a condition of the bar license.

Background on the Gospel Reading

For the second Sunday of Lent, we move from Jesus' retreat to the desert to his Transfiguration. Each year on the first Sunday of Lent, our Gospel tells the story of Jesus' temptation in the desert. On the second Sunday of Lent each year, we hear the story of Jesus' Transfiguration.

The story of Jesus' Transfiguration is told in the three Synoptic Gospels: Matthew, Mark, and Luke. In each of those Gospels, the Transfiguration follows Jesus' first prediction of his death and his teaching about the costs of discipleship. Jesus' Transfiguration is a promise of Jesus' glory, his Resurrection.

On a mountain in today's reading, a voice affirms that

Jesus is God's Son in words reminiscent of the voice at Jesus' baptism. In addition, the appearance of Moses and Elijah on the mountain connects this story with God's relationship to the people of Israel. Moses and Elijah represent the Law and the Prophets, respectively. Together with Jesus, they represent God's complete Word.

The Transfiguration occurs in the presence of just three of Jesus' disciples: Peter, James, and John. In Matthew's Gospel, those disciples are among the first whom Jesus calls. The three men are identified as an "inner circle" among Jesus' disciples when Jesus asks them to accompany him to the Garden of Gethsemane just before his arrest.

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Today's Mass reading:

First reading Genesis 12:1-4a

In those days: The LORD said to Abram, 'Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. And I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and him who dishonours you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.' So Abram went, as the LORD had told him.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 33(32):4-5. 18-19. 20, 22. R5b

*May your merciful love be upon us,
as we hope in you, O LORD.*

The word of the LORD is upright,
and all his works to be trusted.
The LORD loves justice and right,
and his merciful love fills the earth.

Yes, the LORD's eyes are on those who fear him,
who hope in his merciful love,
to rescue their soul from death,
to keep them alive in famine.

Our soul is waiting for the LORD.
He is our help and our shield.
May your merciful love be upon us,
as we hope in you, O LORD.

Second reading 2 Timothy 1:8b-10

Beloved: We share in suffering for the gospel by the power of God, who saved us and called us to a holy calling not because of our works, but because of his own purpose and grace, which he gave us in Christ Jesus before the ages began, and which now has been manifested through the appearing of our Saviour Christ Jesus, who abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel.

Gospel Matthew 17:1-9

At that time: Jesus took with him Peter and James and John his brother, and led them up a high mountain by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became white as light. And behold, there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him. And Peter said to Jesus, 'Lord, it is good that we are here. If you wish, I will make three tents here, one for you and one for Moses and one for Elijah.' He was still speaking when, behold, a bright cloud overshadowed them, and a voice from the cloud said, 'This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him.' When the disciples heard this, they fell on their faces and were terrified. But Jesus came and touched them, saying, 'Rise, and have no fear.' And when they lifted up their eyes, they saw no one, but Jesus only. And as they were coming down the mountain, Jesus commanded them, 'Tell no one the vision, until the Son of Man is raised from the dead.'

WEST 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

PURLEY FOOD HUB are always very grateful for our donations. Please leave food items in church porch. Priority Christmas food list: tins of plain meat - chicken, ham, packet & tinned potatoes, tinned peas & carrots, cartons of long life whole milk, tinned dessert fruit, puddings / jellies / packet custard, small bottles of squash, small packets of Christmas biscuits, children's chocolate / sweet treats, small bottles of washing up liquid.