

NEWSLETTER

St Aidan's Catholic Church - Coulsdon



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

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

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Parish banking details: **Name of acc:** RCAS Coulsdon.

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

Year A

ORDINARY TIME ~ FOURTEENTH SUNDAY

5th July 2026

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

Saturday 6pm Kelleher Family - deceased members. **Confessions after Mass.**

Sunday 9am Kathleen Gaffney RIP

Sunday 11am Thomas Tharakan RIP and deceased family members

Monday 10am John Anthony Cotta RIP Votive Mass of St Thomas - Apostle.

Tuesday No Mass here.

Wednesday 6.30pm Ernest Saldanha RIP

Thursday 10am Elizabeth McManus RIP

Friday 10am **End of academic year School Mass.** Martha Almeida RIP **Exposition.**

Saturday 6pm Maura Puckett RIP

Sunday 9am Desmond Shanley RIP **11am** Clement and Yvonne Ireland RIP

Life breakfast after 9am Mass.
Bar open after 11am Mass.

Next weekend second collection:

Stella Maris (Apostleship of the Sea):

Stella Maris is a Catholic charity supporting seafarers worldwide. They provide practical and pastoral care to all seafarers, regardless of nationality, belief or race. Port chaplains and volunteer ship visitors welcome seafarers, offer welfare services and advice, practical help, care and friendship. Stella Maris in Great Britain is part of an international network, working in more than 250 ports around the world. 90% of world trade is transported by ship. However, the life of a modern seafarer can be dangerous and lonely. They may spend up to a year at a time away from home, separated from their family and loved ones and often working in harsh conditions. Stella Maris relies wholly on voluntary contributions and can only continue its work through the generous donations of its supporters, particularly in this collection.

Please pray for the sick and housebound.

Jim Mons, Norah Johnson, Brian Fernandes, Ed Mulhearn, Claire Longworth, Elizabeth Hubbard-Brown, Gill Lands, Eileen Mallows, Truda Hobbs, Terry Doman, Pat Kelly, Marion McCluskey, Charlie Hooke, Allen Reilly, Sarah Bell, Juliette Hinds, Veronica Lydon, Sammy McCarroll, Trudy Kiely, John Cooksey, Geoff Wood, Margaret Long, 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.

CAFOD-DEC Venezuela Earthquake Appeal

You can help our neighbours affected by the 24 June earthquakes in Venezuela with emergency shelter, water and food. CAFOD is already working with local Church partners to support people who have lost their homes, but we need your support to help more survivors. Your donation will provide essential supplies and help families rebuild their lives.

Donate to the CAFOD-DEC Venezuela Earthquake Appeal today: cafod.org.uk/Venezuela or call 0300 999 0030.

Prayer of Intercession for our neighbours in Venezuela

We pray for people affected by the earthquake in Venezuela and for CAFOD's church partners who are helping provide emergency shelter, food and water. Lord hear us.

Parish Pastoral Council.

We say goodbye and thank you to Craig Ditchfield who is leaving the PPC and leaving the parish this summer. We owe Craig a great dept of gratitude for all his work with the premises, Taskforce and property maintenance.

Martin Puckett has opted to exercise his responsibilities as parish treasurer by being available to the PPC rather than by continuing to be a member. He will continue with his treasurer duties as normal and attend Finance Committee meetings. Thank you Martin.

Church Shop.

A new supply of rosary beads is available. Children's rosaries are also suitable for adults.

On the table near the shop there are some second hand statues and crucifixes. Feel free to take them.

OUR OFFERTORY INCOME. Cash £333, Standing Orders £810, Card reader £271

Total income: £1,414
of which c £786 was gift-aided.

2nd Collection: Peter's Pence £394
(Pope's expenses)

SUMMER BBQ RAFFLE AMOUNT

Thank you from the Social Committee for everyone who joined us for the Summer BBQ on Sunday; we hope you all had a wonderful time. We're pleased to announce the raffle made £204 which will be donated to the Princess Alice Hospice in memory of Mary Archer.

SOCIAL EVENTS COMING UP

A few dates of upcoming events for your diaries (more details to follow):

19 July - International Day; help us celebrate our diversity.

20 Sept - back to school BBQ; join us to say goodbye to summer

First Confession & First Holy Communion 2026. Preparation begins in September.

Final week to enrol.

If you wish to enrol your child for the parish preparation programme for First Confession and First Holy Communion you must request a booking slip from outside church after Mass this weekend.

WEEKLY MASS for Catholic parent and child is an essential condition for being accepted on the preparation programme. The preparation programme is parish based. Those who live outside the Parish boundary are not eligible to enrol unless they have already attended here weekly for at least the past year. Attendance at St Aidan's School is not relevant as it is a parish programme.

It will not be possible for us to accommodate individual children who have other sport and cultural interests during session times. For this brief period the First Confession and First Communion preparation must take precedence.

I am grateful to the parishioners who have agreed to give up their time to be Catechists. The role of the Priest and catechists is to supplement the input of the parent and support the parent in accomplishing the commitment made at Baptism to "train their child in the practice of the faith". While our School is not directly involved in running the programme it provides essential support for the children who are preparing for the sacraments.

Sacraments of Initiation for adults. BAPTISM - CONFIRMATION - COMMUNION.

Becoming a Catholic ... or receiving the Sacraments of Initiation as an adult. Journey-in-Faith— BEGINS IN AUTUMN The course is for: • Those who wish to become members of the Catholic Church; • OR those who wish to receive the sacrament of Confirmation as adults (18 yrs. and over); 'Come and see' - you are not committed to becoming a Catholic if you attend but it will help you to think more about it. Ask Fr Peter for an enrolment form or email him couldson@rcaos.org.uk

World Youth Day.

Only the last few places remain for the Archdiocese of Southwark's pilgrimage to World Youth Day 2027 in Seoul, South Korea, led by Archbishop John Wilson, from 1 to 9 August 2027. World Youth Day brings together around a million young Catholics from across the world with Pope Leo XIV for prayer, catechesis, and liturgy. The pilgrimage is open to young adults aged 18 to 35 who are active in their parish. The full package, including return flights, is £3,270; the package excluding flights is £1,870. For full details, please visit tinyurl.com/wydhomel. Please express your interest to youth@rcaos.org.uk as soon as possible.

London Jesuit Centre. The Centre offers courses and events on social and environmental justice, theology, Ignatian spirituality, and philosophy at its centre in Mount Street (Mayfair, W1K 3AH). Please visit londonjesuitcentre.org

A Day with Mary International Symposium Wednesday 29 – Friday 31 July

A Day with Mary invites you to this free international symposium, hosted at St Mary's Catholic Church, West Croydon (70 Wellesley Road, CR0 2AR). The conference will explore devotion to the Immaculate Heart of Mary, with sessions led by theologians, priests, and scholars. Each day begins at 8.30am with Holy Mass, closing with Music for Our Lady from 5.30pm. A Day with Mary follows in the church on Saturday 1 August. For more details and to reserve your free seat, please visit symposium.adaywithmary.org.

Background on the Gospel Reading. © *Loyolapress.com*

Today's reading from Matthew's Gospel comes after a discourse in which Jesus reproaches people who have witnessed his mighty deeds yet still lack belief. In this context, today's Gospel explains the reason for this unbelief and reveals what is necessary for faith. Today's Gospel also continues to enhance our understanding of discipleship as last week's Gospel did.

Jesus first prays in thanksgiving to God who has made himself known to Jesus' disciples. He praises God who has made himself known to the "little ones" and not to the wise and learned. As in other recent readings from Matthew's Gospel, a contrast is made here between the unbelieving Pharisees, who are wise and learned, and the faithful disciples, tax collectors, and sinners with whom Jesus keeps company.

The second part of this reading calls to our attention the unity between the Father and the Son. God has made himself known through Jesus, and in knowing Jesus, we come to know the Father. In Jesus' life and in his person, God reveals himself to us.

In the concluding sentences of today's Gospel, Jesus' teaching is again contrasted to the teaching of the Pharisees. This common theme of Matthew's Gospel probably reflects tension that existed between Jesus and the Pharisees and between the Pharisees and the community of Christians for whom Matthew wrote. Pharisaic Judaism became the predominant form of Judaism after the destruction of the Temple in Jerusalem about 70 A.D. Here that tension is expressed as alternative paths of holiness. The careful observance of the Mosaic law taught by the Pharisees could be experienced by some as difficult and burdensome. In contrast, Jesus' way of holiness is presented as uncomplicated and even restful.

CHRISTIAN ART - Daily Gospel Reading & Art Reflection. Search for: **Christian.art** An excellent website with a work of art to connect with the Mass Gospel for every day of the year. It also has a commentary on the Gospel reading with an explanation of the art chosen. Link: <https://search.app/SRmptGESDL7bUMxB7>

Fr James George arrives from Nigeria on Monday to supply here at St Aidan's and later in Sidcup parish. I will be going away for a month from 19th July. Fr James has not been in the UK before but I'm sure you will give him a great welcome and some practical geographical guidance about the local area and London.

Fr. Peter

PURLEY FOOD HUB are always very grateful for our donations. Please leave food items in church porch. Preferences for this month: Long life whole milk, tinned plain meat: corned beef / chicken / ham, pasta sauce in cartons please, tinned carrots, jars of jam, concentrated fruit squash in small plastic discs if possible, tinned rice pudding, puddings, jellies, angel delight, packets of sweet biscuits, children's sweet & chocolate treats, shampoo.

WEST CROYDON REFUGEE CENTRE.

Croydon Refugee Centre are always grateful for our donations. Current needs: 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.

Pope Leo's intention for July.

In his prayer intention for the month of July, the Pope is praying "for the respect and protection of human life in all its stages, recognizing it as a gift from God."

A video of the pope praying for respect for human life was released by the Vatican July 2. The monthly "[Pray with the Pope](#)" video is prepared by the Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network.

Pope Leo's July prayer intention focuses on respect for human life in all stages

Recognizing that the Lord has created each person in love and calls everyone to live in fullness, the pope said in the video: "Each person is a sacred gift that reflects your face from the first instant of existence to the final breath of their journey on earth."

Today's readings.

First reading Zechariah 9:9-10

Thus says the Lord: Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Sion! Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem! Behold, your king is coming to you; righteous and having salvation is he, humble and mounted on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey. I will cut off the chariot from Ephraim and the war horse from Jerusalem; and the battle bow shall be cut off, and he shall speak peace to the nations; his rule shall be from sea to sea, and from the River to the ends of the earth.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 145(144):1-2. 8-9. 10-11. 13c-14. R cf. 1

I will bless your name for ever, my God and king.

I will extol you, my God and king,
and bless your name for ever and ever.
I will bless you day after day,
and praise your name for ever and ever.

The LORD is kind and full of compassion,
slow to anger, abounding in mercy.
How good is the LORD to all,
compassionate to all his creatures.

All your works shall thank you, O LORD,
and all your faithful ones bless you.
They shall speak of the glory of your reign,
and declare your mighty deeds.

The LORD is faithful in all his words,
and holy in all his deeds.
The LORD supports all who fall,
and raises up all who are bowed down.

Second reading Romans 8:9, 11-13

Brothers and Sisters: You are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if in fact the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through his Spirit who dwells in you. So then, brothers and sisters, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh. For if you live according to the flesh you will die, but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live.

Gospel Matthew 11:25-30

At that time Jesus declared, 'I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that you have hidden these things from the wise and understanding and revealed them to little children; yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. All things have been handed over to me by my Father, and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him. Come to me, all who labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.'